

Tip sheet – before you go to assistive technology advisors or suppliers

You have talked with your planner or LAC about your assistive technology (AT) needs. You now have some ideas about the AT you need and want.

You may need to get an [assessment or advice](#) from a qualified AT advisor. If you need this, there will be enough funding in your plan to pay for this. Find out more about the types of AT in Our Guideline – [how do we fund assistive technology? \(external\)](#)

You can get more information about [understanding assistive technology evidence, advice, assessments and quotes \(DOCX 66KB\)](#). You can also find out [what you need to do before you buy your AT \(external\)](#).

AT advisors

An AT advisor can help you work out what you need the AT to do, where to use it and how you want to use it. Before you go to a qualified AT advisor, think about the questions below and take your notes with you.

AT suppliers

You can take this list with your notes, and any other information your AT advisor has given you, and talk to an AT supplier. The AT supplier can use this information to help you get the right AT for your needs.

The AT supplier can tell you what they have available, what will work for you and how much it costs. You can ask for a written quote so you can compare prices from a few AT suppliers.

You can use our tip sheet to help you know what to ask assistive technology providers:

- [Tip sheet – things to ask assistive technology advisors or suppliers \(PDF 125KB\)](#)
- [Tip sheet – things to ask assistive technology advisors or suppliers \(DOCX 57KB\)](#)

Things to think about, depending on what type of assistive technology you are considering:

- measure the width of doorways and hallways it needs to fit through

- measure the size of the space where you will use it and where you will store it

- does it need to fit in a car?

- can it stay in the place you use it or will you or someone else have to lift it, fold it, or move it out of the way when you are not using it?

- does someone else use the space where you use it, for example bathroom, shower, bath or toilet or another space?

Create a list of what you need the assistive technology to do and how you need it to be. For example, you may need to be aware of pressure care and need the product to help with that.

Your list of needs:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Create another list of the things that would be nice to have but aren't essential.

Your list of nice to haves:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

There may be things you don't want:

You may have other questions too. You may want to write them down, so you don't forget to ask them.
