



It can be difficult to decide between a mobility scooter and a power wheelchair. Each has its pros and cons. At the end of the day the choice depends entirely on you and your needs. To help reach the right decision for you, take a look at the statements listed below and find the ones that resonate with you.

**I don't want to look disabled.**

Let's face it; the number one selling feature for a mobility scooter is that it looks "cool". The idea of having a new set of wheels to cruise around town in is psychologically easier than the thought of being "confined to a wheelchair".

**I need to be able to take my mobility aid in a car.**

Power wheelchairs generally don't fold, which makes it difficult to transport them in a standard car. You will need a wheelchair modified van with a four-point tie down.

A compact mobility scooter can be easily folded or disassembled for transport in the trunk of a car. More rugged models can be transported using a simple trailer attached to the back of the car.

**I want to be able to travel over rough terrain.**

A power wheelchair can be taken outdoors, but is restricted to even terrain. If you want to take your mobility aid on rough, uneven terrain then your best bet is a heavy-duty scooter.

**I just want something so I can go to the shops.**

If you are not going to be using your mobility aid indoors then you will find a scooter offers greater flexibility.

The style of scooter you choose will depend on the terrain you expect to travel. A 3-wheel scooter has a tight turning radius, which might come in handy in the shops. A 4-wheel scooter is more rugged and stable, which is good if your journey to the shops is long or rough. If you'd prefer to get a lift to the mall before you start your shopping, a compact mobility scooter can be folded and transported in a car,

### **I often travel by taxi.**

Maxi-taxis have four point tie downs, which are ideal for a power wheelchair. Generally speaking taxis have difficulty managing mobility scooters.

### **My hands don't work very well any more.**

A power wheelchair is steered using a joystick. Mobility scooters are steered with bicycle like handlebars. If you have dexterity or upper body mobility issues you are likely to find it easier to control a power wheelchair.

### **I need to use a mobility aid in the house.**

Mobility scooters are not really designed for use indoors. A 3-wheel mobility scooter does have a tight turning radius, which is handy in shops. But even this scooter is not really intended to be used on an ongoing basis at home.

If you are using it at home, then chances are you are spending a great deal of time on your mobility aid. A power wheelchair is significantly more comfortable. They offer a wide array of seat movement options, and greater support. They are highly maneuverable, making it easy to use either indoors or out.

### **I have trouble sitting up straight.**

A power wheelchair offers significantly more support than a scooter. The seat can be set in stand, tilt and recline positions for both comfort and good posture.