

Press release

All in white

Who has never had that feeling? You just need to be slightly off-balance, and the first thing you do is to reach out instinctively for a means of support. A safety or grab handle, or a handrail, are a vital part of any bathroom or area with wet floors. And the most popular colour for items of this type? That's white.

It is nowadays hard to imagine a bathroom that is not equipped with rails or grab handles. Even physically-fit youngsters like to have something to hold onto as they get out of the bath. Hand rails and grab handles become an even more vital aid for older or disabled people during their day-to-day visits to the bathroom, toilet or the other rooms in the house.

Mobility aids must be securely fixed and must not have any sharp edges or corners. It is important that handles are of the right diameter from an ergonomic point of view, and that they have a rough surface of sufficient size to help prevent wet hands from slipping. The Franke Company offers support and grab handles of this type, either as stainless-steel tubes with the Franke Fine Grip surface, or in white with dimpled surface and a stainless-steel core. So why do we make them in white and not other colours?

The popularity of white

The colour (or perhaps non-colour) white has been known to nature for millennia. And now the fashion industry has chosen to pick white as the season's favourite colour. Nothing appears more hygienic or pure, nothing is brighter, no colour is better suited to interior fittings than the colour white. One of the reasons for this is possibly that experts in the psychology of colours ascribe to white a concept of lightness – with angelic connotations, but also with a sense of correctness and “cool”.

Whether in hospitals or rehabilitation centres, sports facilities or gyms – and increasingly in private homes – you will find an ever-growing demand for Franke mobility aids. The robust stainless-steel core is powder-coated in white, which produces the dimpled surface required in order to help ensure a firm grip. Stainless steel and powder coatings are ideal partners. The coated surface can only be damaged under extreme circumstances. If this should occur, however, the use of a stainless-steel core means that damaged support or grab handles will never rust. They are also hygienic, with the added bonus that the stainless-steel attachment fittings make them extremely difficult to vandalise or steal.

Purity through and through

White – the colour of purity – is easy to keep clean. The cleaning of Franke mobility aids requires only a damp cloth or sponge and a little mild detergent. Note that stiff brushes or abrasive cleaning products can wear down the dimpled surface, removing some of the handle's resistance to slipping.

The design of these items likewise holds back on “purity” as such and falls in favour of clean functionality. Franke safety handles are available as straight or angled units, as support handles for wall and floor attachment, as handrails, or as wall-mounted folding handles. These folding handles can also be fitted with toilet-roll holders or flush and tap controls to make things easier for wheelchair users.

Sit!

These grab handles can be combined with ergonomic backrests or seats made of moulded white plastic. A backrest, for example, can be permanently attached or hung into position when required. The shower seat can likewise be hung in place or permanently installed as a wall-mounted folding seat.

Franke mobility aids in brushed stainless steel or clear white give a person a bit more independence and help make personal affairs like visits to the bathroom or toilet a little easier.

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