

WHEELCHAIR MAINTENANCE

General maintenance and related information about your Manual or Power Wheelchair

Please Note:

- Cleaning and day to day general maintenance are your responsibility.
- All repairs must be completed by Accessable or an agent authorised by them.
- Check manufacturer's instructions or warranty before attempting to fix even minor faults.

Manual Wheelchair – Transit / Self Propelling

Cleaning	<p>Upholstery & Chrome/Painted Surfaces Wipe over seat back using a damp cloth with mild soap or detergent. Dry thoroughly to prevent rusting of screws etc. Use a chamois to clean the frame to remove surface dirt and maintain original finish.</p>
Brakes	Refer to manufacturer's instructions or seek assistance from Accessable if loose.
Tyres	<p>Tyre pressure should be at the recommended psi. The recommended tyre pressure for different model wheelchairs is found in the manufacturer's instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Transit: 35 - 40psi • For Standard Self Propelling: 60 - 65psi • High pressure tyres (only): 90 -110 psi <p>These psi levels are on the side of the tyre along with dimensions of the tyre as well. Be careful not to over-Inflate the tyres, as this is dangerous and can cause punctures.</p> <p>Worn tyres will affect braking ability and are harder to push. If fabric/canvas is showing through the rubber, these tyres should be replaced immediately – contact Accessable.</p>
Castors	A build-up of fibre from the floor can occur, especially on the inside and outside of each front castor. This fibre creates a tight washer, which reduces the ability of the castor to spin. To remove fibre completely, the castor must be removed by a technician or if you hear a grinding noise, it could indicate that the castor bearings may need to be greased or replaced - contact Accessable.
Wheels	There should be very little sideways movement. If there is excessive movement in the wheel, this may require adjustment. A grinding noise indicates that the wheel bearings may need to be replaced - contact Accessable.
Upholstery	Check for damaged seat & back upholstery as it should be replaced as soon as possible. Stretched upholstery can lead to poor posture and puts extra stress on the wheelchair frame.
Check Frame	Metal tubing on the folding mechanism can seize if a buildup of rust or corrosion is present. Small cracks, if ignored, may lead to time consuming repairs and therefore inconvenience for the user. Please lubricate all moving parts with WD40 or similar on a regular basis. Contact Accessable for repairs to be carried out.
Leg Rest	The setting of leg rests to suit the client is very important. Leg rests on wheelchairs are adjustable and should be set at the correct height by your therapist. Similar adjustments may be needed if cushions are also added.

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Power Wheelchair

In addition to general maintenance, please note the following:

Electronics	Always protect the electrics, cover the joystick and control with a plastic bag to prevent food or moisture from getting trapped inside the components e.g. when eating or if caught out in wet weather.
Speed of Chair	This can be reduced or increased through the control panel associated with the joystick. If the speed of your chair is still not suitable, please contact your therapist to discuss the reprogramming of your controller.
Battery	<p style="text-align: center;">Charging of batteries must be for a minimum continuous period of 10 hours daily</p> <p>They must always be kept fully charged, even when not in use, or they will quickly deteriorate. Battery charging should always take place in a dry environment.</p> <p>The charging of dry cell/gel batteries should only be done with a correct "voltage sensing" charger. Using an incorrect charger could prematurely damage expensive batteries. (If in doubt, check with Accessable.)</p>
Safety Checks	Electrical/Mechanical safety checks are completed every 12 months, if no repairs or maintenance has occurred within that time, please contact Accessable to organise.
Tyres	Check side of tyre for recommended psi pressure, if in doubt, contact Accessable.

Summary

- Charge your batteries for 12 hours prior to first use.
- Only use an approved charger on your batteries.
- Charging should be done at room temperature.
- Always recharge your batteries after use.
- Never store your batteries without charging them first, even if they have only been partially charged.
- If you can't complete a full charge, ensure that the batteries are fully charged with the next charge.
- After an incomplete charge you may not be in a position to run your usual distance, constant low charges will destroy your batteries.
- When a Power chair is out of gear, brakes do not operate. Please take caution in these circumstances.

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