

## Design Brief: Public Message Boards at U of T

### Introduction

- **Background:**

In June 2013, as part of the Clean Toronto Together initiative, citizens were encouraged to use the public message centres implemented around the city to advertise events and services, instead of using public property such as bus shelters and poles [1]. Around the St. George Campus, these message boards are currently being used by various campus service providers such as tutors and student clubs for advertising.

[2]



However, there are many issues regarding these message boards. For example, the gathering of staples causes difficulty for pasting content in an organized fashion. In addition, the current surface made of durable vulcanized rubber [3] is only penetrable by thick staples that are later hard to pull out. Furthermore, the message board does not provide protection for the content against the environment. This creates a visually unpleasant sight which goes against the Clean Toronto Together Initiative, and it obscures the information on the contents.

Therefore, a redesign of public message boards is needed to improve the quality of this service, and to address the needs of campus service providers.

- **Purpose:**

The main purpose of redesigning the bulletin board is to:

1. Be visually appealing per the Clean Toronto Together initiative
2. Prevent creation and gathering of waste (e.g. staples and tape)
3. Prevent damage to the content

- **Definitions:**

**-Content:** Includes posters, advertisements, flyers, rip-off flyers, and anything else that can be put up on public message boards.

**-Waste:** Any leftover material on the message boards, such as old staples, pins, tape, and remains of content that has been taken off.

**-Environment:** Weather such as rain, snow, and wind; bird droppings, water spills, etc.

**-Visually appealing:** Posters put up in an organized fashion, leaving behind minimal waste, with minimal damage possible.

**-Thick staples:** a thick staple refers to a heavy-duty staple, especially suitable for heavy duty outdoor uses such as in securing ground wires to wooden utility poles [4]

## **Stakeholders**

### **1. Municipal Government of Toronto**

-Responsible for construction and management. Implements bylaw: Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 693, article IV [5] on the regulations on public advertisement

### **2. Various campus service providers** (ex. Tutors, clubs, other student services)

-Provides content to advertise/inform their activities onto message board.

### **3. University of Toronto St. George campus maintenance**

-The message board is cleaned off as necessary by St. George property maintenance [6]

### **4. Students**

-Be informed of content provided by various campus service providers.

## **Objectives**

### **• High Level Objectives:**

1. Allow easy and safe usage/maintenance (S1, S2, S3, S4)
2. Provide sufficient and visually appealing display and protection of content (S2, S3, S4)
3. Be cost-efficient (S1)

### **• Detailed Objectives:**

1. Design is durable against environment (HL1)
2. Protection against misconduct for content (HL2)
3. Protects content against the weather and environment(HL2)
4. Reduces or eliminates waste (HL2)
5. Prevents harm towards the user in the event of an accident (HL1)
6. Provide ample space for large amounts of content varying in size (HL1)

## Metrics

### 1. Method of displaying content (DO4)

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
The user can only use tape or heavy duty staples to secure the content onto the board.	Staples, metal pins and tape can be used to secure the content onto the board.	An alternative that does not produce waste is provided on the spot for the user to easily put up their content on the board.

### 2. Method of removing content (DO4)

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
User is unable to remove old content without lingering waste fixed to board.	User can remove old content completely and can remove waste manually with ease.	User can remove the old content on the board completely with no waste remaining.

### 3. Providing ample space for content (DO6)

-Note: City of Toronto Bylaw 693 Article IV: 693-30.A.1 [5] states that poster size must not exceed 22cm x 28cm.


-Note: Current design's display area: 2x(60.8cm\*122cm) (2x2ft\*4ft); Height at top of display area: 2.1m

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
Provide less display area than current design	Provide same display area than current design	Provide more display area than current design

### 4. Design is durable against environment (DO1)

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
Made of material that can be damaged by physical force or water: - Ex. Wood, cork	Materials light -weight and water resistant but breakable and expensive - Ex. Glass, plastic,	Materials light-weight, water resistant, strong and inexpensive.

