



Assistive Technology

Basic (Level 1) and Standard (Level 2)

Easy English booklet

How to use this booklet



The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) wrote this booklet.

When you see the word 'we', it means NDIA.



We wrote this booklet in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



This Easy English booklet is a summary of another booklet.



You can find the other booklet on our website at www.ndis.gov.au



You can ask for help to read this booklet.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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What is this booklet about?



Your National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) plan says you have funding for Assistive Technology (including aids and equipment).



It will be listed in the core budget of your NDIS plan.

This booklet explains:



- what Assistive Technology is



- how you can use your funding to pay for Assistive Technology



- what you can buy.

What is Assistive Technology?

When you need help with everyday tasks, you can use Assistive Technology.



Assistive Technology can:

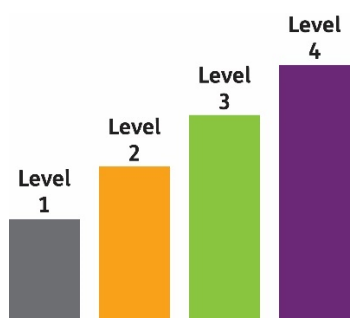
- make it easier to do things
- keep you safe.



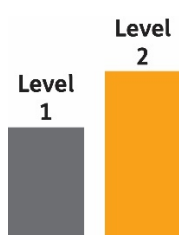
Assistive Technology might be:

- an aid or piece of equipment
- a system to use.

There are different levels:



- Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1
- Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2
- Specialised Assistive Technology – Level 3
- Complex Assistive Technology – Level 4.

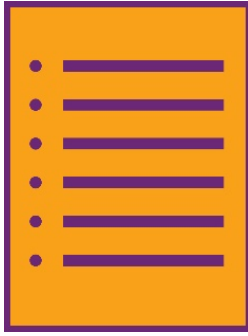


Your funding is for one of these levels:

- Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1
- Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2.

This booklet talks about:

- Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1
- Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2.



There is a list of Assistive Technology that belongs to these levels from page 14.



We have a different booklet about:

- Specialised Assistive Technology – Level 3
- Complex Assistive Technology – Level 4.

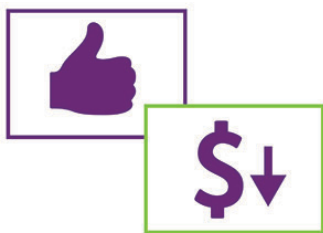


There is information about how the levels work on the Assistive Technology page of our website.

www.ndis.gov.au/participants/at/your-at-needs.html

Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1

Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1 is:



- safe to use
- simple
- low-cost.



You don't need much help to:

- set it up
- use it.

Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1 may include:



- bath mats that won't slip
- large print labels
- walking sticks.



There is a list of Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1 on page 14.



You can buy Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1:

- in places you usually shop, like a chemist or a hardware store
- online.

Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2



You can often try or test Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2 before you buy it.



You can make sure it is right for you.

Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2 may include:

- shower chairs
- handrails
- ramps you can move around to places you need them.



There is a list of Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2 on page 18.



You can buy Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2 in specialist stores that sell Assistive Technology.

What is an Assistive Technology assessor?



An Assistive Technology assessor is someone who can help you work out what Assistive Technology you need.

They might be your:



- occupational therapist – they help you with ways to do everyday tasks



- physiotherapist – they help you with ways to move your body



- speech pathologist – they help you with talking and communicating



- psychologist – they help you with the way you think and feel about things



- rehabilitation engineer – they use technology to create things that help you with your disability.



They might say you need:

- an aid or a piece of equipment
- changes where you live.



Your Assistive Technology assessor can help you:

- find what you need
- set it up properly
- learn how to use it safely.



You do not need an assessment before you can buy:

- Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1
- Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2.

How do I pay for the Assistive Technology I need?



Your NDIS funding pays for the Assistive Technology you need.

It is part of your NDIS plan.

Your Assistive Technology can be paid for quickly if you:



- self-manage – you look after your NDIS funding yourself



- work with a Plan Management Agency – a company that looks after your NDIS funding for you.



You can shop around to find a good price for your Assistive Technology.



The Independent Living Centre has good information on their website.

ilcaustralia.org.au/



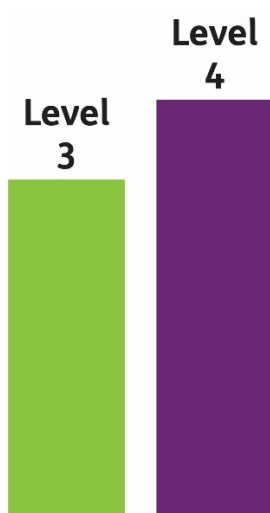
You should only buy the Assistive Technology you need from people or stores you can trust.



They will help you if you need to get:

- something fixed
- something replaced
- your money back because something doesn't work well.

What if I need other Assistive Technology?



