



Bath Lift

Make taking a bath safer and easier with the use of a bath lift.

The Facts

1. A bath lift is a device used to safely lower and raise yourself in and out of the bath.

2. Traditionally bath lifts were only used in hospitals and nursing homes.

3. The advances in design and the development of materials has led to bath lifts now being designed for use in the home.

4. The use of a bath lift allows you to access your bath unaided.

Benefits of a bath lift

If you experience mobility problems that stop you from being able to get in and out of your bath unaided a bath lift may be a solution.

The positive effects of having a bath are often overshadowed by the risk of having a fall. A bath lift eliminates the need to step in and out of the bath greatly reducing the risk.

If you are unable to have a bath unaided and the lack of privacy experienced by having someone assist you is an issue for you the result may be you avoid using the bath. A bath lift allows you to lower yourself into the bath and raise up again unassisted.

Considerations when selecting a bath lift

There are a range of different bath lifts on the market suitable for different circumstances and budgets. Below are some things to consider when selecting a bath lift.

Measure your bath

Before purchasing a bath lift measure your bath accurately and record the measurements. Make sure the specifications of the bath lift suit the dimensions of your bath.

Make sure you select a bath lift that suits your specific needs.

Installation

If the bath is used by others in your household or if you want to remove the lift when not in use, ensure the installation is easy and does not require special mounting brackets or other fixings.

Most bath lifts models are fitted to the bath with suction and are easy to remove when not in use.

Personal circumstances

Consider your own needs when selecting a bath lift including your range of movement and the parts or the bathing process you may have difficulty with.

Some bath lifts have flaps on the side of the seat that rest on the side of the bath and help with transferring to the seat.

Lifts are also available that have swivelling seats to assist you with swinging your legs into the bath.

Depth of lift range

Measure the depth of your bath and ensure that the bath lift you are considering will suit the depth. Also check how high the lift will sit above the bath when fully raised. Think about this height in relation to the floor level and your ability to easily get on and off the seat.

Weight limit

Check the weight capacity of the lift and ensure that it is sufficient for your circumstances. Ensure that the unit is made from quality, water resistant materials and the fixing are strong and the unit durable.

Controls

The controls should be easy to use and the buttons large enough to be seen clearly, particularly if you need to take your glasses off whilst having a bath.

The controller should be completely sealed and water proof.

Is there some way to fix the controller to the bath within easy reach or is the unit designed to float.

Battery or hard wired power supply

Many people prefer a battery powered bath lift as there is

reduced risk of electrocution from malfunction and no cords to worry about.

Other people prefer an electric unit that they do not have to worry about recharging. It comes down to personal choice.

If you select a battery operated unit ensure that it has a fail-safe installed that will not allow the lift to lower if there is not sufficient charge to raise it again or you may find yourself stranded in the bath. Check how many uses the battery provides before it needs recharging.

If selecting a power unit ensure that it also has a battery backup so that your unit will work at all times, even in a power blackout.

Test the unit

If possible before purchase test the unit to make sure it is comfortable to use and you feel safe and at ease while being lowered and raised and whilst bathing. What accessories does the unit come with to make it comfortable and easy to use?

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