



ATZ Driving Solutions

Finding solutions to increase independence and road safety

LET'S TALK VEHICLE CONVERSIONS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need a new car?

In short, no a new car is not necessary however it is often recommended so as to get the most benefit from the conversion.

Am I limited to a VW or Kia?

Depending on the vehicle conversion needed, there will be certain vehicles more suited than others. This is all covered in the tailored OT assessment

Will I lose my licence?

A vehicle conversion assessment does not automatically include an OT Driving Assessment as it relates to the vehicle access and not the driving licence. However if there are concerns about fitness to drive, further assessments might be recommended.

This is such a big area, with so much confusion, so many myths and so many urban tales. There is no one answer to this question, as each conversion is as individual as the end user. But we have put together a little bit of a summary to try and help get your head around the world of Vehicle Conversions.

In essence a vehicle conversion takes a standard vehicle and then with specialist engineering makes changes and additions to the layout of the vehicle so that it becomes wheelchair accessible.

It will depend on the individuals need as to the extent of the conversion. That is, at one end it may just require a ramp or hoist installation to get the wheelchair or mobility aid into the car. At the other end of the spectrum is the full floor conversion so that someone in a wheelchair may independently access the car in their wheelchair and then drive the car from that same wheelchair.

A vehicle conversion is different to the installation of vehicle modifications. Vehicle modifications usually relate to driving control changes, such as steering aids. However often both elements are needed in the same scope of work. For example, hand controls may be needed for the person to drive from their powered wheelchair.



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How does it all work?

It can all start with a phone call!

Once we have your details, we will organise a home visit so that we can call out and take a look at how you presently access the community, what your current car and equipment is like and where you plan to store the converted car. We will discuss your future plans, funding options and what is on your wish list.

If you plan on keeping your current car, we will take some measurements and photos at the initial contact.

Then once we have an idea of the goal posts, we usually aim to organise a second visit with a demonstration vehicle so that you can see how things look, work and fit.

We might not get the right combination with the first trial and it may take a few different providers, or tweaks to your existing equipment, but we will tinker and tweak until we have the perfect solution!



We will then take our perfect solution and turn it into a written request for your funding body, or simply use it to get you a custom quote.

With full vehicle conversions, it can often be at least a 12 month process from your first phone call, through to when you are sitting in your converted vehicle. Depending on the scope of the project, the engineers will generally need your car for at least 16 weeks of this time.

(Obviously if we are simply looking at boot hoists or car seat changes the timeline is a little more pleasant!)

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