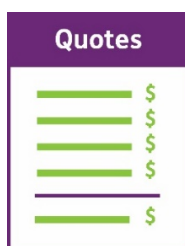
Your Local Area Coordinator or Planner will let you know if you need other Assistive Technology that:

- is from:
 - Specialised Assistive Technology – Level 3
 - Complex Assistive Technology – Level 4
- may cost more than you have in your plan.

They will explain how you can get:



- assessed – someone works out what you need



- quotes – how much it will cost.



We have a different booklet about this.



You can also find out more from your:

- Local Area Coordinator
- Support Coordinator.

Types of Basic Assistive Technology – Level 1

Daily living solutions



This is Assistive Technology to help you with everyday tasks like:

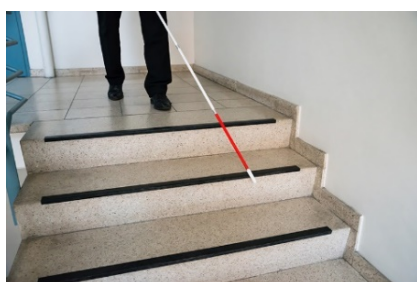
- getting dressed or undressed
- eating
- drinking.

It doesn't include:



- weighted blankets
- bed-sticks
- poles
- bedrails or bedrail covers.

This Assistive Technology is from Specialised Assistive Technology - Level 3 or Complex Assistive Technology - Level 4.



Mobility

This is Assistive Technology to help you move around safely.

It includes:



- walking sticks and canes
- crutches
- tactile sticks and white canes
- rollators and seat walkers.



It doesn't include changes that need to be made to a car or van you use.

These are part of Specialised Assistive Technology - Level 3 and Complex Assistive Technology - Level 4.

Continence



This is Assistive Technology to help you manage problems you have with:

- weeing
- pooing
- using the toilet.

It includes:



- pads or underwear you use 1 time only
- bed protection
- products for children aged 5 or older
- alarms that tell you there is a problem.



Communication devices

This is Assistive Technology to help you talk and communicate.

It includes:

- communication boards or books
- schedules or timetables with pictures
- low-cost electronic devices.



Vision

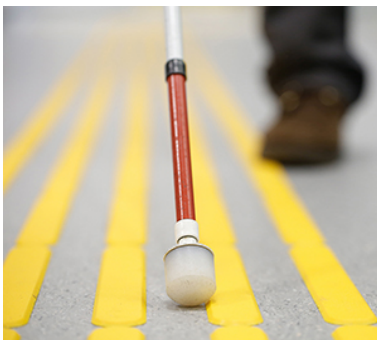
This is Assistive Technology to help you if you:

- are blind
- don't see well.



It includes:

- canes or cane tips bought to replace old or damaged ones
- liquid level indicators
- dots you can touch and feel.



It doesn't include talking microwaves or other products that help you in the kitchen.



Hearing

This is Assistive Technology to help you if you:

- are deaf
- don't hear well.

It includes:



- alarm clocks or smoke alarms that vibrate
- doorbell and phone alert systems
- hearing aid batteries or repairs
- wireless aids and equipment for people with cochlear devices.

Types of Standard Assistive Technology – Level 2

Simple bathing and toileting devices



This is Assistive Technology to help you if your disability makes it hard for you to use the:

- shower
- bath
- toilet.

It includes:



- bath boards or transfer benches
- shower chairs and stools
- toilet seat raises or frames that go over the toilet
- hand rails connected to the toilet.



Household devices

This is Assistive Technology to help you move around and do things around your home.

It includes:

- kitchen trolleys and stools
- changes to your laundry or washing line
- tables that go over your bed
- equipment to help you:
 - wash dishes
 - clean
 - get food or drinks ready.



Seating

This is Assistive Technology to help you be comfortable when you:

- sit in a chair
- sit or lie on a bed.



It includes:

- chairs that can have their height changed
- chair raises.



Transfer equipment

This is Assistive Technology to help you move from one place to another.



It includes:

- slide sheets and boards bought to replace old or damaged ones
- car transfer pads or transfer belts
- discs that swivel.

Vision

This is Assistive Technology to help you because you:

- are blind
- don't see well.



It includes:



- smartphone apps made specially for people who are blind or don't see well
- upgrades to screen reader programs for your computer
- electronic magnifiers you can carry with you that need to be replaced.



Electronic magnifiers aren't right for everyone.

You should get advice from an Assistive Technology assessor before you buy one.



Prosthetics and orthotics

This is Assistive Technology to help you do things your disability stops your body from doing.

This is Assistive Technology bought to replace old or damaged Assistive Technology that you use with prosthetics and orthotics.

It includes:



- enough stockings or socks to last 1 year
- enough knee sleeves to last 1 year
- straps, buckles or Velcro.

Contact us



www.ndis.gov.au



1800 800 110



TIS National 131 450



For people with hearing or speech loss

TTY – 1800 555 677



Speak and Listen – 1800 555 727



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