

Stair lifts information and advice

This factsheet is for guidance only and has been produced with assistance from healthcare professionals

How do stair lifts work?

Stair lifts carry you up and down stairs by you sitting on a small seat with arm rests and a lap belt. If you are finding climbing the stairs increasingly difficult or very tiring, you may wish to consider a stair lift as an alternative. Stair lifts run on a battery and are operated by controls on the armrests or a remote-controlled unit operated by the client or carer. They have battery backup so will continue to work in the event of a power cut. Stair lifts are fixed to the stairs rather than the wall, battery charges top and bottom at it's docking station.

Types of stair lift

There are two main types of stair lift:

- **Straight stair lift**
- **Curved stair lift**

Curved stair lifts are suitable for stairs with a bend or curve at the top or bottom. Having a curved staircase does not necessarily mean you need a curved stair lift. Stair lift companies are able to assess your stairs and advise you on the best option and any potential additions. When considering a stair lift, it is wise to get more than one quote as prices can vary enormously.

Funding your stair lift

1. Social Services

Social Services can assess your needs and may recommend a stair lift funded by a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG). This is a means tested grant and it can only be accessed through a Social Services occupational therapist. You can refer yourself to Social Services by telephoning your local Social Services department.

2. Self-funded

Stair lifts can be bought or hired privately and this may be the preferred option if a stair lift is needed quickly. Many companies offer a rental service (mostly for straight stair lifts) and this is considerably cheaper than buying.

Usually companies charge a one-off rental fee (which may include maintenance and removal charges) and an amount per month for rental. It is worth checking with the company if there is a minimum or maximum rental period. Stair lifts may also be sold as 'reconditioned' or 'reallocated' (second hand). If a stair lift is purchased for your own use, you should not be charged VAT.

3. Charitable funding

It may be worth talking to your occupational therapist or community nurse specialist for advice.

Help and advice

Disabled Living Foundation

www.livingmadeeasy.org.uk

0300 999 0004

Monday 10am-4pm

Helpline operators available for impartial advice about mobility products or other types of daily living equipment (see website)

Disabled Facilities Grant:

www.gov.uk/apply-disabled-facilities-grant

Safety: It is essential the stair lift user has the cognitive ability to safely use a stair lift as per manufacturers instructions and understand how to use the stair lift, lap belt and controls to keep them safe. Memory impairment can put an individual at risk

If you purchase or rent a stair lift privately then it is your responsibility to ensure your safety getting on and off. All stair lifts are fitted with armrests and a seat belt. It is recommended that both armrests are down and the seat belt fastened when using the stair lift. The user needs to be able to pay attention throughout the stair lift use and be able to manage issues such as it bleeping / not charging and be able to manage change in speed and direction. **Speak to your GP / Health professional / Occupational Therapist if you are concerned about memory issues.**

Some useful stair lift company addresses straight and curved stair lifts are available to purchase.

Direct stair lifts Ltd

(Rental of curved and straight stair lifts)
Unit 5, Jubilee Business Park
Stores Road
Derby, DE21 4BJ
Tel: 0800 530 0025
www.directstairlifts.co.uk

Associated stair lifts

(Rental or purchase of new and
reconditioned curved and straight stair lifts)
41 Kenilworth Drive
Oadby, Leicestershire, LE2 5LT
Tel: 0800 015 0249
associatedstairlifts.co.uk

Advice from Leicestershire Centre for

Integrated Living (LCIL) Charity no. 1072345
West End Neighborhood Centre
Andrews Street
Leicester LE3 5PA
Tel: 0116 222 5005
www.lcil.org.uk

Easy step stair lifts Ltd

(Rental of straight and curved stair lifts and
reconditioned straight and curved)
Unit 14, Hill Lane Close, Markfield
Leicestershire LE67 9PY
Tel: 01530 245441
info@easystepstairlifts.co.uk

This leaflet is updated regularly. For the most up to date information please visit loros.co.uk/care

In cases of comments or complaints, please contact:

Chief Executive, or Director of Patient Services and Clinical Quality, LOROS, Groby Road, Leicester LE3 9QE or, Care Quality Commission, East Midlands Office, Citygate, Gallowgate, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4PA

Alternative languages:

LOROS Hospice is dedicated to ensuring equality and diversity is at the core of all our activities. If you need this information in your own language, please contact the PA to our Patient Experience Lead on 0116 231 8435

اللغات البديلة

إذا كنت بحاجة للحصول على هذه المعلومات مترجمة الى لغتك الأم ، فيرجى منك الاتصال مع الموظف المساعد PA في قسم خبرة وتجربة المرضى Patient Experience Lead على رقم الهاتف 0116 231 8435

Jeśli potrzebuje Pan/ Pani, aby niniejsze informacje zostały udzielone w Pana/ Pani języku ojczystym, prosimy o kontakt z PA Kierownika ds. Pacjentów pod numerem 0116 231 8435.

مُتبادلُ لُبانين

اگر یہ معلومات آپ کو اپنی زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ مہربانی 0116 231 8435 پر ہمارے/ہماری پیشنٹ ایکسپیرٹنس لیڈ کے/کی پی اے سے رابطہ کریں

PA 0116 231 8435

ਵਿਕਲਪਿਕ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 0116 231 8435 'ਤੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਮਰੀਜ਼ ਅਨੁਭਵ ਲੀਡ ਨਾਲ PA ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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Hospice Care for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland

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