



A helpful guide to the different levels of Assistive Technology

What is assistive technology?

Assistive Technology is any device or system that allows you to do something that you wouldn't be able to do without (or can be used to increase the ease or safety of things that you do).

We break the cost of assistive technology into 3 categories:

1. **Low-cost** assistive technology - under \$1,500 per item
2. **Mid-cost** assistive technology - \$1,500 - \$5,000 per item
3. **High-cost** assistive technology - over \$5,000 per item

For some items it's best to buy them. For other items, it might be better to rent or borrow them if your needs are likely to change.

1. Low-cost assistive technology: under \$1,500 per item are:

- Generally easy to set up and use
- available from local suppliers or non-disability specific retailers

Examples may include:

- continence products
- non-slip bathmats
- large print labels
- walking sticks
- basic shower chairs

Participants are able to spend up to \$1500 on low-cost AT items from their existing budget.

2. Mid-cost assistive technology: between \$1,500 and \$5,000 per item:

The Capital budget in your NDIS plan shows your mid cost assistive technology funding. This will be a broad category. For example, your plan might say “Assistive Products and Accessories for Personal Care, Hygiene, Beds”.

Examples include:

- a standing hoist
- a customised shower chair
- ankle-foot orthotics
- pressure care mattresses

3. High-cost assistive technology: over \$5,000 per item

High-cost items are complex and need an individual assessment to make sure it's the right solution for your needs.

- need specialised knowledge or tools to set them up
- may be custom made for your needs
- generally need a quote so we include the right amount of funding in your plan
- The Capital section of your plan shows your high-cost assistive technology funding. It may say the specific type of assistive technology you need to buy. It might also be “quote required” – your plan will explain this.

Examples include:

- a wheelchair made specifically for you
- ceiling hoists
- complex communication devices
- powered adjustable beds

Here are some guidelines:

- What do we mean by assistive technology? [Click to read](#)
- Assistive technology product risk table. [Click to view](#)
- What if you need to replace the assistive technology? [Click to read](#)
- What evidence do we need for mid cost assistive technology? [Click to read](#)
- What evidence do we need for high-cost assistive technology? [Click to read](#)



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