

Wheelchair Comparison Matrix

Use this matrix to give a numerical rating to up to 3 different wheelchairs or seating systems that you are considering. Write in the name of the product next to the number that represents it. Give the device a score of 1 if rates low on the characteristic, a 2 if it is average and a score of 3 it rates high.

Remember, if you decide to total the numbers, some device characteristics will have **greater** importance to you than others. This means that the number score alone is not a reliable comparison figure for making a decision. This matrix may help you to decide if one product is more help ful than another.

#1 = _____

#2 = _____

#3 = _____

Characteristics of the Wheelchair	Device #1	Device #2	Device #3
Personal Concerns			
• I have the needed abilities to operate/learn to operate this wheelchair.			
• It will help me do or get to places that I cannot do now			
• It has short comings in its use or usefulness			
• It will be comfortable to use			
• Using it will make me feel good about myself			
• It looks and feels OK to me			
• I have safety risks about using this device			
• The product/device can be purchased easily			
• I can have a trial period to see if it works for me			
Access Issues			
• There are limits on when or where this wheelchair can be used			
• It is bulky and heavy so my enviroment will need to change.			
• I can transport it if using my current vehicle if I need to			
• It can be used both indoors and outdoors			
• Changes in weather will affect its use outdoors			
• I can plug it into a regular electrical outlet			
• There is reliable power where I will need to use it?			
• There is a battery pack that is rechargable			
• I will be able to recharge if myself if I need to.			

Training Needs			
• I can understand how this equipment work			
• It is ready for me to use			
• Training is needed to be able to use it			
• I need to learn skills in order to use this device			
• Training is available			
• Training is conveniently located			
• Length of training is OK			
• Training will require travel or overnights			
• Training is included in the purchase price or in insurance.			
Repair and Maintenance Needs			
• This wheelchair is reliable and has a reasonable warranty.			
• It is likely to hold up under planned use.			
• It will still look OK after a year or two of use			
• The average "life" of this product is...			
• Maintenance needed is...			
• Ability of me or my family to do the needed maintenance			
• Availability of maintenance or repair services			
• Repair services are convenient			
• The service record of the vendor/manufacturer is...			
• Turn around time to get device back			
• Loaner devices are available during repairs or maintenance			
Financial Issues			
• The cost of the product			
• The training costs, if any			
• Possible funding sources for purchase/training			
• Renting or leasing is possible			
• Maintenance or repair costs I should plan on			
• Possible funding source for maintenance/repair			
• The equipment will need to be changed/upgraded soon			
• There a trade-in allowance			
• I can upgrade to another product			
Other Issues that are important to me			