### 5. Protection of content against environment (DO2, DO3)

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
<p>Posters are left unprotected</p> <p>[2]</p> 	<p>Protection provided for entire board as a cover (Ex. glass case, hood) that does not interrupt user to paste content.</p>	<p>Protection provided for individual content.</p> <p>Ex. Plastic case that opens up to contain posters inside</p>

### 6. Protection/prevention of harm for users during usage and accidents (DO5)

Unacceptable	Satisfactory	Outstanding
<p>Sharp staples or edges that could harm user.</p>	<p>All edges must be smooth to avoid harm when accidentally bumping into the board (Ex. Young children)</p>	<p>No sharp edges or staples; board is smooth.</p> <p>No potential injury occurs when interacting with board.</p>

### 7. Material cost of new design (HL3)

Note: Cost of current design is an estimation based on materials composing design [3] Cost of current design: \$500 [7]

Unacceptable	Acceptable
<p>Material cost of new design exceeds the material cost of current design.</p>	<p>Material cost of new design is lower than the material cost of current design</p>

## Constraints

**1. Price:** Must score “Acceptable” in M7

-Debt of Toronto Government has been increasing; Lower production cost helps the financial situation of Municipal government [8]

-Prevents the implementation of expensive electronic designs

**2. Height:** The highest point of available area for content must be within reachable height of an average Canadian without using any additional aids.

-Note: Average standing reaching height: Female: 1905mm, Male: 2060mm [9]

**3. Protection of content:** Must meet at least “Satisfactory” in M5

-Preventing damage towards content is significant to properly inform the University of Toronto community for the necessary time period

**4. Safety and injury prevention:** Must score at least “Satisfactory” in M6

**5. Production of waste:** Must score at least “Satisfactory” in M2

-In compliance to the Clean Toronto Together initiative, the design should not create waste and be visually unappealing

## Criteria

**1. Easy to put up content:** Prefer higher score in M1

**2. Display area:** Prefer score of at least “Satisfactory” in M3

-Content should not overlap for full display; Bigger display area will increase amount of content

**3. Product is durable against environment:** Prefer score of at least satisfactory in M4

-Prefer to have durable product to reduce maintenance and replacement costs

**4. Protection of content:** Prefer higher score in M5

**5. Safety and injury prevention:** Prefer higher score in M6

**6. Production of waste:** Prefer higher score in M2

## Reference Designs



Cork poster board [10]	Electronic bulletin board [12]	Lamp message board [13]
<p>PROS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheap</li> <li>• Easy to remove content</li> </ul>	<p>PROS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent creation of waste</li> <li>• Clean, modern appearance</li> <li>• Environmentally friendly</li> <li>• Self charging solar panel system.</li> </ul>	<p>PROS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occupies less public space for the users.</li> </ul>
<p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cork expands when in contact with water (Ex. rain)</li> <li>• Easily damaged from human misconduct (Ex. Poking holes) [11]</li> </ul>	<p>CONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expensive to replace all existing bulletin boards with new model.</li> <li>• Time consuming to apply for position/ cost money</li> </ul>	<p>CONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above the reachable height of the users</li> <li>• No protection from weather: storm, rain</li> </ul>
Does not meet "Satisfactory" in M4	Does not meet "Acceptable" in M7	Does not meet Second constraint, nor "Acceptable" in M5

## References

1. Robinson, T. (2013, June 26). "Mayor Ford kicked off anti-postering campaign as part of Clean Toronto Together initiative". Retrieved October 25, 2016.

<http://wx.toronto.ca/inter/it/newsrel.nsf/82f55f14f8d6b46285256ef500408475/701A673E1B5F089B85257B960054DDB5?opendocument>



