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Accessibility and usability of the built environment - Technical performance criteria and specifications

Táto technická normalizačná informácia obsahuje anglickú verziu CEN/TR 17621:2021.  
This Technical standard information includes the English version of CEN/TR 17621:2021.

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TECHNICAL REPORT

**CEN/TR 17621**

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English version

## Accessibility and usability of the built environment - Technical performance criteria and specifications

Accessibilité et utilisabilité de l'environnement bâti -  
Critères et spécifications de performance technique

Barrierefreiheit und Nutzbarkeit der gebauten  
Umgebung - Technische Leistungskriterien und  
Anforderungen

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 23 May 2021. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 11.

CEN and CENELEC members are the national standards bodies and national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>European foreword</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>4 Legal and policy background and associated benefits</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>5 Diversity of users and design considerations</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>6 Wayfinding</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>6.1 Wayfinding, orientation and navigation</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>6.2 Wayfinding information</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>6.3 Visual contrast</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>6.4 Tactile information</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>6.5 Audible information and hearing enhancement</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>6.6 Signage</b> .....	<b>20</b>
<b>6.7 Graphical symbols</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>7 Access in the outdoor environment</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>7.1 Accessible routes</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>7.2 Street furniture</b> .....	<b>36</b>
<b>7.3 Pedestrian crossings</b> .....	<b>38</b>
<b>7.4 Squares and plazas</b> .....	<b>44</b>
<b>7.5 ‘Shared Space’ design approach</b> .....	<b>45</b>
<b>7.6 Plantings</b> .....	<b>46</b>
<b>7.7 Pedestrian bridges and underpasses</b> .....	<b>47</b>
<b>8 Arrival and departure areas – Parking areas</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>8.1 Rationale</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>8.2 Boarding points/Set-down points</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>8.3 Location of designated accessible parking spaces</b> .....	<b>49</b>
<b>8.4 Number of designated accessible parking spaces</b> .....	<b>49</b>
<b>8.5 Design of designated accessible parking space</b> .....	<b>50</b>
<b>8.6 Pedestrian paths in car parks</b> .....	<b>51</b>
<b>8.7 Signage of designated parking spaces</b> .....	<b>51</b>
<b>8.8 Access from parking space to an adjacent higher pedestrian path</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>8.9 Surface</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>8.10 Indoor parking</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>8.11 Cycle parking</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>9 Horizontal circulation in buildings</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>9.1 Entrances</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>9.2 Corridors and passageways</b> .....	<b>58</b>
<b>9.3 Doors</b> .....	<b>62</b>
<b>9.4 Windows</b> .....	<b>67</b>
<b>9.5 Patios, balconies, terraces</b> .....	<b>69</b>
<b>9.6 Surface finishes and materials</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>10 Vertical circulation in buildings and outdoors</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>10.1 Ramps</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>10.2 Steps and stairs</b> .....	<b>79</b>

10.3	Handrails .....	83
10.4	Lifts .....	88
10.5	Vertical and inclined lifting platforms.....	99
10.6	Escalators and moving walks .....	104
11	Specific indoor and outdoor areas, equipment and provisions.....	104
11.1	Service counters for information, ticketing and reception .....	104
11.2	Waiting and queuing areas .....	106
11.3	Seating and resting areas.....	107
11.4	Storage areas, lockers and baggage storage .....	110
11.5	Kitchen areas and kitchenettes .....	111
11.6	Facilities for assistance dogs (outdoor and indoor) .....	114
12	Sanitary accommodation .....	114
12.1	Accessible toilets.....	114
12.2	Toilets for general use .....	124
12.3	Sanitary facilities for other users .....	125
12.4	Showers and bathrooms.....	131
13	User interface, controls and switches .....	134
13.1	Rationale.....	134
13.2	Public ICT information screens .....	134
13.3	ICT user interfaces .....	135
13.4	Controls and switches .....	136
13.5	Examples of general use elements .....	138
14	Fire safety for all - Evacuation and emergency exits .....	139
14.1	Concept for Fire safety for all.....	139
14.2	Fire engineering design objectives .....	139
14.3	Evacuation for all.....	139
14.4	Assistive fire evacuation: Areas of rescue assistance.....	139
14.5	Emerging fire evacuation technologies .....	140
14.6	Fire defence plans.....	140
14.7	Lifts for emergency evacuation .....	140
14.8	Emergency warning systems, signals and information .....	140
14.9	Emergency exit doors.....	141
15	Environmental conditions in buildings .....	141
15.1	Lighting.....	141
15.2	Acoustics .....	148
15.3	Indoor air quality.....	154
16	Accommodation .....	154
16.1	General .....	154
16.2	Hotels.....	155
16.3	Student accommodation .....	159
16.4	Adaptable housing.....	160
17	Cultural, leisure and sport buildings.....	164
17.1	General .....	164
17.2	Auditoriums, concert halls and similar .....	164
17.3	Libraries.....	167
17.4	Museums .....	169
17.5	Heritage buildings and sites .....	171
17.6	Retail and shopping buildings .....	175
17.7	Sport facilities .....	177
17.8	Restaurants, bars and cafés .....	178

