

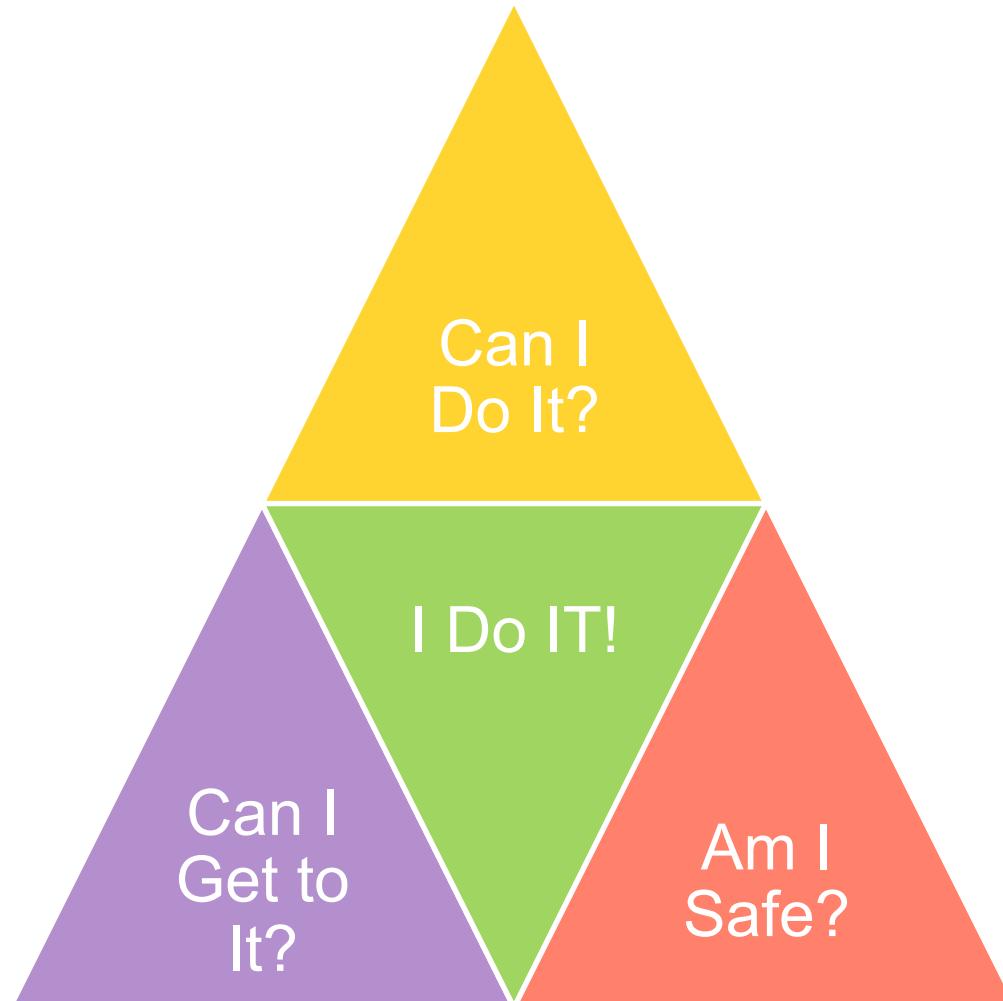


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# Safety in the Home

*Online Dementia Journal – April 2017*

# Doing Stuff for Myself



# Situation Awareness Skills

Sapphires – sustained → tough to think

Diamonds – old emotions drive new interactions

Emeralds – has moments of time travel

Ambers – more sensory awareness than intellectual awareness, immediate not big picture

Rubies – only in moments, less body aware

Pearls – more inside than externally aware

# Safety

Sapphires – if you have it use it - sustain

Diamonds – second set of eyes are needed  
– 50% are inaccurate related to skills

Emeralds – friendly pre-set and prompts are  
essential for risk reduction – mistakes are  
happening

Ambers – caution is required 24/7 in most  
cases

Rubies – eyes on, within arms reach 24/7

Pearls – 24/7 in immediate space

# Access

**Sapphires** – consider hidden accesses

**Diamonds** – emergency controls when monitoring is not possible

**Emeralds** – control over access unless monitored at a distance or during critical pieces

**Ambers** – access to what is wanted and OK, no access to what is unsafe

**Rubies** – supported access or no access

**Pearls** – supportive provision and access

# Use

Sapphires – use it or lose it, stress & fatigue increase accident risk

Diamonds – vary during day & with stress

Emeralds – support during most tasks, use for tasks that are simplified

Ambers – only with guidance and supervision, provide safe items otherwise

Rubies – supported use only, with space and items to carry or hold when moving

Pearls – introduce slowly, respect feedback

As dementia increases the person's world will NEED to change, however, reasonable opportunities and options must be provided for a life worth living !

*Changing the  
Culture of Dementia Care  
One Mind at a Time*

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**GEMS™**

Dementia **Aware**  
Dementia **Knowledgeable**  
Dementia **Skilled**  
Dementia **Competent**

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