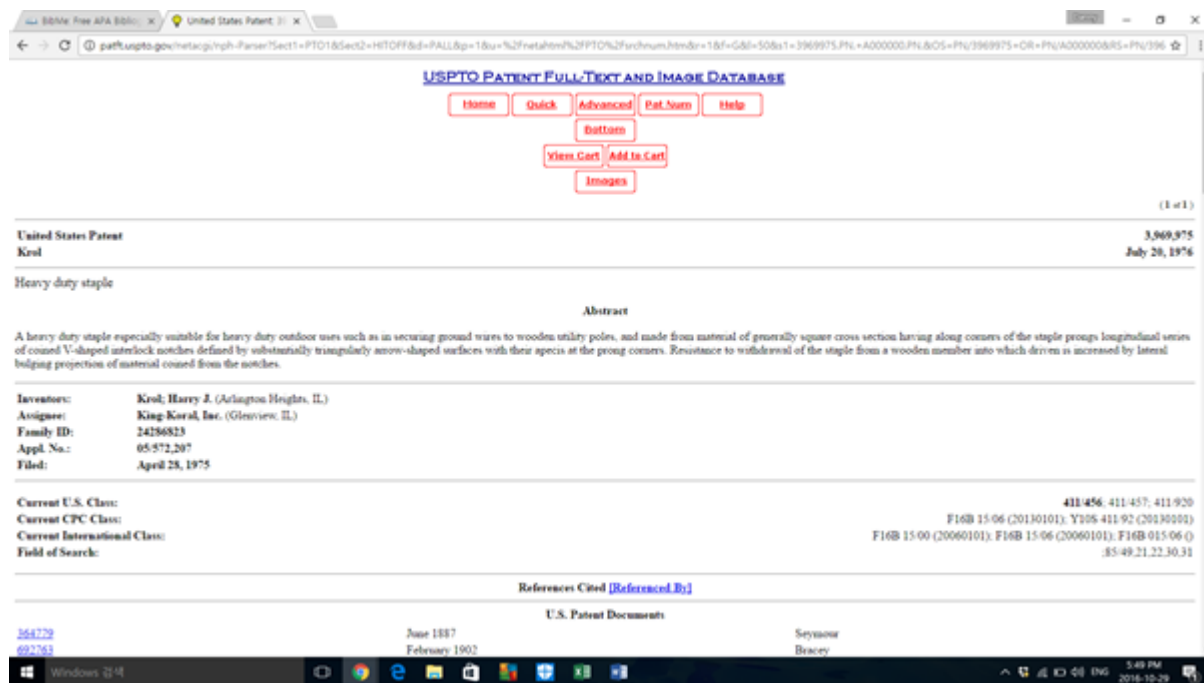
- ## 2. Pictures taken by Design Brief Team

3. City of Toronto Postering Structures. (2014, August 11). Retrieved October 26, 2016.

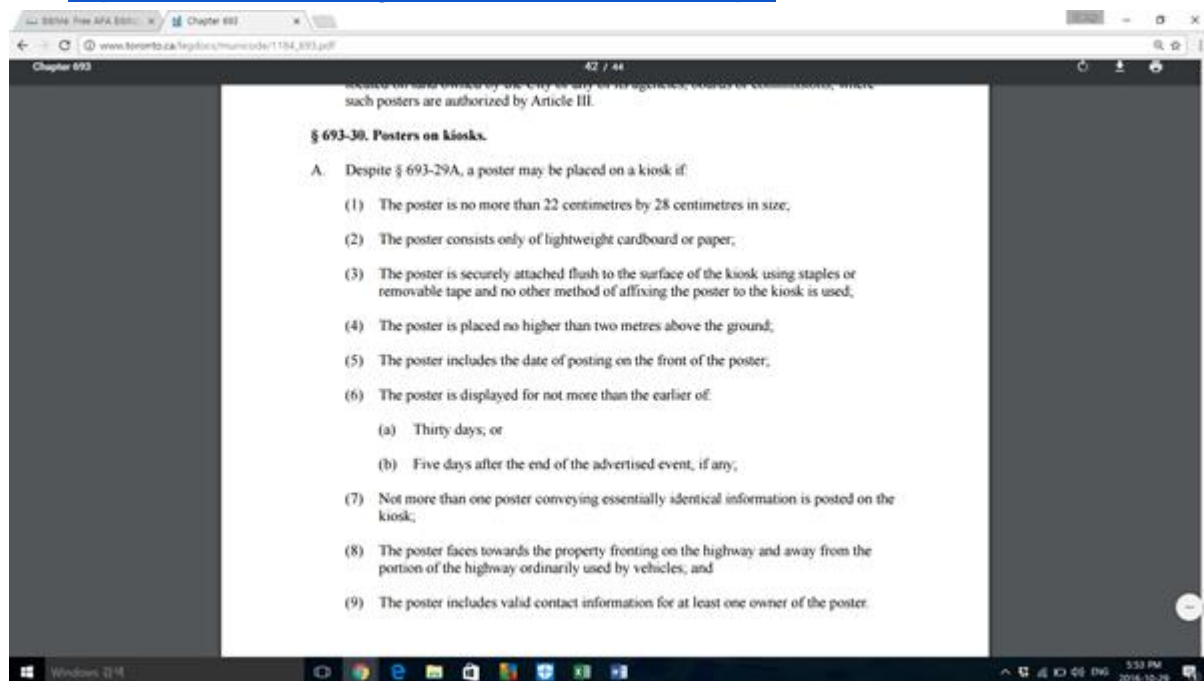
<http://www1.toronto.ca/City%20Of%20Toronto/Municipal%20Licensing%20&%20Standards/1-Files/Toronto%20poster%20column%20locations%20-%20August%202014.pdf>