**CEN/TR 17621:2021 (E)**

<b>17.9</b>	<b>Swimming pools, saunas .....</b>	<b>181</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Administrative, service and employment buildings .....</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>18.1</b>	<b>General.....</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>18.2</b>	<b>Conference venues.....</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>18.3</b>	<b>Offices.....</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>18.4</b>	<b>Healthcare buildings.....</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>18.5</b>	<b>Educational buildings.....</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>18.6</b>	<b>Laboratories .....</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>18.7</b>	<b>Banks, post offices .....</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>18.8</b>	<b>Industrial buildings.....</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>18.9</b>	<b>Courts, police stations and detention facilities.....</b>	<b>194</b>
<b>18.10</b>	<b>Religious buildings.....</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Outdoor and urban areas.....</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>19.1</b>	<b>General.....</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>19.2</b>	<b>Playgrounds.....</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>19.3</b>	<b>Garden, parks and nature parks.....</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>19.4</b>	<b>Beaches.....</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Transport facilities.....</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>20.1</b>	<b>General.....</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>20.2</b>	<b>Taxi facilities .....</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>20.3</b>	<b>Bus and coach facilities.....</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>20.4</b>	<b>Rail facilities .....</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>20.5</b>	<b>Metro/underground facilities .....</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>20.6</b>	<b>Tram and light rail facilities .....</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>20.7</b>	<b>Airport facilities .....</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>20.8</b>	<b>Ports facilities .....</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>20.9</b>	<b>Cable car facilities.....</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>20.10</b>	<b>Service stations.....</b>	<b>210</b>
	<b>Annex A (informative) Visual contrast charts .....</b>	<b>212</b>
	<b>Annex B (informative) Examples of pedestrian crossings .....</b>	<b>215</b>
	<b>Annex C (informative) List of figures .....</b>	<b>222</b>
	<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>226</b>

## **European foreword**

This document (CEN/TR 17621:2021) has been prepared by the Joint Technical Committee CEN-CENELEC/JTC 11 “Accessibility in the built environment”, the secretariat of which is held by UNE.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN and CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document has been prepared under Mandate M/420 given to CEN, CENELEC and ETSI by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association in support of European accessibility requirements for public procurement in the built environment.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body/national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN and CENELEC websites.

**CEN/TR 17621:2021 (E)****Introduction**

This document exemplifies the technical performance criteria and specifications to fulfil the functional requirements given in the European Standard EN 17210. It demonstrates a proposal, or proposals, to achieve the EN requirements and recommendations, drawing on performance criteria and specifications given in International Standard ISO 21542, where these exist and/or with examples from other standards and guidance documents, where relevant.

Alternatively, national standards or regulations may be used to determine the technical performance criteria and specifications to fulfil the functional requirements of the EN 17210.

Another CEN-CENELEC Technical Report (CEN/TR 17622) will detail the assessment of conformity to the functional requirements given in the European Standard EN 17210.

This document is intended to be read alongside EN 17210. The structure in CEN/TR 17621 follows the EN structure, listing the equivalent headings, clauses and bullet points (a), b), c) etc.) and providing a way, or ways, to achieve the functional requirements and recommendations.

Where there are no technical criteria related to the EN clause / sub-clause, such as the Rationale, this is stated rather than leaving this blank.

Technical performance criteria and specifications from ISO 21542:2011 are used in the CEN/TR 17621 as the main source of information, and this is not referenced as the source each time, as this would be repetitive. When the source is ISO 21542:2021 (Enquiry version) we include this source in brackets, and other sources are also referenced.

Other sources are used where these have been identified as providing information not covered in ISO 21542 or useful supplementary information.

Additional sources include:

- EN 16584-1, *Railway applications – Design for PRM use – General requirements – Part 1: Contrast,*
- EN 16584-2, *Railway applications – Design for PRM use – General requirements – Part 2: Information.*
- EN 16584-3, *Railway applications – Design for PRM use – General requirements – Part 3: Optical and friction characters.*
- EN 16587, *Railway applications – Design for PRM use – Requirements for obstacle free routes for infrastructure,*
- Other specific ENs and product related ENs,
- National standards,
- Guidance on a specific matter.

See also the Bibliography.



## 1 Scope

This document has been developed to support EN 17210, "Accessibility and usability of the built environment – Functional requirements". This document provides and exemplifies technical performance criteria and specifications for an accessible and usable built environment, following the Design for All/Universal design principles. The document specifies what is necessary to align with these principles which will facilitate equitable and safe use for a wide range of users.

The technical performance criteria and specifications are applicable across the full spectrum of the built environment and can be used as criteria for awarding public contracts (in support of the Public Procurement Directives).

These technical performance criteria and specifications are specifically applicable to the design, construction, refurbishment or adaptation, and maintenance of public or public-use environments including external areas.

Alternatively, national standards and regulations can determine the technical performance criteria and specifications to fulfil the functional requirements of EN 17210.

NOTE 1 Design for All and Universal Design share a similar inclusive design philosophy. Universal Design means the design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. Universal Design does not exclude assistive devices for particular groups of persons with disabilities where this is needed (UN CRPD).

NOTE 2 Terms such as "design for all", "universal design", "accessible design", "barrier-free design", "inclusive design" and "transgenerational design" are often used interchangeably with the same meaning.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 17210, *Accessibility and usability of the built environment - Functional requirements*

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