

Airline Approved Mobility Scooters & Powerchairs

The Complete Guide to Flying with Your Mobility Equipment

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Travelling by air no longer means leaving your independence behind.

Modern folding mobility scooters and lightweight powerchairs have made flying easier than ever, allowing thousands of people to enjoy holidays, cruises and visits to family both in the UK and abroad.

However, travelling with mobility equipment requires a little preparation. Airlines have different procedures for batteries, dimensions and airport assistance, so understanding the requirements before you travel can help ensure a smooth journey.

At First Choice Mobility, we regularly help customers choose travel-friendly mobility equipment and prepare for air travel with confidence.

This guide explains everything you need to know before taking your mobility scooter or powerchair on a plane.

Quick Summary

Before travelling:

- Confirm your airline accepts your mobility equipment.
 - Check your battery type and watt-hour (Wh) rating.
 - Notify your airline well in advance.
 - Request airport assistance if required.
 - Carry your battery information and user manual.
 - Label your equipment with your contact details.
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What Does “Airline Approved” Mean?

The term **“airline approved”** can be misleading.

There isn’t a universal approval that automatically allows every mobility scooter or powerchair onto every aircraft.

Instead, travel models are typically designed with lithium batteries that comply with international transport regulations. Each airline then decides how those regulations are applied.

Always obtain approval from your airline before travelling.

First Choice Mobility Insight

One of the questions we’re asked most often is:

“It says airline approved—does that mean every airline will accept it?”

Unfortunately not.

Every airline has its own procedures, so always confirm your equipment details before you travel.

Choosing the Right Travel Scooter or Powerchair

If you travel regularly, look for:

- Lightweight construction
- Folding design
- Removable lithium batteries
- Compact folded dimensions
- Easy lifting
- Airline-friendly battery capacity

Many customers also choose carbon fibre powerchairs because they're significantly lighter to lift into a vehicle.

Understanding Lithium Batteries

Most airlines base their requirements on the **battery's watt-hour (Wh) rating**, rather than simply the voltage or amp-hour rating.

Before travelling, know:

- Battery type
- Watt-hour rating
- Number of batteries fitted
- Whether batteries are removable

Keep a copy of the manufacturer's battery specification with you throughout your journey.

Did You Know?

Many airlines require removable lithium batteries to be carried in the aircraft cabin rather than remaining fitted to the scooter or powerchair.

Always follow your airline's specific instructions.

Airline Battery Policies (Major UK Airlines)

Although most airlines follow international aviation guidance, each airline has its own procedures for battery-powered mobility aids.

Always check the latest requirements before travelling, as policies can change.

Airline	Summary	Official Information
British Airways	Notify the airline before travel. Provide the make, model, weight and battery details of your mobility equipment.	https://www.britishairways.com/en-gb/information/disability-assistance

Airline	Summary	Official Information
easyJet	Generally accepts removable lithium batteries up to 300Wh , or two batteries up to 160Wh each . Advance notification required.	https://www.easyjet.com/en/help
Ryanair	Mobility aids accepted subject to approval. Removable batteries generally limited to 300Wh or two x 160Wh .	https://help.ryanair.com
Jet2	Contact Jet2 before travelling with battery specifications. Approval required before departure.	https://www.jet2.com
TUI	Lithium batteries generally accepted up to 300Wh or two x 160Wh , subject to approval.	https://www.tui.co.uk

Important: These are general summaries only. Always refer to your airline's official accessibility pages for the latest requirements before travelling.

Before You Book

Before confirming your holiday:

- ✓ Tell the airline you'll be travelling with mobility equipment.
- ✓ Confirm your scooter or powerchair dimensions.
- ✓ Confirm battery specifications.

- ✓ Arrange airport assistance.
 - ✓ Ask about any destination-specific procedures.
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Preparing Your Equipment

Before leaving home:

- Fully charge the batteries.
 - Check tyre pressures.
 - Remove loose accessories.
 - Fold or dismantle the equipment if required.
 - Attach identification labels.
 - Carry the charger where appropriate.
 - Print or save your battery specification.
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Our Top Travel Tips

A few minutes of preparation can prevent unnecessary stress at the airport.