4. Crol, H. J. (1976, July 20). Heavy Duty Staple. Retrieved October 28, 2016, from <http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=/netahtml/PTO/srchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=3969975.PN. A000000.PN.&OS=PN/3969975 OR PN/A000000&RS=PN/3969975 OR PN/A000000>



5. Toronto Municipal Code: Chapter 693 SIGNS. (2012, June 8). Retrieved October 23, 2016, from [http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/municode/1184\\_693.pdf](http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/municode/1184_693.pdf)





6. PROCEDURE ON DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATIONS, POSTERS AND BANNERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ST. GEORGE CAMPUS. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2016, from <http://www.fs.utoronto.ca/building-services-trades/posters-and-flyers/>

**3.0 POSTERS/FLYERS/SIGNS**

3.01 Organizations are requested to use public bulletin boards, which are located throughout campus buildings. Notices, advertisements, posters, flyers, or documents of any kind, shall NOT be attached to any wall, door, window, column, washroom, building sign, garbage or recycling can inside any University building, unless prior approval has been received from the Manager, Property Management.

3.02 Approved poster kiosk and lamp post collars are available throughout the campus and are cleaned off as necessary during the academic year. Notices should not exceed the size of four 8½" x 11" (or one 17" x 22") posters on one kiosk. Notices should not obstruct other posters while they are current.

3.03 Notices, advertisements, posters, flyers or documents of any kind shall NOT be posted on any tree, hedge, building, wall, door, window, non-approved lamp post, bench, telephone booth, pole, garbage can, recycling bin, building sign, utility box, mail box, newspaper dispenser or fence on outdoor University property.

3.04 Posters that are in violation of 3.01, 3.02 and 3.03 will be removed or covered with a Notice of Violation, and the offending sponsors will be notified. Organizations that persistently post flyers improperly in non-approved space will be charged for labour and/or material costs related to their removal. The University may use the services of collection agencies for off-campus organizations, and may suspend use of University space privileges to internal groups, to enforce payment of costs.

3.05 Signs shall not be planted on the grounds unless prior approval from the Manager, Property Management has been received.

■ Commissioning Part One

■ Commissioning Part Two

**Environmental Footprint**  
Please click here to view Historical Energy Consumption for the St. George campus and to view building utilities use data

**Sustainability Timeline**  
We are pioneers of environmental sustainability! For a comprehensive list of our sustainability milestones, please click here

