



Interiors for care homes



Transforming spaces in care,
residential and nursing homes

altro.com

Working together to create communities for all

We know that care home residents may face physical challenges, complex learning difficulties or additional needs. Our aim is to work with you to create welcoming, attractive, inclusive and safe spaces to help residents live well physically and emotionally, keep staff safe, using durable floors and walls solutions developed with this in mind.

We have worked on developing floors and walls for care homes over many years. Collaborating with associations including Care England, Design in Mental Health and the University of Stirling's renowned Dementia Services Development Centre we have worked with them to develop total solutions for this sector. Never complacent, and understanding your design challenges, we know that the needs of the residents you're creating a home for come first, and you know these best.

We partner with you on nursing homes, where residents may need 24-hour care, residential homes, where people live permanently, or stay while recuperating, and retirement villages where

the emphasis is on creating a community. Residents are of all ages and have hugely varying needs, with one of your priorities giving them independence as this has an important impact on wellbeing, both physically and mentally. Achieving this in a space that feels like home, not a clinic, makes even more difference.

Not forgetting staff, who also live on-site providing this care, keeping them safe from slips, providing comfort underfoot on long shifts, and creating welcoming spaces to live and work in. Visitors also need to feel welcome and kept safe while attending to residents with varying needs.

This is our starting point.



“Altro, through its experience in designing and developing care environments, has built up an impressive bank of knowledge, and has always strived to be at the cutting edge of design and innovation. Any service that is considering refurbishment, or developing new facilities, can gain a lot of helpful advice from the Altro team”

Professor Martin Green, OBE,
Chief Executive, Care England





Accreditations and partners

Accreditations play a critical role in ensuring the quality, safety, and effectiveness of our floor and wall products, particularly in sensitive fields such as healthcare and senior living. Dementia Design Accredited Products, for example, adhere to rigorous standards that enhance the living environments of individuals with dementia, promoting their safety and well-being. The Association of Healthcare Cleaning Professionals sets benchmarks for cleanliness and hygiene, crucial for preventing infections and ensuring a safe environment in healthcare settings. organisations like Care England advocate for high standards in adult social care, influencing policy and practice. Foundations Commercial Partners offer specialised support to improve housing conditions for vulnerable communities, ensuring that homes are safe, accessible, and conducive to health. The Dementia Centre provides expert guidance and resources for dementia care, driving improvements in care practices. Collectively, these accreditations and organisations help establish a framework of excellence, fostering trust, and ensuring that care providers consistently meet the highest standards.



Wellbeing in practice

As you know, you can boost wellbeing in care homes by transforming your spaces with the right aesthetics, effective way-finding, and noise reduction.

You've told us that wood-look floors are popular, versatile and comforting. Our wood-look solution, Altro Wood™, can run through most areas within a care home and, with 18 shades, gives design flexibility. Altro Wood™ Comfort has the same benefits but offers comfort underfoot and 14dB impact sound reduction. For fast installation, and limiting disruption to staff and patients, Altro Wood™ adhesive-free provides a safe and decorative solution for busy spaces. For areas where first impressions count, Altro Ensemble™ luxury vinyl tiles give you complete design freedom.

With our Altro Whiterock™ hygienic walls system, create the mood you need. With Altro Whiterock Digiclad™ (Custom), which uses photographic images, create familiarity, warmth and a non-clinical atmosphere.

Confident movement

Altro floors, doors and walls can be used to create points of recognition, zoning and even artworks to help residents find their way around. These also make life easier for visitors and staff.

If you need to complement, or match, corporate branding, we can help you find the right products and shades.

Did you know?

For areas where residents, their families, or staff need peace and quiet, Altro Serenade has an impact sound insulation of 19dB and, at 3.9mm, is comfier to walk or sit on.



“We would recommend Altro to other designers. There is always support when we need it and we will definitely include them in future schemes.”

Penny Green,
Co-founder, WHAT IF? Designs



The Importance of design principles in care homes

Creating a well-designed care home is not just about aesthetics; it's about fostering a supportive environment that significantly impacts the well-being of both residents and staff. The design of a care home can play a pivotal role in reducing stress levels, improving staff morale, and promoting a positive and efficient work environment. Here's how thoughtful design can make a difference.