We recommend:

- Contact your airline as soon as your booking is confirmed.
 - Have the make, model, weight, dimensions and battery information ready.
 - Carry a copy of the manufacturer's battery certificate if available.
 - Photograph your equipment before travel.
 - Remove baskets, mirrors and other loose accessories before check-in.
 - Ensure your travel insurance covers mobility equipment.
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First Choice Mobility Insight

One of the most common reasons passengers experience delays isn't because of the scooter itself—it's because the airline doesn't have enough information about the batteries.

Travelling with the battery specification, user manual and airline approval email can make the entire check-in process much smoother.

Airport Assistance

Most airports provide free assistance for passengers with reduced mobility.

This may include:

- Help through the terminal.
- Priority boarding.
- Assistance transferring to your aircraft seat.
- Collection of your mobility equipment after landing.

Request assistance as early as possible, ideally when booking your flight.

Myth vs Fact

Myth

You can't fly with a mobility scooter.

Fact

Thousands of people travel with mobility scooters and powerchairs every year. The key is ensuring your equipment meets your airline's requirements and notifying them well before your departure date.

Before You Travel Checklist

- ✓ Airline notified.
 - ✓ Airport assistance booked.
 - ✓ Battery details confirmed.
 - ✓ Equipment labelled.
 - ✓ Charger packed.
 - ✓ Insurance checked.
 - ✓ User manual downloaded or printed.
 - ✓ Airline approval received.
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Questions We're Often Asked

Can I fly with a folding mobility scooter?

Yes. Many folding mobility scooters are specifically designed for air travel. Always confirm acceptance with your airline before travelling.

Can I carry spare batteries?

Many airlines allow spare lithium batteries, but they usually have to be carried in the aircraft cabin and must comply with the airline's watt-hour limits.

Will the airline provide assistance?

Most airlines and airports offer assistance for passengers with reduced mobility. This should normally be requested in advance.

What information should I give the airline?

You should provide:

- Manufacturer
- Model
- Weight
- Dimensions
- Battery type
- Battery watt-hour (Wh) rating
- Whether the battery is removable

Further Reading

For the latest guidance, visit the official sources below.

International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Battery-powered mobility aid guidance:

<https://www.iata.org>

UK Civil Aviation Authority

Passenger information and accessibility guidance:

<https://www.caa.co.uk>

British Airways Accessibility

<https://www.britishairways.com/en-gb/information/disability-assistance>

easyJet Assistance

<https://www.easyjet.com/en/help>

Ryanair Special Assistance

<https://help.ryanair.com>

Jet2 Assisted Travel

<https://www.jet2.com>

TUI Assisted Travel

<https://www.tui.co.uk>

Continue Reading in the First Choice Mobility Advice Centre

You may also find these guides helpful:

- [How to Choose the Right Mobility Scooter](#)
 - [How to Choose the Right Powerchair](#)
 - [Battery Care Guide](#)
 - [Funding a Mobility Scooter or Powerchair](#)
 - [VAT Relief Explained](#)
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Related Products

Explore our range of:

- [Folding Mobility Scooters](#)
- [Airline-Friendly Mobility Scooters](#)
- [Folding Powerchairs](#)
- [Carbon Fibre Powerchairs](#)
- [Lightweight Powerchairs](#)
- [Spare Lithium Batteries](#)

- Portable Ramps
 - Travel Bags
 - Mobility Scooter Covers
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Our Advice

Travelling with a mobility scooter or powerchair is much easier than many people expect.

The key is preparation. Confirm your airline's requirements, carry the correct documentation and choose equipment designed for travel.

With a little planning, you can enjoy your holiday with confidence.

Need More Help?

If you're planning to travel and would like advice on choosing an airline-friendly mobility scooter or powerchair, our experienced team is always happy to help.

We'll explain battery options, folding mechanisms and transport considerations so you can choose equipment that's ready for your next adventure.

Freedom, with Confidence

At First Choice Mobility, we believe mobility should never stop you exploring the world.

Whether you're planning a weekend break, a cruise or a holiday abroad, we're here to help you travel with confidence.

Download This Guide

Download a printable PDF version of this guide to keep with your travel documents or share with family before your next trip.

Information You Can Trust

This guide has been reviewed by the First Choice Mobility team and is based on guidance available at the time of publication. Airline policies and battery regulations can change, so always check the latest information directly with your airline before travelling. If you're unsure whether a particular mobility scooter or powerchair is suitable for flying, our team will be happy to help you understand the manufacturer's specifications and guide you through the preparation process.