

Using the Stairs

Do you have difficulty using your stairs?

Managing the stairs can be difficult if you have health or mobility problems. There may be options to help you continue to do this.

If your difficulty is because you have been ill recently or you have been inactive, follow the advice of the health professionals supporting you to get better so you can continue or return to using your stairs safely.

Equipment to help you use the stairs

Handrails fitted on the walls by the sides of your stairs may help you. Handrails must be fitted securely to the wall following the manufacturers fitting instructions.

If you are a council or housing association tenant, they may be able to fit handrails for you.

Stairlift

A stairlift may be a good solution and allow you to carry on using the upstairs of your house. The type of stairlift will depend on your needs and your home.

Although a stairlift is a major piece of equipment, it usually only needs some minor changes to your home.

Buying or renting a stairlift

All stairlifts must be CE marked and comply with British standard BS EN 81-40. Several safety features are included on all stairlifts including safety cut outs on the lifts edges to prevent entrapment or injury to the user or other household members.

Make sure that:

- You get a 12-month warranty with an inspection every 6 months and a service every year.
- There is a 24 hour call out service with fully trained engineers.
- If buying privately, such as from a local paper, you have the stairlift checked to see if it is suitable for your home.
- You check parts are still available and ask for a maintenance agreement.
- Have a recommended installer install the lift for you.

Equality Together are a local organisation for disabled people, their carers and families. You can go to Equality together to try a stair lift and get advice before you buy.

Equality Together, Manningham Mills Community Centre, Lilycroft Road,
Bradford, BD9 5BD

Monday – Thursday 9.30-3pm

Contact: 01274 594173

Online: enquiry@equalitytogether.org.uk

Bradford Adult Social Care Fact Sheet

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How to get equipment

Equality Together are a local organisation for disabled people, their carers and families. You can go to Equality together to try equipment before you buy it.

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Getting help from us

We provide equipment to people who need it following an assessment of need.

If you want an assessment phone us on 01274 435400 to find out more about requesting an assessment or go to our website www.bradford.gov.uk/adult-social-care/living-independently/equipment

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Help with the costs

You may be entitled to a Disabled Facilities Grant. If you rent your home from a housing association, then they may arrange to have the lift installed for you.

See our Disabled Facilities Grant Factsheet for more information:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/housing/disabled-adaptations/disabled-facilities-grant> or <https://adaptmyhome.org.uk/> where you can get an indication of if you might have to pay some or all the costs.

Key Links

www.bradford.gov.uk/adult-social-care/living-independently/equipment



<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/housing/disabled-adaptations/disabled-facilities-grant>



<https://adaptmyhome.org.uk/>