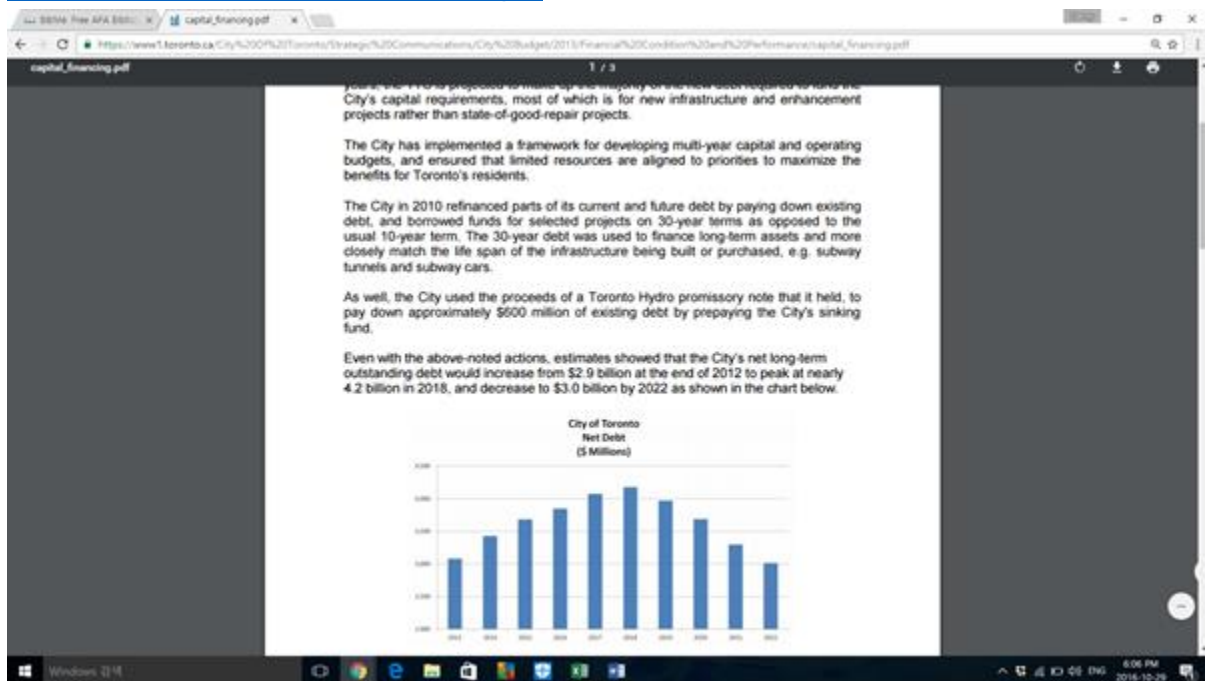
**Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan**  
Conservation and Demand Plan for the St. George Campus as per the Green Energy Act, 2009, O. Reg. 397/11. Please click here to see the full report.

7. Chart of materials obtained in CIV102, University of Toronto

**Average Properties of Some Typical Materials** Note that except for density, stiffness and coefficient of thermal expansion, all values have a considerable range

Material	Weight (kN/m <sup>3</sup> )	Stiffness E (MPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa) Yield Ultimate	Compressive Strength (MPa)	Resilience (MJ/m <sup>3</sup> )	Toughness (MJ/m <sup>3</sup> ) tens comp	Ductility Max. Elong (%) Plastic/Elastic	α (10 <sup>-6</sup> /°C)	Cost (\$/kg)	Comments
Low Alloy Steel	77	200000	420 560	420	0.44	135	25/0.21	12	0.60	Used in buildings, bridges, cars, etc.
High Tensile Steel	77	200000	1650 1860	1650	6.8	55	40/0.83	12	1.50	Wire ropes, cables
High Alloy Steel	77	200000	700 800	700	1.22	200	25/0.35	12	2.00	Pressure vessels and tanks
Pass Wire	77	200000	- 3000	-	-	22	0.2/1.50	12	1.50	Brass material - not used in structures
Cast Iron	70	150000	- 110	770	0.04	0.06%	1/0.7	11	0.50	Traditional cast iron, moulded
Wrought Iron	75	185000	200 350	200	0.11	90	30/0.11	12	1.00	99% pure iron, hammered, fibrous
Aluminium	27	69000	40 80	60	0.012	19	40/0.06	24	1.80	Light, ductile, non-corrosive, soft metal
Aluminium Alloy	27	73000	470 580	500	1.51	50	11/0.64	24	2.50	Used for canoes, aircraft, etc.
Copper	88	124000	70 230	200	0.02	85	55/0.06	20	2.60	Very ductile metal - rounded curve
Brass	79	105000	200 350	350	0.2	40	12/0.19	17	2.20	tin + copper alloy - stronger
Gold	189	82000	40 220	180	0.01	80	50/0.05	-	16.000	Heavy, expensive metal
Granite	26	52000	- 11	140	0.001	0.01/0.26	0/0.02	8	0.05	Strongest and most durable building stone
Limestone	25	58000	- 8	62	0.0006	0.01/0.09	0/0.01	6	0.03	Soft, useful building stone
Slate	28	95000	- 60	100	0.019	0.02/0.10	0/0.06	-	0.08	Stratified rock with high tensile strength
Brick	19	20000	- 3	20	0.0002	0.01/0.03	0/0.01	9	0.10	Fired clay
Concrete	24	30900	- 3	35	0.0002	0.01/0.10	0/0.01	9	0.05	Mixture of cement, sand, stone, water
Glass	27	69000	- 100	200	0.072	0.07/0.8	0/0.15	20	1.50	Solidified liquid sand
Oak	7.5	14000	75 90	60	0.23	0.3/2.5	0.5/0.47	3	0.70	Strong, tough, heavy hardwood
Spruce	4.4	11000	55 70	50	0.19	0.2/2.2	0.5/0.50	7	0.60	Light, strong, durable softwood
Tendon	10	900	70 80	-	2.7	4	1/7.8	-	-	Used as tension ties in masonry
Rope	20	17000	150 180	180	0.66	1	0.5/0.9	-	-	Used as struts and beams in masonry
Rubber	9.2	7	- 20	20	15	20	4/300	500	2.00	Strange, useful material - low stiffness
Spider's Frame Silk	10	4000	- 1400	-	160	170	10/35	-	-	Most resilient material
Carbon Fibre	15	160000	- 1800	-	10	10	0.1/1.1	-	50.00	Carbon fibre composites used in aircraft
Kevlar Fibre	11	5500	- 900	-	74	75	2/16	80	8.00	Excellent if stiffness not required
Kevlar Fibre	14	130000	- 3600	-	50	60	1/2.7	-	50.00	Super material in many ways

