

Wheelchair Safety

This guide includes wheelchair safety tips to help prevent accidents and move around safely. These activities should be done with two people helping. The person in the wheelchair should be seated all the way back in the chair, legs in the footrests, and secured with a seatbelt.

Do not use the parts that come off the wheelchair to hold onto the chair

Going up the Stairs



1. Begin with the wheelchair facing away from the stairs.
2. Tip the chair back by pushing down on the handles to lift the front wheels. The person in front of the wheelchair should hold the chair firmly on the front frame (do not lift at arm rests or leg rests).
3. Carefully move the chair up one step at a time.
4. Check to make sure the brakes are set before walking away from the chair.

Going down the Stairs



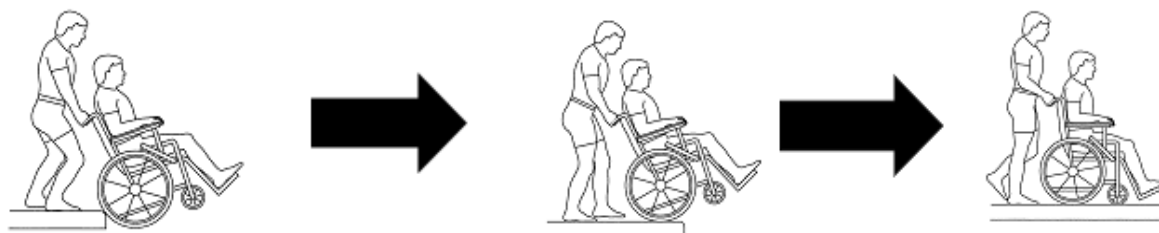
1. Begin with the wheelchair facing the stairs.
2. Tip the chair back by pushing down on the handles to lift the front wheels. The person in front of the wheelchair should hold the chair firmly on the front frame (do not lift at arm rests or leg rests).
3. Carefully move the chair down one step at a time.

Going up a Curb Facing Forward



1. Begin with the wheelchair facing the curb.
2. Tip the chair back by pushing down on the handles to lift the front wheels.
3. Move the chair forward until the front wheels are on the top edge of the curb.
4. Continue to push the chair forward until the back wheels are on the curb.

Going up a Curb Facing Backward



1. Begin with the wheelchair facing away from the curb.
2. Tip the chair back by pushing down on the handles to lift the front wheels.
3. Carefully pull the chair up onto the curb.
4. Continue to roll the chair back until there is room to lower the front wheels onto the curb.

Going down a Curb



1. Begin with the wheelchair facing away from the curb.
2. Tip the chair back by pushing down on the handles to lift the front wheels.
3. Carefully roll the chair backwards and down onto the street.
4. Continue rolling the chair backwards until the front wheels can be lowered onto the street.

If you have any questions talk to your health care team.