

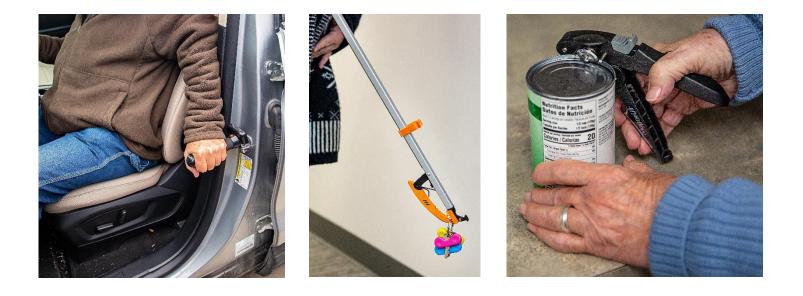
Fashion an Easier Lifestyle with Assistive Technology



Assistive technology refers to a variety of devices and strategies to make life easier.



Includes everyday tools that can be found in stores or online.





Almost anyone can benefit from assistive technology.



- Temporary injury or recovering from surgery
- Chronic condition (arthritis)
- Stroke survivor
- Disability



Be more independent. Lessen the demands of caregiving.





Technology for Everyday Tasks

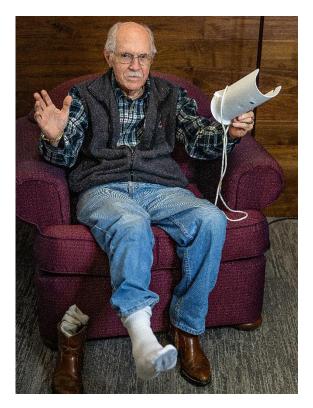
- Personal care
- Preparing meals
- Basic household chores
- Recreational activity
- Transportation



Personal Care



Sock Aid





Personal Care



Long-Handled Shoehorn

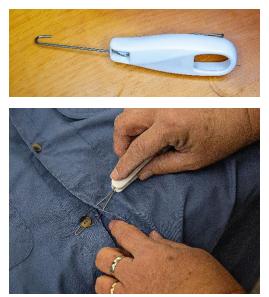




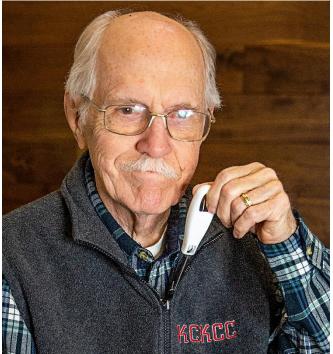
Personal Care

Zipper & Button Puller

- One tool helps with both zippers and buttons.
- Hook assists with zippers.



 Loop helps pull buttons through button holes.







- Suction cups hold cutting board in place.
- Spikes hold food in place on cutting board.

Cutting Board





Gear-Driven Can Opener





Gear-Driven Can Opener



- Slide gray button back to release can opener.
- Place opener on can.



Gear-Driven Can Opener

- Squeeze opener until it snaps into place.
- Continue squeezing and releasing opener until can is open.





Gear-Driven Can Opener



• Slide back gray button to release can opener.



Sponge Wash Mitt





Suction Brush

(Also good for washing fingernails.)



Jar & Bottle Opener

- Attaches to wall.
- Screws are included.





Rocker Knife





• Easy, one-handed cutting.



Oven Push/Pull Helper



- Safely slide oven shelves in and out.
- Helps reduce the amount of bending required.



Jelly Knife





- Works great for peanut butter or jelly!
- Scrapes the inside of the jar, leaving very little waste.



Mealtime

Universal Cuff & Food Guard



- Universal cuff holds a variety of different types of silverware.
- Guard holds food in place.



Mealtime

Dycem Pad





- Circular, non-slip pad.
- Holds plate securely in place during mealtime.



Long-Handled Toilet Bowl Brush





• Reduces amount of bending required.



Writing Guides Set





 Helps those with low vision or physical limitations (such as tremors) to write and sign documents.



Key/Lock Identifiers



- Makes it easy to insert and turn keys.
- Assorted colors helps easily identify keys.





Pen/Pencil Cushions



 Comfortable, easy grip helps hold pens/pencil.



Foam



Multiple uses for an easier grip:

- Pen/Pencil
- Eating Utensils
- Personal care (toothbrush, razor)

Inexpensive to replace!



Reacher

- Helps reach items stored on high shelves, behind furniture, on the ground or in tight spaces.
- Eliminates bending and twisting.





Furniture Risers



 Helps adjust furniture to the height that is best suited for the individual, minimizing bending and back strain.



Glow Tape

 Mark items that need to be easily located in the dark.



• Illuminate light switches, stairs and doorframes.





Recreation

Hands-Free Card Holder



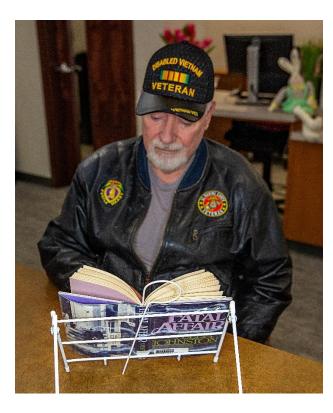


 Removes the challenge of holding cards for those with limited mobility and hand strength/grip.

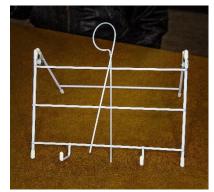


Recreation

Folding Book Stand







- Reduces glare and assists those with limited mobility and hand strength/grip.
- Great for the kitchen too!



Recreation

Standing Page Magnifier





 Magnifies text to allow for easier reading.



Seat Belt Handle

- Attaches to seat belt to allow for easier reach.
- Minimizes twisting & turning to get seatbelt secured.





Gas Cap Wrench



- Easy to grip and turn.
- Helps minimize challenges related to range of motion and joint pain.



Vehicle Support Assist Handle





• Portable handle also cuts seatbelts and breaks glass.



Vehicle Support Assist Handle



 Provides leverage to assist in exiting a vehicle.



Gardening



Ergonomic Garden Tools



- Minimizes stress on hands and wrists.
- Ideal for individuals with limited hand strength, arthritis or carpal tunnel syndrome.



Gardening

Garden Stool



- Cushion relieves stress on knees.
- Support for arms when kneeling down and getting up.



 Garden bench seat relieves pressure on back and legs.



Thank You to Our Partners

Financial assistance provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Arthritis Program; the Arthritis Foundation, Kansas Chapter; and the Assistive Technology for Kansans Project.

This publication was supported by KDHE through U58/CCU722793-05 from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.









Thank You to Our Partners

Photos used in this presentation were taken by Heather Sears Photography. Volunteers in the photos are members of the LaCygne Library Senior Group and the LaCygne Community Garden.



Library District #2 of Linn County LaCygne Library







Brand names appearing in this publication are for product identification purposes only. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

Contents of this publication may be freely reproduced for educational purposes. All other rights reserved. In each case, credit Debra M Sellers and Kristen Regan, *Fashion an Easier Lifestyle with Assistive Technology*. Kansas State University, July 2008.

For more information about adult development and aging, contact your local extension office. Kansas State University is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

