Comfort in the kitchen:
An ethnographic user study

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Agenda

- Method and cases
- Findings
  - Kitchen living
  - Changing needs
  - Easy access
- The creative man
Ethnographic fieldwork

- Interviews
- Observations
  - How do you use your kitchen?
  - What works/does not work?
Cases

- Sweden, Finland, Lithuania, Latvia and Denmark
- 8 men and women (+ 1 group interview)
- Age 71-94
- All have their own kitchen
- Living alone
Kitchen living: dining in the kitchen
Kitchen living: decoration
Kitchen living: function and aesthetics
Kitchen living: media
Changing needs: cooking
Changing needs: disabilities
Easy access: top cupboards
Housing Accessibility
Methodology Targeting Older People
- Reliable Assessments and Valid Standards

PhD thesis Tina Helle
Easy access: oven
Easy access: pots and pans
Easy access: drawers
Easy access: handles
The creative man
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Dish drainers
Medicine and cleaning detergents
Conclusions

- Assistive technology vs. design
- Changing needs $\rightarrow$ need for flexibility
- New concept: service design?