Enhancing resident well-being

A well-designed care home contributes immensely to the happiness, comfort, and confidence of its residents. Thoughtful design elements encourage independence and promote a healthy lifestyle. For residents, especially those with dementia, the environment should be as reassuring and stress-free as possible. Visits to healthcare settings often increase as we age, making it crucial for these environments to be welcoming and comforting.

Importance of Light Reflective Values (LRVs)

Light Reflective Values (LRVs) are a critical aspect of interior design in care homes. LRVs measure the amount of light a colour reflects, which can significantly affect the ambiance and functionality of a space. In care homes, LRVs can:

Promote well-being: By selecting the right LRVs, designers can create a warm and welcoming atmosphere that boosts residents' mood and overall well-being.

Enhance safety: Proper contrast between surfaces, furniture, and objects is essential for residents with visual impairments. Dementia can affect colour differentiation, making it important to use contrasting colours to help residents navigate their space safely.



Altro Whiterock White™
W103-W104 ▶

Altro Wood™
Vintage Cherry | WSA2002 ▶

Practical Design Tips for Care Homes

To ensure that care homes are both functional and comforting, consider the following design principles:

Avoid realistic colours: colours like green and blue should be used cautiously, as they can be mistaken for real things such as grass or water. This confusion can lead to distress or accidents.

Use matte finishes: high gloss finishes or surfaces with sparkle can reflect light in a way that may be perceived as wet or mirrored, which can be disorienting for residents with dementia. Matte finishes are generally safer and less confusing.

Limit heavy patterns: large or busy patterns can confuse the eye, causing hesitation or distraction. It's better to opt for simpler designs that don't overwhelm the senses.

Maintain consistent LRVs: where colour changes are necessary, choose colours with similar LRVs to avoid creating perceptions of barriers or steps. This consistency helps in preventing falls and fostering a sense of security.

Mind shadows and glare: be mindful of how shadows, glare, and extreme contrasts can affect perception. Dark colours and stark contrasts can create the illusion of obstacles, making navigation more difficult.

Supporting staff efficiency and morale

A well-thought-out design also impacts the staff working in care homes. An environment that reduces stress levels and enhances morale can lead to more efficient and compassionate care. When the physical space is designed to be intuitive and supportive, staff can perform their duties more effectively and with greater satisfaction.

The design of care homes is far more than a matter of aesthetics. It involves creating spaces that support the physical and emotional needs of residents and staff. By prioritising design elements such as LRVs and considering the specific needs of individuals with dementia, care homes can become safer, more comfortable, and more supportive environments. Thoughtful design is not just beneficial; it is essential for promoting well-being, independence, and efficiency in care homes. Don't just take our word for it, we have RIBA-approved CPD's on Designing for Dementia and Designing with inclusivity in mind.

Invisible safety

When people are at their most vulnerable, we work with you to create safe surroundings which lowers the risk of slips and help exceed hygiene and infection control standards, and do this without residents being aware. It helps with independence, dignity and creating a non-clinical, homely feel. For staff-only areas, such as the kitchen and laundry, safety measures can be reassuringly obvious, without compromising on aesthetics.

We offer a range of safety floors that can help prevent residents and staff slipping, plus a choice of floors for areas where there is a much lower slip risk.

A specialist shoe and barefoot floor is a must for wet environments where carers bathe residents, or residents want to be confidently independent.

Altro Aquarius and Altro Pisces, reduce the risk of a slip to one in a million, even with common contaminants (see below). Both floors, which feature in the design manuals for numerous social care providers, combine perfectly with Altro Whiterock walls system to create a safe, hygienic and attractive bathing area.

Altro Stronghold™ 30, with our highest rating for slip resistance (PTV ≥ 55), prevents slips with common kitchen contaminants. Combined with Altro Whiterock it creates a safe, hygienic solution to protect kitchen staff. Both products are Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) approved, meaning they meet European legal requirements for food safety management.

Altro floors and walls have long guarantees and technical support for life. Our safety floors offer sustained slip resistance for the life of the floor.



