Considerations for Mounting and Positioning Communication Devices

Link Assistive stocks the REHAdapt range of mounts made from high performance aluminium alloys see: https://linkassistive.com/product-category/mounting/

What are the mounting and positioning options?

![Wheelchair Mounts](image1.png) ![TableTop Mounts](image2.png) ![Clamp on Mounts](image3.png) ![FloorStands](image4.png) ![Bed Mounts](image5.png) ![Switch Mounts](image6.png)

Why do I need a mount? In choosing a mounting option you should consider where you need to take the device, ensuring it is secure and in a consistent position for access. For many people they need their communication system everywhere they go. For some people a combination of mounts may be required such as a wheelchair mount for when out and about and floor stand when in bed or a recliner chair.

What do I need to mount? What you are trying to mount will influence your mounting options. Light weight tablet devices will require different mounting solutions to heavier larger devices. Different devices will require different adapter plates to attach to the mount. Some devices already come with adapter plates others will require an additional purchase.

Is it safe to mount the device onto a wheelchair? There are many considerations for both general and wheelchair mounting. Some considerations are listed below:

- Size and weight of the device to be mounted
- Access method – is the user accessing the device through direct touch, switch or eye gaze therefore what distance and position does the device need to be in?
- User movements – do they have any uncontrolled movements that may cause injury by hitting the mount?
- Behaviours – do they have any behaviours making them likely to pull or grab the device or mount?
- Activities of daily living – consider how the mount may impact toileting, feeding, transfers and other daily routines or other equipment attached to the wheelchair.
- Eye gaze devices – does the user still have adequate vision once device is mounted eg to drive their power chair?
- Foot print of the mount – what is the footprint of the FloorStand or wheelchair mount? Does it fit through doors and other passages?
- Wheelchair propulsion – does the mount impact the user moving around and propelling their wheelchair?
- Environment – will the wheelchair or mount be going over rough terrain, taken on or off a lot?
- Transport in vehicles – if the mount is being transported in a vehicle can it be easily removed and stored securely?

Link Assistive is an Australian supplier of Sensory, Interactive and Assistive Technologies. Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices and software, computer access products, products for Special Education and mounting equipment are part of our product portfolio. Two week free-of-charge equipment trials are available for most products. For further details and technical specifications of the products below please see our website: https://linkassistive.com or contact one of our team Ph: 08 8330 4102 Fax: 08 8312 6024 Email: office@linkassistive.com
For further information on assessing for risks associated with wheelchair mounting see [Mounting Electronic Assistive Technology to Wheelchairs](#) or contact one of the Link AT Team.

**What parts is a mount made up of?** Generally, all mounts have a base, tubing, joints, adjustable handles and a device socket/adapter.

![Mount Diagram](#)

**If on a wheelchair which Base (Frame Clamp) do I need?** Wheelchairs come in a range of shapes and sizes. It is important to know what model of wheelchair you are mounting on to, the location of where you will fix the base to, the shape of the frame tube (e.g., round, oval, square) and the diameter of the tubing you are fixing the base to. If you need support to determine a location for a mount and suitable base frame clamp please contact the Link AT team and we will send you through a Wheelchair Mounting Details Form requesting further information from you so we can support you to determine the most suitable option.

**What is the difference between QuickShift, Swivel Joint, Folding and 3D Joints**

QuickShift mounts allow you to adjust the mount quickly without the need for tools via the ratchet-style handles. Swivel Joint allow for poles to be moved into different positions (operating, exiting, parked). Folding joint allow tubes to be folded down to the side of the wheelchair. 3D Joint require use of a tool to loosen and adjust. The type of joint required will depend on the individual and how they will be using their device and mount.

**Should I trial the mount first?** You may find that you need to or would like to trial a mount prior to purchasing. Link Assistive can provide information and support in choosing a suitable mounting system and has some loan mounts for trial. Contact one of our team on (08) 8330 4102 or office@linkassistive.com.