

Here is a comprehensive **Wheelchair Selection Questionnaire** to help someone choose the right wheelchair type based on their needs, lifestyle, and environment.

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**General Needs Assessment**

1. What is your primary use for the wheelchair? (Daily use, occasional, travel, sports, outdoors, etc.)
  2. Will you be using the wheelchair indoors, outdoors, or both?
  3. How often do you transport the wheelchair (in a car, taxi, plane, etc.)?
  4. Do you have assistance available regularly or do you need to operate it independently?
  5. What is your body weight and height? (Important for size, bariatric options, and comfort.)
  6. Are there any postural support needs (e.g., trunk support, headrest, tilt)?
  7. Do you need the wheelchair temporarily (e.g., rehab) or permanently/long-term?
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**Manual vs. Motorized**

1. Do you have sufficient upper body strength and stamina to self-propel a manual wheelchair?
  2. Do you experience fatigue, pain, or injuries (e.g., shoulder strain) when pushing a manual wheelchair?
  3. Will the terrain you regularly travel on (hills, grass, gravel) make manual propulsion difficult?
  4. Do you prefer full independence without reliance on caregivers for pushing?
  5. Is your home, workplace, or frequent destinations accessible for a powered wheelchair?
  6. Are you comfortable with maintaining a powered wheelchair (charging, servicing)?
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**Folding vs. Rigid (Manual)**

1. Do you frequently need to fold the wheelchair for transport in a car or plane?
  2. Are you prioritizing performance (speed, efficiency, less energy to propel) over convenience?
  3. Will the wheelchair be stored in small spaces (closets, car trunks)?
  4. Do you need easier transfers due to a more compact or flexible frame?
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**Lightweight vs. Bariatric**

1. Is weight important for lifting, storage, and ease of propulsion?
  2. Do you need a higher weight capacity (>120kg/ >265 lbs)?
  3. Is seat width, depth, and strength crucial for comfort and safety?
  4. Do you require reinforced frames or heavy-duty wheels?
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#### **Motorized: Lightweight vs. Heavy Duty**

1. Will you mostly use it indoors with tight spaces (lighter, compact models)?
  2. Do you need extended battery range for long outdoor trips?
  3. Are rough terrains, hills, or off-road paths a regular part of your travel (requiring heavy-duty models)?
  4. Is portability important (e.g., folding power chairs for cars, flights)?
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#### **Special Features**

##### ◆ **Standing Wheelchair:**

- Do you want the option to stand for health benefits, social interaction, or specific tasks?
- Are funding and maintenance for a standing chair feasible for you?

##### ◆ **Reclining/Tilting:**

- Do you experience pressure sores, poor circulation, or require pressure relief?
- Do you need to change positions frequently for comfort, rest, or medical reasons?

##### ◆ **Off-Road/All-Terrain:**

- Will you frequently navigate unpaved paths, grass, sand, or hiking trails?
- Do you require higher ground clearance and robust tires?

##### ◆ **Height Adjustable:**

- Do you want the seat height to adjust for tasks (e.g., reaching counters, desks, transfers)?
  - Are varying transfer heights (bed, toilet, car) part of your routine?
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#### **Environment Considerations**

1. Are doorways, ramps, elevators, and public spaces in your area wheelchair accessible?
2. Are your home pathways, bathrooms, and kitchen designed for wheelchair use?
3. Is your community supportive of wheelchair-friendly transportation (buses, taxis)?

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**Budget and Funding**

1. What is your budget or funding source (insurance, grants, government assistance)?
2. Are you considering the long-term costs of maintenance, repairs, and replacements?

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**Future-Proofing**

1. Is your condition stable, progressive, or likely to change (impacting future wheelchair needs)?
2. Are you looking for a modular wheelchair that can be adapted over time?