

CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCOOTER

If you have decided that a scooter is right for you, it's time to **select the right one**. But with all the different types, sizes and brands, this can be an overwhelming task. Asking these questions is a good way to start is to narrow down your options:

- Does the scooter's maximum weight capacity comfortably accommodate you?
- Will you use the scooter primarily on smooth, level surfaces or will it be used over rougher outdoor terrain?
- Will you be traveling with your scooter?
- Does the scooter's seating provide the size and comfort you desire?
- Does the scooter's performance offer the speed and range you need?
- Does the scooter's appearance match your style?
- Does the scooter offer additional safety or comfort features that set it apart?

To help in deciding the type of scooter that best answers these questions for you, we have separated scooters into categories based on their size and primary use:

TRANSPORTABLE SCOOTERS

Transportable scooters are the smallest and least expensive category of scooter. They can be disassembled quickly and easily into several manageable pieces for transport in a vehicle, eliminating the need for a special vehicle lift or rack. When disassembled, the pieces are lightweight and easy to move, with the heaviest piece ranging from 30-40 lbs. This makes them perfect for loading in the trunk of a car and taking shopping or on vacation.

Portability means these scooters are smaller in size and feature lower weight capacities of between 250 and 350 lbs. These scooters also come equipped with smaller, "stadium-style" seats, rather than the automotive style captain's seats often found in larger scooters. These scooters also offer a lower top speed and shorter maximum range than larger units which makes them better for shorter trips.

ADVANTAGES

- Lowest cost
- Disassemble for easy transport in standard vehicles (some strength and dexterity are required)
- Lightweight
- Small size ideal for indoor maneuverability
- Flat-free tires for worry-free travel

DISADVANTAGES

- Not ideal for rough outdoor terrain
- Stadium-style seating less comfortable for long trips
- Limited battery range compared to larger scooters

STANDARD / MIDSIZE SCOOTERS

These scooters offer a great combination of performance, size and comfort that make them the ideal option for many users. While larger than compact scooters, standard/midsized models are still a good, manageable size for most users.

Standard mobility scooters also include many other comfort and safety-related features, such as suspension for a smoother ride, safety lighting, enhanced seating options and weight capacity between 300 and 350 lbs. The larger batteries found in standard scooters improve range over those found in compact scooters, making them perfect for longer trips around the neighborhood or for errands around town.

ADVANTAGES

- Longer battery range than travel scooters
- More comfortable Captain's seating
- Additional safety features
- Flat-free tires for worry-free travel

DISADVANTAGES

- Size not ideal for indoor use
- Do not disassemble for transport, requiring a large vehicle, vehicle lift or special rack

HEAVY DUTY SCOOTERS

Boasting weight capacities greater than 350 pounds, this category contains the largest scooters available. Dedicated to outdoor use, heavy-duty scooters have larger, air-filled tires, high ground clearance, long range and a high top speed, making them the best for use on outdoors and on rugged terrain. They also offer Captain's seating and full suspension for added ride comfort. These scooters are too large and lack maneuverability for indoor use and their weight can make transporting them a challenge.

ADVANTAGES

- Longest battery range available
- Comfortable Captain's seating available in choice of widths
- Additional safety features
- Large wheels and high ground clearance for handling outdoor terrain
- Full suspension for more comfortable ride
- Highest weight capacity

DISADVANTAGES

- Highest cost scooter category
- Not for indoor use
- Heavy weight and large size make transport more difficult