



Mélina Germes (DE+FR)

Mélina Germes is a researcher and disability activist. In her opinion the "PISSAR Checklist" "overlooks many uses of restrooms that correspond to further forms of dis_ability as well as queer practices." For her "toilets are not only spaces to menstruate, defecate and urinate, but also places, where further social needs find a last resort." She therefore argues for an extension of the alliances and for the understanding of disability to include, for example, mental illnesses and chronic pain. She understands toilets also as necessary spaces for "treatment, retreat, rest, recovery and hygiene."



Colostomy (UK)

Represents the interest of people with a stoma. "A stoma is an opening on the surface of the abdomen which has been surgically created to divert the flow of feces or urine." On their Website Colostomy UK describes how people with a stoma have additional needs in a restroom, but are often discriminated against for using the disabled toilet because the stoma bag is hidden beneath clothing, thus invisible to others.

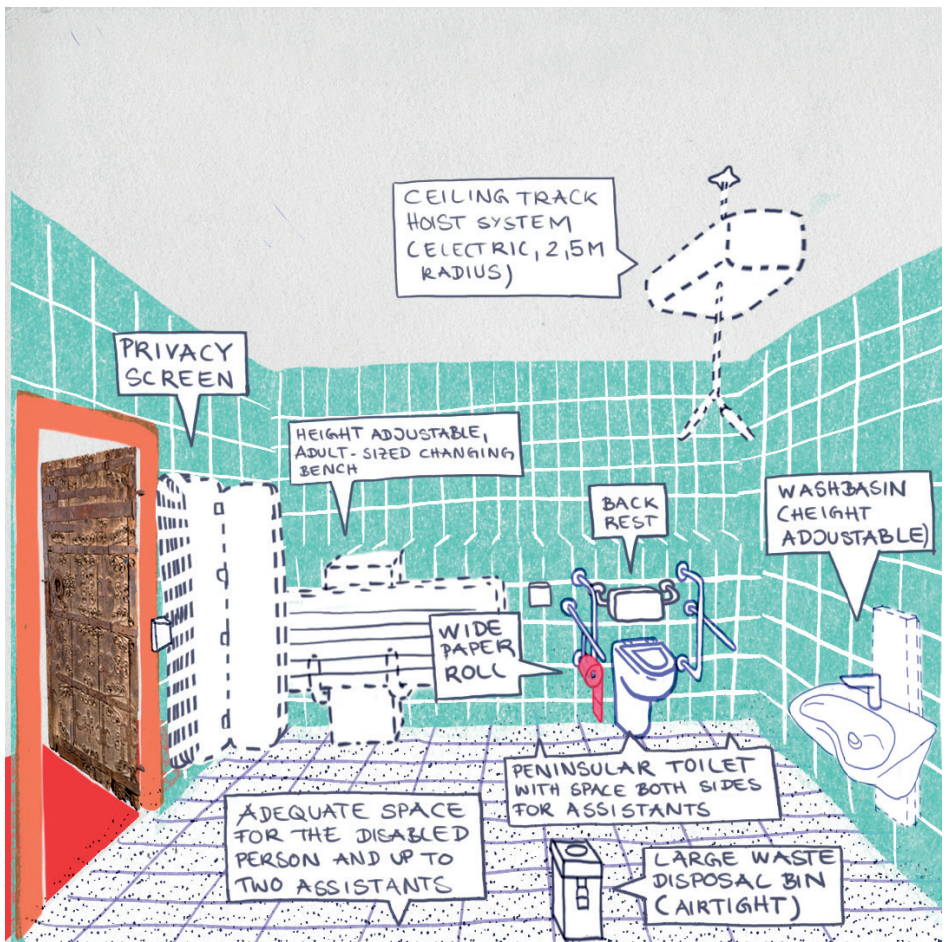


PISSAR (People in Search of Safe and Accessible Restrooms) (US)

People in Search of Safe and Accessible Restrooms is an initiative that formed 2003 at the University in California in Santa Barbara. The organization is an alliance of disability and queer activists. The activists, especially Alison Kafer in her book "Feminist Queer Crip" (2013), promote such coalitions in order to create an intersectional accessible vision for the future (of toilets). They argue for the use of toilets as a starting place to raise awareness and fight for trans and disability rights. One of their activist projects was to create a questionnaire called the "PISSAR Checklist" to map "safe and accessible" toilet provision on campus.



PISSAR (People in Search of Safe and Accessible Restrooms) (US)



Toiletten für Alle (DE) + Changing Places (UK)

Changing Places is an organization fighting for toilet access for people with profound and multiple disabilities in the UK since 2005. Changing Places calls for the additional construction of toilet facilities for people with multiple and profound disabilities that potentially need the assistance of up to two carers, besides the existing disabled toilets that would not suffice. "Stiftung Toiletten für Alle", a project of the German disability rights organization "Stiftung Leben Pur" is doing the same in Germany.

Both organizations offer (free) advice on their website (eg. Changing Places Practical Guide) and through consultations.