

Mobility Scooter Buyers Guide

What is a mobility scooter?

A mobility scooter is a powered mobility aid which allows you to move around more easily. It can replace the use of a car for those who are no longer confident to drive.

Whatever the reason, mobility scooters can be a great solution to regain or maintain your independence.

Top 3 Reasons to buy

1. You are finding it more difficult to walk longer distances
2. You can no longer drive a car
3. You may have an injury or a medical condition



Step 1: Confirm you can operate a mobility scooter

An Occupational Therapist (OT) can help you decide whether a scooter is the right choice for you, keeping in mind that scooter drivers need a range of skills to be safe drivers.

An OT will assess whether you can:

- Move your body to turn left and right, including your head and neck to look in all directions to avoid hazards, pedestrians, and traffic
- Be aware of your surroundings with adequate vision and hearing
- React quickly and be a confident problem solver
- Maintain concentration for the time you are out
- Maintain your balance on the scooter across bumpy or sloped surfaces
- Get on and off the scooter without assistance and walk short distances

Step 2: Choose between a 3- or 4-wheel vehicle

4 wheels

- Two front wheels for steering, and two rear drive wheels
- Wider and more stable, less likely to tip over
- Smoother more comfortable ride
- Intended for outdoor use, different environments
- Best suited to manage rough or uneven surfaces

3 wheels

- One front wheel for steering, two rear drive wheels
- Easier to manoeuvre with a smaller turning circle
- Suits smaller spaces or indoor use
- Best suited to smooth, even surfaces



Step 3: Choose size of scooter

What matters to you?	Small or Folding scooter	Mid-Size scooter	Large or Heavy Duty scooter
Turning circle	✓	⊙	✗
Portability	✓	✗	✗
Distance* (range per day)	Up to 20km	20-40km	50km+
Driving on rough or uneven ground	✗	⊙	✓
Public transport	✗	✓	✓
Smooth suspension	✗	✓	✓

✓ Recommended ⊙ Moderately recommended ✗ Not recommended

*Distance range per day is dependent on user weight, terrain, average speed, battery condition and other variables.

Step 4: Other considerations

How often do you plan to use the scooter?

Occasionally, regularly, or daily use.

What is your build?

Your height, weight, and physical dimensions (hips, arm length) may have an impact on how comfortable you are on the different models.

How will you store and maintain your scooter?

You will need a secure, dry, undercover area with a power supply to charge your batteries. Just like a car, to get many years of faithful and reliable use, you will need your scooter serviced by a reputable dealer at least every 12 months.

What accessories do you need to have/ carry?

There is a range of accessories for scooters, to make life easier when you are out and about. Some examples include crutch/cane/walker holders, shopping bag, mobile phone or drink holder, sun canopy, lock, rain poncho, oxygen bottle etc.

Step 5: Try before you buy

Now that you have an idea of what you want in a mobility scooter, it is important that you try before you buy. Test driving the scooter is the only way to see if you feel comfortable in the seat and can easily understand and use the controls.

About Us

Mobility Aids Australia have over 20 years of experience and are a leading supplier of mobility aids and assistive technology products.



Free assessment, training and home demonstrations*



Onsite service

We can come to you



Super sized showroom

Open 5 days

* Powered items >\$1000

You can call **1800 625 530** to book a time with our experienced team for an obligation free test drive and expert advice.

Contact us

Disclaimer: The information contained in this sheet is informational only. Please consult with a specialist dealer and/or your healthcare professional for advice pertaining to your specific needs. Mobility Aids Australia is not responsible for any negative outcomes resulting from action taken based on the advice herein.



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