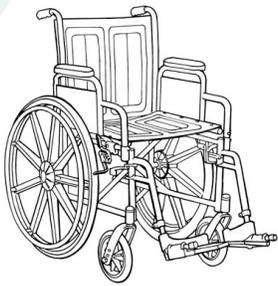




MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS

PURPOSE: Wheelchairs are designed to allow those individuals who either cannot walk or have limited walking ability to be independent and mobile. Wheelchairs should be properly prescribed and fitted. Your Allay Home Care technician will fit you for the proper chair.

TYPES: Wheelchairs come in many different shapes, sizes, and brands. All wheelchairs have a maximum weight limit that they can support. Make sure you verify the weight capacity of your wheelchair. At all times the user must follow and abide by all manufacturers' safety and operational procedures.



ARMRESTS: Armrests provide support for the user's arms. There are two types of armrests, fixed and detachable. Detachable arms either lift out of the way or completely detach from the chair allowing for easy transferring into and out of the wheelchair.

LEG RESTS: Leg rests come in three basic types, fixed, swing away and elevating. Swing-away leg rests actually swing away and detach, thus giving the wheelchair a more compact size when transporting, and also making getting into and out of the wheelchair safer and more accessible. Elevating leg rests allow the raising of the leg to an extended position. This feature is provided for users that cannot bend or must raise their legs. All leg rests should be adjusted properly before using. **Always flip the footplates up and out of the way when transferring in and out of the wheelchair.**

TRANSPORTATION: Transportation of wheelchairs is simplified by their ability to fold up or collapse. A collapsed wheelchair is reduced to a width of approximately 1 foot. It can be easily rolled into a back seat of a car by tilting the wheelchair on its large wheels and placing the smaller caster wheels into the vehicle. Then roll the larger wheels up into the back seat. Storage in automobile trunks is also accessible. The user must always utilize proper lifting techniques when lifting heavy or awkward objects.

USE: To fold up your wheelchair, grab the seat sling in the middle and pull up. To unfold, push down on the seat guideposts with the palm of your hand. Never allow your fingers to get between the guideposts and armrests. To prevent tire damage, never store or transport your wheelchair with the wheel locks on.

Wheel locks are not intended to keep the wheelchair braked in all situations. Wheel locks are designed to provide resistance so that the average user will not move when they are applied. Wheel locks should be regularly checked and adjusted for proper function. **When transferring into and out of the wheelchair, always have brakes applied.**

CUSHIONS: Wheelchair cushions come in many different styles and levels of cushioning. Cushions are designed for those individuals who spend many hours in their wheelchairs and need to prevent skin breakdown. Cushions can provide support and stability for the user.

SAFETY: Follow the guidelines on the **Home Safety Basics** list to prevent risks of falls.

CLEANING: Wheelchairs should be wiped down with a damp cloth to clean. It is recommended that you disinfect the arm rests and wheel rims periodically by using a disinfecting wipe.

MAINTENANCE & WARRANTY: The user should perform visual checks on their wheelchair at least monthly to ensure it is in good working order. All wheelchairs come with a manufacturer's warranty however; they do not cover user abuse. Never leave your wheelchair out in the weather. Contact Allay Home Care if your wheelchair needs repair.

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