

Therapy Chair

SUMMARY

Title

Therapy Chair

Subtitle

An adjustable therapy chair that is durable and easy to clean.

Device Details

Overview

ATP's, PT's, and OT's working with children with physical disabilities often need an appropriate seating system to provide support to enable the kiddo to engage with their environment and participate in strengthening exercises. In the past we measured each child and built it, usually out of triwall, to their size to ensure a good fit. The benefit of this new design is the chair is more durable/easier to clean than triwall and is adjustable. It resembles Swiss cheese to allow placement of laterals virtually anywhere. It can work as a chair or floor sitter. It can incline forward 5 degrees or lay all the way back flat. At the time we are writing this, the cost came in around \$100/chair for 7 chairs that we made. This isn't going to work for every kiddo, but we leave it up to you to adapt it further for your unique situation.

Usage

The overall height from floor to seat bottom can be adjusted by moving the seat bottom and seat back up and down.

The seat depth can be adjusted by repositioning where the hinge pipe bolts onto the seat base.

The seat back angle can be adjusted by moving the support pipe near the top of the seat back forward or back.

The seat base angle can be adjusted by moving the pipe near the front up or down.

Any of the laterals can be repositioned by unscrewing and bolting in a new hole.

The anti-tipper/foot mount has an arc of holes in it. If the child is put into a reclined position and their feet need something to sit on, you can raise and rotate the anti-tipper/foot mount to the appropriate position. From there, you will need to add on your own support, whether you use more sheet plastic or more pieces of PVC pipe to go between the foot mounts.

If the child needs a 5-point harness instead of a chest belt and lap belt, we have one listed on the parts list that was inexpensive. Wrap the straps around the seat back and secure the straps to whatever is appropriate (lateral bolt, PVC pipe, etc.)

Cost

~\$100 per chair



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Build Instructions

This build is mostly using hand tools, but with a small amount of CNC router use to make the body panels.

Skills Required

- CNC Routing
- Mechanical Assembly

Time Required

Assembly time: 1h

Tools

- CNC Router
- Hammer
- Screwdriver
- Scissors
- Tape Measure
- Saw

Attribution

- [Design](#) by the [Utah Assistive Technology Program](#)
- Documentation by Neil Squire Society/Makers Making Change