

## On this page:

[What higher-risk assistive technology is](#)

[What higher-risk assistive technology is for](#)

[What higher-risk assistive technology is like](#)

[Our guideline](#)

## What higher-risk assistive technology is

Higher-risk assistive technology is an item, equipment or device that needs specialised advice to buy, set up and use safely.

You will generally need an assessment from an [assistive technology advisor](#) or [assistive technology assessor](#) to make sure you get the right item for your needs.

## It might be a regulated item

Items regulated by the [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) in Australia are considered higher-risk.

## It may cause harm if used incorrectly

People can be injured if higher-risk assistive technology isn't set up or used safely.

### Tip: What is low-risk assistive technology?

Low-risk assistive technology comes with a low risk of harm when used in a daily living environment. They need very little advice or setup support from assistive technology advisors to use them safely. For example, a non-slip bathmat or a shower stool.

## What higher-risk assistive technology is for

Higher-risk assistive technology is for equipment that is:

- complex, like a power wheelchair
- known to have caused harm
- used to restrict voluntary movement, like bed rails or weighted blankets.

Examples include:

- adjustable beds
- bed sticks and other transfer aids
- motor vehicle adaptations
- complex bathing and toileting devices
- pressure care devices
- prosthetics or orthotics
- devices to support breathing.

## What higher-risk assistive technology is like

### It doesn't always depend on cost

High-cost assistive technology, like a powered wheelchair would be considered higher risk.

Some low-cost items can be higher risk, like bed poles and weighted blankets.

### Understanding risk

We want to make sure you know how to use your assistive technology safely and understand any risks.

You need written advice to buy or rent higher-risk assistive technology.

#### **Tip: Funding to find the right solution**

Your plan will also include funding to seek advice from an assistive technology advisor if you have assistive technology funded in your plan.

### Our guideline

- [Download the Assistive technology guideline pdf file](#) - PDF 290.21 KB
- [Download the Assistive technology guideline docx file](#) - DOCX 103.58 KB

## Related information

### [What is assistive technology](#)

## **What is an assistive technology advisor**

## **What is an assistive technology assessor**

This page current as of  
7 May 2026