



Factors to Consider

Assistive Technology (AT) is any piece of equipment or system whether acquired commercially, off the shelf, modified or customised that allows an individual to perform a task that they would otherwise be unable to do, or increase the ease and safety with which the task can be performed (ILCA).

Some things to consider:

Person ☐ What can you do? ☐ What are you having difficulties with? ☐ What do you want to be able to do? ☐ What works and keeps you safe? ☐ What are your personal preferences?	
 Environment ☐ Where will the device be used? ☐ Is there enough space around the product so I can get to it, for storing and charging? ☐ Is the environment familiar to the user? ☐ What adjustments may need to be made? ☐ Are there other users of the space? 	
Product ☐ Size/dimensions ☐ Adjustability ☐ Material ☐ Weight ☐ Weight loading capacity ☐ Growth potential ☐ Customisation possible	 □ Transportability □ Life expectancy □ Conditions to be used in □ Maintenance and servicing □ Insurance □ Availability of technical support
Task ☐ Set-up ☐ Task components ☐ Planning ☐ Follow-up ☐ Time ☐ Re-assessment	

Informal Supports

- Carers
- Family and friends
- Advisory groups or support services
- Websites
- Individuals who have experience using product

Formal Supports

- Doctors
- Allied Health Professionals, for example occupational therapists, speech pathologists, physiotherapists
- ILCNSW

A Formal Assessment is advised when:

- An item cannot be found that meets the user's needs.
- Hazards/risks are identified
- Use of a specific item impacts upon existing items
- Environment cannot accommodate suitable options
- Person requests an assessment/re-assessment
- Funding is required/sought

To access Formal Assistance you may need:

- A referral from a GP, Allied Health Professional, Community Organisation, or Service provider
- A private practicing Allied health professional
- A request from a therapist for equipment/modifications through a funding body.
- See @ a glance Funding Options NSW

Recommendations that may be made may include:

- Customisation of equipment
- Environmental modifications
- Modifying the task

For more information, please contact

Independent Living Centre NSW

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Disclaimer: The Independent Living Centre NSW provides information on assistive technology and services. Visit our website to search for products on our @Magic database. We do not sell or hire any products. The provision of this information does not constitute a recommendation. Responsibility for final selection of items rests with the individual.



