



Sources of second hand equipment

DLF Factsheet

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INTRODUCTION

Buying new equipment is often expensive and may not be an option for some people. Buying second-hand can be a cheaper way of finding solutions to daily living difficulties, but choice is more limited. You must make sure that you do not compromise on your essential requirements. If you are unsure about what you need, contact the occupational therapist at your local social services for advice; or find out if there is a Disabled Living Centre (DLC) near you. DLCs are non-commercial organisations set up to provide information and advice on disability equipment. They all have equipment demonstration centres where you can visit to see and try out ranges of equipment. To find out the address of your nearest centre, contact:

DISABLED LIVING CENTRES COUNCIL (DLCC) Redbank House 4 St. Chad's Street Manchester, M8 8QA (tel: (0161) 834 1044; fax: (0161) 839 0802; text: (0161) 839 0885; e mail: dlcc@dlcc.org.uk; website: www.dlcc.org.uk).

You must check that what you are buying is in good working order. You do have certain consumer rights when buying second-hand, e.g. the seller must accurately describe the product he/she is selling to you; and you should be made fully aware of any faults that need

attention. If possible, obtain a written description of the product from the seller before you buy so that should you find any faults, you can more easily get your money back. There are basically two sources of second-hand equipment: disability equipment retailers and private individuals.

Buying from a Disability Equipment Retailer

Some commercial suppliers of equipment buy unwanted items, recondition them, then offer them for sale with a short guarantee of, for example, three months. Some might also sell ex-demonstration models. Buying second-hand from a retailer is generally more expensive than buying from a private individual, but the equipment is likely to have been serviced and should be in reasonable working order.

Buying from a Private Individual

Some mainstream magazines and several disability organisations publish journals that contain advertisements for second-hand equipment. If you are buying second-hand from a private individual, you must make sure that:

- the equipment has been regularly maintained;
- that you also receive accompanying literature, for example a care manual;
- that batteries have been regularly charged (usually once a month is

sufficient if the equipment is not being used); and

- that you receive instructions on how to use the equipment properly and safely.

You will also need to find a local company able to service the equipment and carry out future repairs.

SOURCES OF SECOND-HAND EQUIPMENT

Disability Equipment Retailers

For addresses of disability equipment retailers in your area, look in your local phone book (usually listed under 'disability' or 'mobility'); contact your local Disabled Living Centre; or contact the Disabled Living Foundation's Helpline on 0845 130 9177 (10 am to 4 pm). We have a list, although it is not comprehensive, of retailers on our database.

Mainstream Journals

EXCHANGE AND MART CLASSIFIED,
United Advertising Publications Link
House 25 West Street Poole Dorset, BH15
1LL tel: (01202) 445000; helpline: (0800)
680680 email:
help@exchangeandmart.co.uk website:
www.exchangeandmart.co.uk

LOOT: tel: (020) 7 3281771 email:
queries@loot.com; website: www.loot.com

Disability Journals

Disability Now 6 Market Road London N7
9PW tel: (020) 7619 7323; fax: (020) 7619
7331 minicom: (020) 7619 7332 e mail:
editor@disabilitynow.org.uk homepage:
www.disabilitynow.org.uk

Able Magazine Craven Publishing
Ltd 15-39 Durham Steet, Kinning
Park Glasgow G41 1BS tel:
(0141) 419 0044 fax: (0141) 419 0077
email: info@disabilityview.co.uk
homepage link:
<http://www.disabilityview.co.uk/classifieds.shtml>

Carers World Hawker Publications 13
Park House 140 Battersea Park Road
London SW4 4NB tel: (020) 7720 2108

Disability Organisations

The following disability organisations
publish newsletters with second-hand
equipment sections:

ARTHRITIS CARE 18 Stephenson Way
London NW1 2HD tel: (020) 7380 6500
fax: (020) 7380 6505 helpline: (0808) 800
4050 e mail:
reception@arthritiscare.org.uk homepage:
www.arthritiscare.org.uk

BRITISH POLIO FELLOWSHIP Ground
Floor Unit A Eagle Office Centre The
Runway, South Ruislip HA4 6SE tel:
(0800) 0180586 fax: (020) 8842 0555
helpline: (0800) 0180586 e mail:
info@britishpolio.org homepage:
www.britishpolio.org

CARERS UK Ruth Pitter House 20-25
Glasshouse Yard London EC1A 4JT tel:
(020) 7490 8818 fax: (020) 7490 8824
minicom: (020) 7251 8969 helpline: (0808)
808 7777 E mail: info@ukcarers.org
homepage: www.carersonline.co.uk

