

Compliments of  The SCOOTER Store.

ALL ABOUT POWER MOBILITY

YOUR PERSONAL GUIDEBOOK TO POWER CHAIRS AND SCOOTERS.



Introduction

- **Going to the kitchen to make yourself a sandwich**
- **Getting up to answer the phone**
- **Meeting the postman at the door to get your mail**
- **Visiting your friend in the apartment next door**

We often take for granted the ability to do simple tasks like these. However, when your mobility is limited, life's little pleasures can become difficult challenges, and your quality of life can suffer. Instead of going about your daily routine on your own schedule, you become dependent on others. You find yourself missing activities you once embraced because you just can't do them by yourself, safely or without pain.

If an old injury or a serious medical condition such as diabetes, arthritis, a stroke or heart problems, is keeping you from doing what you want, when you want, there is good news.

You may be able to regain your freedom and independence through power mobility.

Power mobility — a scooter or power chair — may be the bridge back to self-sufficiency for you or a loved one. A scooter or power chair can provide independence and peace of mind, and help you get back to doing the things you love.

This guide offers valuable information to help you decide if power mobility is right for you. It explains:

- **What power mobility is**
- **Its advantages and its uses**
- **The features and benefits of scooters and power chairs, and**
- **How the cost may be paid in part or in full by Medicare and supplemental insurance.**

Finally, it offers a checklist of what to look for in a power mobility provider.

Limited mobility doesn't have to stop you from enjoying life to the fullest. Start living again — without limits. Reopen the door to your physical freedom today. Turn the page and learn how power mobility can change your life — or the life of someone you love.

What Is Power Mobility?

“Power Mobility” is the industry term that simply refers to battery-powered scooters and power chairs used by persons with limited mobility to get around on their own. Because they are safe and easy to operate, scooters and power chairs provide a renewed sense of freedom and independence, allowing you to:

- **Do more things on your own**
- **Go where you want to go**
- **Remain independent in your own home**
- **Move comfortably and safely where you need to go**

While scooters and power chairs are usually considered medical equipment, anyone can purchase one — you don't have to have a prescription. For example, if you have trouble walking long distances, you can purchase a scooter or power chair for your own convenience. But if you have a medical or physical limitation that restricts your ability to walk or operate a manual wheelchair, your physician can prescribe a scooter or power chair for you. Either way, power mobility products can get you moving again.



Scooter



Power Chair

How Power Mobility Can Help You

If you have difficulty getting around your home or lack the stamina to pursue your favorite activities, you can benefit from power mobility. A scooter or power chair is like a new lease on life that puts you back in control. You'll be able to come and go as you please, as long as you please. With increased comfort and confidence, you can resume your normal activities.

To help you determine if power mobility is right for you, we've assembled a series of questions. If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, a scooter or power chair could be the answer to a fuller life for you.

Is Power Mobility Right for You?	YES	NO
I have a medical condition that makes walking or standing difficult or impossible, and limits my ability to move around in my home.		
I need a wheelchair, but I cannot operate a manual wheelchair by myself.		
I need help getting around my home to complete common daily tasks, such as preparing a meal, getting dressed, getting to the bathroom, etc.		
Walking around my property or to the mailbox is impossible or very difficult.		
My limited mobility makes it hard to fully enjoy my life.		
I am no longer able to visit my neighbors without assistance.		
I live in a retirement community and cannot get to the dining area without assistance.		
In the case of an emergency, I could not get out of my home without assistance.		
I can no longer go shopping, because I can't walk the necessary distances in stores or shopping centers.		

Selecting a Power Mobility Product

Thousands of Americans are enhancing their lives through power mobility. Scooters and power chairs are simple to use, very attractive and extremely versatile. Designed around the driver and engineered for a safe and reliable ride, scooters and power chairs offer tremendous flexibility to meet a variety of mobility needs.

How do you decide which power mobility product is right for you? To help you make the right choice, the features and benefits of scooters and power chairs are described below and on the following two pages.

Scooters

Most scooters have either 3 or 4 wheels, and are steered, much like a bicycle, using handlebars. Ideal for out-of-home activities, scooters glide smoothly and easily over a variety of surfaces. Hop on to pick up the mail, visit a neighbor, walk the dog or cruise the grocery aisles. Several models are available, even portable models that can be stowed in the trunk of your car to take along with you. Scooters also can be used inside your home, but tend to be slightly larger and have a wider turning radius than power chairs, which can somewhat limit indoor use.