Altro Stronghold 30: one in a million slip risk with grease, oils and fats

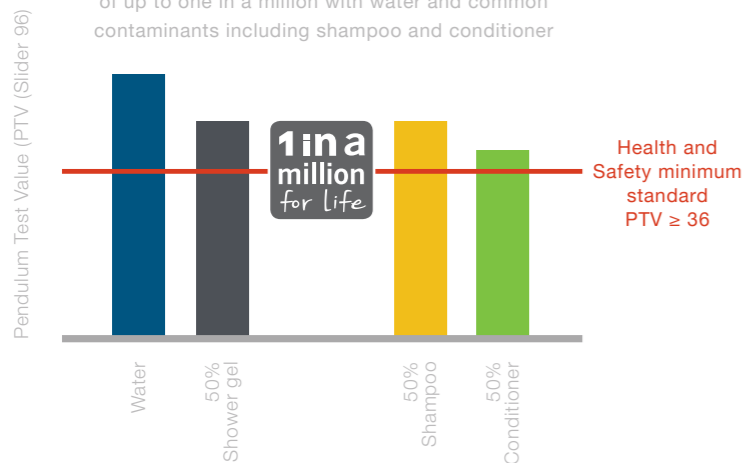


Altro Pisces: lowers the risk of slips in shoes AND bare feet



Durable, hygienic and easy to clean walls systems

Altro Aquarius and Altro Pisces deliver slip resistance of up to one in a million with water and common contaminants including shampoo and conditioner



Every year, over one in three people over 65 suffer a fall that can cause serious injury and even death.

Age UK 'Stop Falling' report.



- 1 Altro Illustra Bedrock | LU2412
- 2 Altro Wood Vintage Cherry | WSA2002
- 3 Altro Illustra Hazy Twist | LU2409
- 4 Altro Wood Urban Cherry | WSA2003
- 5 Altro Pisces Sand Dune | SB2018

Infection control and cleaning guidance

We have decades of experience working with care homes to create welcoming environments with the highest levels of safety and hygiene. We invented safety floors and hygienic wall sheets, and continue to innovate to meet the needs of customers.

Altro for infection control

Altro floors, walls and doors are easy to clean and maintain, helping to prevent healthcare associated infections (HCAIs) and cross-infection. Not only can they be used to create a healing atmosphere; with correct cleaning regimes and standards they can also help reduce the spread of infection. They are ideal for areas where hygiene is paramount, such as treatment rooms and bathrooms.

Cleaning matters

Our total hygienic system offers huge advantages over carpet, paint and tiles; it is HACCP approved and designed to promote hygiene and be easy to maintain.

Altro walls and doors, combined with Altro safety or Altro smooth floors, create an impervious and easy to clean system that meets the hygienic requirements of even the most critical care environments. Altro walls and doors can be cleaned by wiping, steam cleaning or power washing – it's as simple as that. No grout to trap dirt, and impact-resistant, so none of the issues associated with cracked tiles or damaged paint.



Altro Whiterock Digiclad™ (custom) ▶

Altro Stronghold™ 30 Star | K30912 ▶

Cleaning confidence

Hygienic floors, doors and walls systems with unrivalled **industry-leading guarantees** up to 30 years. We were established in 1919 and you know our guarantees will stand the test of time

Easy to clean floors, doors and walls - **dirt sits on the surface rather than penetrating** the whole pile on the carpet, the substrate on a damaged painted wall, the grout or cracks on tiles

Steam cleanable with high chemical resistance for disinfecting floors and walls (**tested with up to 1,213 chemicals** for proven performance)

Altro floors, doors and walls have impervious, hard, level, non-porous surfaces with **no hiding places for microorganisms**, which can lead to the growth of viruses and bacteria

Proven effective with detergents. No need to vacuum prior to wet cleaning (unlike carpet / carpet tiles) and the release of the contaminant is quicker

Altro floors feature **Altro Easyclean Technology**

Altro are a recommended supplier of vinyl and resin floors and floor accessories on the Department of Health's ProCure22 Framework for NHS and social care construction schemes in England. This follows our appointment in 2018 as a recommended supplier of wall and door systems, including the Altro Whiterock and Altro Fortis systems; this means their **hygienic credentials meet the strictest requirements** for infection control and critical care



Did you know?