DISABILITY NORTH The Dene Centre
Castles Farm Road Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE3 1PH tel: (0191) 284 0480 fax: (0191)
213 0910 textphone: (0191) 285 7261
email: reception@disabilitynorth.org.uk
homepage: www.disabilitynorth.org.uk

DISABILITY WALES Caerphilly Business
Park Van Road Caerphilly Mid Glamorgan
CF83 3ED tel: (0292) 088 7325 fax:
(0292) 088 8702 minicom: (0292) 088
7325 helpline: (0800) 731 6282 e mail:
info@dwac.demon.co.uk

DISABLED DRIVERS ASSOCIATION
National Headquarters Ashwellthorpe
Norwich, NR16 1EX tel: (0870) 770 3333
fax: (01508) 488173 e mail:
ddahq@aol.com homepage:
www.dda.org.uk

DISABLED DRIVERS MOTOR CLUB
(DDMC) Cottingham Way Thrapston
Northants, NN14 4PL tel: (01832) 734724
fax: (01832) 733816 email:
info@ddmc.org.uk homepage:
www.ddmc.org.uk

DISABLED MOTORISTS FEDERATION
(DMF) 145 Knoulbury Road Blackfell
Washington Tyne and Wear tel/fax 0191
416 3172 email:
JKillick2214@compuserve.com

MENCAP 123 Golden Lane London,
EC1Y 0RT Tel: (020) 7454 0454 Fax:
(020) 7608 3254 Helpline: (020) 0808 808
1111 Email: information@mencap.org.uk
Homepage: www.mencap.org.uk

MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE
ASSOCIATION (MND) PO Box 246
Northampton Northamptonshire, NN1 2PR
Tel: (01604) 250 505 Fax: (01604) 624
726 Helpline: (08457) 515 151 E mail:
enquiries@mndassociation.org
Homepage: www.mndassociation.org.uk

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland, MS
National Centre 372 Edgware Road
London NW2 6ND Tel: (020) 8438 0700
Fax: (020) 8438 0701 Helpline: (0808) 800
8000 E mail: info@mssociety.org.uk
Homepage: www.mssociety.org.uk

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CAMPAIGN
7-11 Prescott Place, London SW4 6BS
Tel: (020) 7720 8055 Fax: (020) 7498
0670 E mail:
info@muscular-dystrophy.org.uk
Homepage: www.muscular-dystrophy.org

SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION (SIA)
SIA House 2 Truman Place Milton Keynes
MK6 2HH Tel: 0845 678 6633 Fax: 0845
070 6911
Helpline: (0800) 980 0501 Email:
sia@spinal.co.uk Website:
www.spinal.co.uk

Registers

DISABILITY EQUIPMENT REGISTER 4
Chatterton Road Yate Bristol BS37 4BJ
Tel: (01454) 318818 Fax: (01454) 883870
Homepage:
www.disabilityequipment.org.uk
LEXIQUIP (equipment for children only)
Harnhill Cottage Waterton Lane Ampney
Crucis Cirencester GL7 5RX Tel: (01285)
850816

Websites

The following web sites also carry advertisements for second-hand disability equipment:

Disabilitynet: www.disabilitynet.co.uk
Disability Information Service Surrey:
www.diss.org.uk/for_sale.html

Ebay:
<http://pages.ebay.co.uk/zones/disabilityresources.html>

Mobility Market
www.themobilitymarket.co.uk/

Disability Equipment
Register:
www.disabilityequipment.org.uk

Donation Form

We hope this factsheet has proven useful to you. If you would like to help the DLF continue to provide valuable information such as this, you may wish to consider making a small donation towards our work. As a charity, we rely on the generosity of the public to help us continue to help older and disabled people lead independent lives.

Your Details

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please accept my gift of:

£5 £10 £20 £30 £ _____ other

Please make cheques/postal order/ CAF Voucher payable to **Disabled Living Foundation**

Or charge my: Visa CAF Mastercard Amex Maestro

Card Number / / /

Security Code (last 3 digits located on back of card, or 4 digits for Amex)

Expiry Date ___/___ Valid From ___/___ Issue No (Switch)

Name of cardholder _____ Date: ___/___/___

Signature of cardholder _____

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I am a UK taxpayer and want the Disabled Living Foundation to treat all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations I make in the future as Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise.

NB: You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on your donations in the tax year (currently 28p for every £1 you give)

Please print out and return your completed form and cheque (if applicable) to:

**Fundraising Department, Disabled Living Foundation,
380-384 Harrow Road, London W9 2HU**

Thank You

Please tick here if you would like to receive details on how you can help by making regular donations through your bank

Please tick here if you would prefer not to receive further communications from the DLF.