Power Chairs

Power chairs usually have 6 wheels that provide stability and are steered using a “joystick,” a small lever that controls both speed and direction. With their ability to turn completely around in a small space, power chairs give you greater access to small rooms and narrow hallways in your home or apartment. Move effortlessly from room to room, answer the door and fix a meal in your kitchen — power chairs deliver the freedom and flexibility to do it all. They are designed to maximize your comfort all day long. Most models offer adjustable seat backs, armrests and footrests, and every model has a comfortable seat for extended daily use.

Scooters and power chairs can be used both indoors and outdoors. And while some scooters are very portable, most scooters and power chairs require special equipment if you want to transport them for use at the mall, grocery store, place of worship, etc. Special lifts and ramps are available to assist in transporting scooters and power chairs in your car, truck or van. With these additional accessories, there is almost no limit to where you can take your scooter or power chair.

Using Your Scooter

Its stylish and sporty design sets a scooter apart from the pack! With its sleek handlebars and easy steering, a scooter offers an exceptional ride.

Get Going: A scooter is easy to drive using the handlebars on the steering “tiller” to turn left or right. To move forward, you simply press a lever on one side of the handlebars with your thumb; to move backwards, you press the lever on the other side of the handlebars with your other thumb. To give you more control, you can set the maximum speed by using a small speed dial on the handlebars. When you’re ready to stop, just release the lever and the scooter automatically stops.

Easy Riding: Flip-up armrests and a rotating seat make it easy to get on and off your scooter. The handlebars and seat height are adjustable to provide maximum comfort and effortless steering. And for a smooth and stable ride, some scooters feature flat-free tires — so you’ll never have to put air in them. You must have sufficient strength to sit upright and fully extend your arms to operate the tiller.

Plugging In: When your rechargeable batteries are running low, you can conveniently recharge them overnight by simply plugging the scooter into a standard electrical outlet.



The speed control, battery level and power switch are located on the handlebar console.



GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS:

Maximum Speed	4.25 - 5.25 mph
Range (per charge)	8 - 25 miles*
Turning Radius	34" - 58"
Carrying Capacity	250 - 400 lbs.
Unit Weight	111 - 187 lbs.
Unit Width	20" - 24"

*Range impacted by factors such as terrain, passenger weight, etc.

Using Your Power Chair

Customized fit and fingertip control make a power chair the ultimate in comfort and ease of use! Easily maneuvered, a power chair goes just about anywhere with its ability to make smooth, tight turns.

Moving On: All of the controls for operating your power chair are located at the end of the armrest. Press the “on” button and set your maximum speed with the touch of a finger. With a slight turn of your wrist, you can use the “joystick” controller to move forward, backward, right or left, or even in a complete circle. To stop, just release the joystick and your power chair automatically stops. Automatic braking also means your power chair stays put when you get off of it or turn off the power.

Comfort Cruising: For a perfect fit, the armrests, footrest and seat back angle can be adjusted. A comfortable seat with a contoured back delivers all-day comfort, while anti-tip wheels provide extra stability and security. When required, elevated leg rests can be added.

Charging Ahead: Just like a scooter, you can conveniently recharge the batteries on your power chair overnight by simply plugging it into a standard electrical outlet.



The batteries on many power chairs can be recharged using a standard 3-prong electrical outlet.

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS:

Maximum Speed	3 - 6 mph
Range (per charge)	15 - 25 miles*
Turning Radius	16.5" - 26"
Carrying Capacity	250 - 400 lbs.
Unit Weight	168 - 272 lbs.
Unit Width	22.5" - 30.5"

*Range impacted by factors such as terrain, passenger weight, etc.

The Cost of Power Mobility

Scoters and power chairs are safe and reliable transportation devices. Depending on the quality, durability and features you select, retail prices can range from less than \$1,000 to more than \$6,000. Most power mobility providers will accept cash, checks or credit cards, and some may offer financing options. In addition, all or part of the cost of a scooter or power chair may be covered by a variety of sources, including those listed below.

Medicare

Medicare may cover up to 80% of the cost of your scooter or power chair if your doctor prescribes one for you and after a face-to-face examination agrees that:

1. You have mobility limitations that impair participation in mobility related activities of daily living.
2. A cane or walker cannot resolve your mobility limitations and a scooter or power chair can.
3. You are unable to operate a manual wheelchair by yourself.
4. You can safely operate the scooter or power chair in your home.