8. Capital financing and debt. (n.d.). Retrieved October 28, 2016, from [https://www1.toronto.ca/City Of Toronto/Strategic Communications/City Budget/2013/Financial Condition and Performance/revenues.pdf](https://www1.toronto.ca/City%20Of%20Toronto/Strategic%20Communications/City%20Budget/2013/Financial%20Condition%20and%20Performance/revenues.pdf)



9. Average Male and Female Dimensions / Heights - First In Architecture. (n.d.). Retrieved October 29, 2016, from <http://www.firstinarchitecture.co.uk/average-male-and-female-dimensions/>

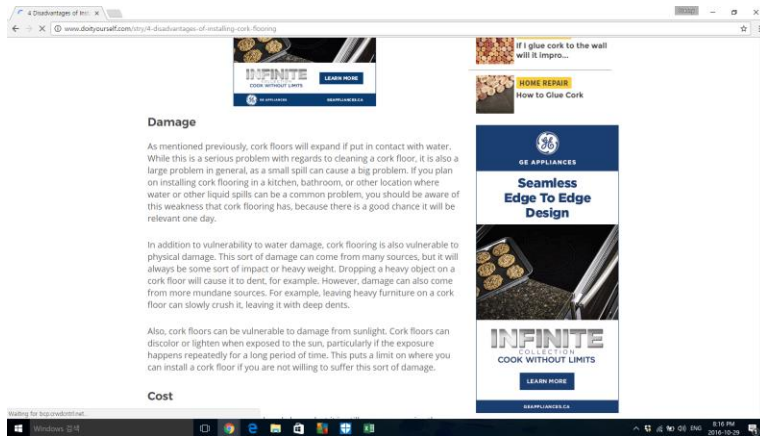
The screenshot shows a website titled 'Average Male and Female Dimensions' from First In Architecture. The website has a navigation bar with a logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'Other standard/average adult dimensions' which lists dimensions for males and females. The dimensions are listed in a table format.

Category	Dimension	Value
MALE:	Eye height:	1630mm
	Shoulder height:	1425mm
	Elbow height:	1090mm
	Hand height:	755mm
	Reach Upwards:	2060mm
FEMALE:	Eye height:	1505mm
	Shoulder height:	1310mm
	Elbow height:	1005mm
	Hand height:	720mm
	Reach Upwards:	1905mm

10. "Sliding Door Message Centers." *Whiteboards & Bulletin Boards*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Oct. 2016.

11. "4 Disadvantages of Installing Cork Flooring | DoItYourself.com." *4 Disadvantages of Installing Cork Flooring | DoItYourself.com*. N.p., 04 Sept. 2012. Web. 29 Oct. 2016.

<http://www.doityourself.com/stry/4-disadvantages-of-installing-cork-flooring>



12. "Tuvie." *Search Results for E Ink Bulletin Board*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Oct. 2016.

13. (Chen Kai Jie)(2015, December 22).(Bulletin board on the light) (Retrieved October 29)(ZhanJianChina): [http://szb.gdzjdaily.com.cn/zjwb/html/2015-12/22/content\\_1943619.htm](http://szb.gdzjdaily.com.cn/zjwb/html/2015-12/22/content_1943619.htm)