

Inclusive Labyrinth Design Worksheet

Tips, Resources and Guidelines for Building Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Site

- Is handicapped-accessible parking (or drop-off) close to the labyrinth?
- Is the walkway and approach to the labyrinth accessible? (ie. Ramp, even ground, handrails, wide path, hard surface, short distance, etc)
- Is there clear and illuminated signage for finding the labyrinth?

Design & Materials

- Smaller labyrinths 3, 5, or 7-Circuits offer a shorter journey
- Classical labyrinths offer longer spans without turns (and fewer of them)
- Baltic Wheel and processional labyrinths offer a one-way path (no passing)
- Wider pathways allow for wheelchairs, walkers and greater comfort
- Hard surface labyrinths offer stable, smooth ground for mobility impaired
- High color contrast between lines and paths allow for greater visibility
- A smooth, raised line or edge could be used for vision impaired to walk with a cane and cast shadow to make path more visible (but could impede wheelchair)

Amenities

- Benches at the entrance and/or center allow for resting before/during walk
- Finger labyrinths on signs / benches at the entrance allow walker to familiarize themselves with the design or trace with finger instead of walking
- Lighting aids visibility at night or low light. Direct sunlight can obscure some materials. Irregular shadows can also confuse the design.
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Tips

- Begin with intention! Who will use the labyrinth? How will it be used? Who else might benefit or be invited? What alternate uses might be offered besides traditional or common approach? Imagine multiple wheelchairs, languages, ages, abilities on the paths together. Dialogue with a nearby organization, community group, or non-profit
- Include people from other backgrounds/abilities in the design and building process for feedback and input.
- Visit other labyrinths and consider the experience from a variety of perspectives

This is an evolving document initiated by Lars Howlett.

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Please email thoughts, comments, suggestions, ideas, edits to FindLars@Gmail.com

I appreciate your honest feedback and am open to your suggestions.