Medicaid

Medicaid coverage for scooters and power chairs can vary by state. Some states simply pay 20% if Medicare paid 80%. Most states use medical necessity standards and provide a power chair or scooter only if you have upper and lower extremity weakness, but are still capable of operating it safely.

Additional Resources for Payment Assistance

- **Health Insurance Companies** — Some plans or Medicare supplemental policies may provide partial coverage.
- **Managed Care Organizations** — Some group health plans provide partial coverage for Power Mobility.
- **TRICARE** — This program for active duty and retired military personnel and their dependents may provide full or partial coverage.

How to Choose a Power Mobility Provider

You've read how power mobility can help you and about the features and benefits of scooters and power chairs. Now you're ready to take the next step and determine which power mobility provider is the best choice for you.

This is an important decision. Remember: You will use your scooter or power chair most of the day, every day, for years to come. When you select a power mobility provider, you will rely on that company and its employees to keep your scooter or power chair working properly.

When choosing a provider, there are important criteria to consider. These include:

- **The provider's reputation in the industry**
- **The size and stability of the provider**
- **The knowledge and expertise of the provider's representatives**
- **The quality and adjustability of equipment**
- **The availability of nationwide service and support**
- **Assistance offered with filing insurance or Medicare paperwork**
- **Delivery, setup and training**

We created the checklist on the following page to help you to evaluate power mobility providers and select the one that is best for you.

Tips on How to Avoid Fraud

1. **Beware of anyone offering to pay you to file a power mobility claim.**
2. **Watch out for providers using scare tactics or pressuring you to file a claim.**
3. **Avoid providers who won't let you use your own doctor.**

Mobility Provider Checklist

Recognizing that all power mobility providers are not created equal, here are some points to consider when you contact them. Getting answers to these questions will help you determine the quality, service and support you can expect from the provider.

1. Experience and Professionalism

- Has the provider been in business for five years or longer?
- Has the provider established a reputation for quality and service?
- Does the provider refrain from high-pressure selling tactics?
- What professional accreditations or business-community affiliations does the provider have?

2. Quality, Comfort and Warranty of Equipment Offered

- Does the provider offer a wide range of scooters and power chairs?
- Can the scooters or power chairs be adjusted to ensure a comfortable fit?
- Does the provider have a money-back return policy?
- Does the provider offer a repair warranty covering necessary parts and labor?

3. Purchase Process Services

- Does the provider have experience with Medicare and supplemental insurance reimbursement?
- Does the provider work with your doctor and submit the paperwork required by Medicare and your supplemental insurance for you?
- Does the provider accept Medicare reimbursement “on assignment” so that you are not required to come up with the total payment amount up-front?

4. Delivery and Training

- Will the provider deliver the scooter or power chair inside your home at no additional charge?
- Will the provider adjust the scooter or power chair, show you how to use it, and then stay with you until you are confident using it?
- Will the provider test the scooter or power chair to verify that it fits through hallways and in key areas of your home?

5. Long-Term Support and Service

- Will the provider contact you after delivery to ensure your continued comfort and satisfaction?
- Does the provider have locations nationwide so that if you move, you may still receive in-home service and support?
- Does the provider give you customer service support after the sale, so you can always get questions answered or request service?

About The SCOOTER Store

At The SCOOTER Store, we understand that deciding to get a scooter or power chair is a big decision. Equally important is selecting the right company to provide your power mobility. That's why we created this guidebook. We want you to have the information you need to make an informed decision.

Turn to Us with Confidence.

Since 1991, we've helped more than 200,000 people regain their independence and resume a normal, active lifestyle. As America's #1 provider of scooters and power chairs, The SCOOTER Store offers high-quality products and backs them with unmatched service before and after the sale. And we've received accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc. (ACHC), so you can rely on us with confidence.

If you have additional questions about power mobility or want to learn more, the mobility experts at The SCOOTER Store are ready to speak with you by phone and answer your questions. To further serve you, we offer retail locations, distribution centers and a network of service specialists across the nation.

Our caring Mobility Consultants can provide a FREE Mobility Consultation over the phone to learn about your needs, help you understand your options, and help you get moving again.

Call today for your **FREE**
Mobility Consultation.
There is absolutely
no obligation.

1-866-450-2819

Se Habla Español



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