

Powerchairs

Buying Guide

Powerchairs and powerstrolls are great alternatives to a mobility scooter as they give you just as much independence, but are also ideal if the user requires a carer as an attendant. With different types of powerchair to choose from you need to ensure you're getting the best help available, so before you make a purchase consider the following questions.

What type of Powerchairs are there to choose from?

There are two main types of powerchairs available to you: user-controlled or attendant-controlled.

User-controlled powerchairs give back independence and freedom to the user. Fitted with a remote control on one of the padded armrests, the user is able to determine where they want to go with the help of a handy, easy-to-use joystick.

Attendant-controlled powerchairs are ideal for anyone who requires help from a carer. With the controls fitted onto the back of the powerchair, the passenger can relax as the attendant takes over.



What type of Powerstrolls are there to choose from?

Similar to powerchairs, you have the choice between a user-controlled or attendant-controlled powerstroll.



Designed as an electronic wheelchair, with a user-controlled powerstroll the user takes charge of the chair's direction and speed through the use of a joystick.

Attendant-controlled powerstrolls are great for users with restricted mobility, as the control of the powerstroll is in the hands of the carer.

What do I need to consider when buying a Powerchair?

There are certain key components you need to consider when purchasing a powerchair. The first is whether you intend to use the chair indoors or outside.

Indoor powerchairs are smaller and more compact in their size, with a tight turning-circle making them great for manoeuvring around objects and obstacles.

Outdoor powerchairs are designed to be bigger and bulkier in size, able to take on a whole host of different terrains and inclines. With size in mind you also need to consider whether you intend to transport the powerchair. With powerchairs available in a range of sizes and weights, with some able to be

What else might I need?

There is a whole range of powerchair and powerstroll accessories available to make your experience as comfortable and user-friendly as possible.

If you are sitting for long periods of time you may want to consider purchasing a cushion or pad to help improve your posture, as the sitting position can put a lot of pressure on your lower back.

Other examples of ideal accessories include a waterproof cover to protect your powerchair/powerstroll from the elements if you intend to store it outside, as well as handy bags that can be attached to the backrest of the chair to store your personal items within easy reach.

You can also take out insurance for your powerchair to help protect you if you're involved in an accident, causing damage to others or to the chair itself.