Altro are the only walls manufacturer on the P23 supplier list to have been awarded DSDC accreditation and we are the only walls and doors manufacturer to have HACCP approval for wall, door and floor products

Bringing care home design to life

This floor plan shows how Altro floors, walls and doors can work within a variety of care home rooms to create safe, homely spaces throughout the entire building. Visualise in real time how Altro products would look in your space with Altro Insta-space.

www.altro.com/uk/inspiration/altro-insta-space



NEW
5 adhesive-free
time, cost and carbon
saving options
available

- 1. Administration
Altro Wood
Washed Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Satins™
Breeze LRV 64
Altro Whiterock™ hygienic doorset
in same colour as wall to discourage
entrance
- 2. Shop
Altro Operetta™
Glee LRV 52
Altro Whiterock Satins
Oyster LRV 32
- 3. Chill room
Altro Wood Comfort
Soft Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
to create non-clinical and calming
surroundings
- 4. Treatment room
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
to create non-clinical and calming
surroundings
- 5. Service corridor
Altro Reliance™ 25
Runway LRV 10
Altro Fortis Titanium™
Riviera LRV 64
- 6. TEEACH room
Altro Wood
Farmhouse Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
to create non-clinical and calming
surroundings
- 7. Kitchen
Altro Whiterock White™ LRV 89
Altro Stronghold 30
Russet LRV 14
- 8. Plant room
Altro Reliance™ 25
Pool LRV 10
Altro Fortis Titanium
Riviera LRV 64
- 9. Staff room
Altro Cantata™
Willow Tree LRV 41
Altro Whiterock Satins
Seafoam LRV 81
- 10. Dining area
Altro Illustra adhesive-free
Distant Shore LRV 43
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
to create non-clinical and calming
surroundings
- 11. Outdoor area
Chosen flooring should match LRV in
adjacent indoor area
- 12. Conservatory
Altro Ensemble
Fossil Stone LRV 45
- 13. Activity area
Altro Illustra adhesive-free
Distant Shore LRV 43
Altro Whiterock Splashbacks™
Juicy Lucy LRV 20
Altro Tegulis™
White LRV 83
- 14. Multi-purpose room
Altro Serenade™
March LRV 37
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
to create non-clinical and calming
surroundings
- 15. WC
Altro Suprema
Kolibri LRV 35
Altro Whiterock Satins m
Linen LRV 33
- 16. Reception
Altro Suprema
Agave LRV 19
Altro Whiterock Chameleon™
Eau de Chic LRV 51
- 17. Bedroom
Altro Wood Comfort
Soft Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Satins
Blossom LRV 77
- 18. Ensuite bathroom
Altro Aquarius™
Vole LRV 43
Altro Whiterock Satins
Linen LRV 83
- 19. Community rooms and
living areas
Altro Wood™ adhesive-free
Champagne Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom) and
Altro Whiterock Satins to create
pleasant, relaxing surroundings
- 20. General corridor
Altro Wood adhesive-free
Champagne Oak LRV 38
Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom)
Help with way-finding and familiarity
- 21. Laundry and sluice room
Altro Classic 25
Aster LRV 17
Altro Fortis Titanium
Riviera LRV 64

Samples

If colour choice is critical, please request a sample of the material

☎ 01462 707 700

✉ enquiries@altro.com



Discover more

Altro Limited, Works Road, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire SG6 1NW

☎ 01462 707 700 ✉ socialcare@altro.com



Altro, Altro Stronghold, Altro Whiterock, Altro Whiterock Digiclad (Custom), Altro Cantata, Altro Whiterock Satins, Altro Whiterock Splashbacks, Altro Suprema, Altro Orchestra, Altro Fortis Titanium, Altro Reliance, Altro Wood adhesive-free, Altro Ensemble, Altro Whiterock Chameleon, Altro Classic, Altro Pisces, Altro Aquarius, Altro Wood and Altro Wood Comfort are trademarks of Altro Limited.

Content correct at time of going to print. Altro reserves the right to change any detail. © Copyright Altro 2024

altro.com

4576 issue date 12/24
CARE HOME EN