

Assistive Technology and Home Modifications



If you need some extra support to stay safe and live independently, using specialised equipment, products and home modifications can help you.

The Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) scheme provides additional funding from the Australian Government's Support at Home program.

Equipment and products



Any equipment or product that helps you to do your everyday activities is called Assistive Technology.

This can include:

- Mobility equipment like walking sticks, frames and wheelchairs.
- Toileting aids such as bedpans and commode chairs.
- Washing, bathing and showering support like non-slip bathmats, shower chairs, or handrails.
- Seat and back cushions for pressure support.
- Products to help your memory and thinking.
- Devices to help you get dressed like zipper pullers and buttoning devices.
- Speciality clothing and shoes.
- Incontinence alarms and personal alarms.
- Items to help you eat like modified cutlery.

Home modifications



Home modifications are changes to your home to make it safer and more accessible.

This can include modifications like:

- Grab rails.
- Modified door locks.
- Ramps to the entrance of your home and other doors.

For the full list of products, equipment and home modifications available for purchase or loan under the AT-HM Scheme, see the Australian Government's AT-HM list on its website www.health.gov.au.

Our team of allied health professionals will:

- Recommend suitable home modifications and equipment to help you live safely at home.
- Help set up your modifications or equipment and provide advice and support on how to use them.
- Organise any repair services to the equipment or modifications if needed.

Home modifications are available even if you are renting.

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How to apply

You need to be eligible for Support at Home funding to receive the Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) scheme.

If you have transitioned from the Home Care Package program to Support at Home, you will have access to low-risk and low-cost equipment and products without the need for another assessment.

More complex items require a qualified health professional to conduct an assessment. This includes home modifications. If this applies to you, please ask our care team to arrange an assessment for you or contact us on **1800 650 803**.

Funding and contributions

There are three levels of funding (called tiers) you may be eligible for:

- Low tier: \$500
- Mid tier: \$2,000
- High tier: \$15,000.

You may need to financially contribute towards the cost of your equipment or home modifications. Services Australia will determine how much you need to pay. The assessment for these supports is an Allied Health service which is fully funded by the Australian Government under Support at Home.

If you have specific needs like a permanent disability, you may be eligible for additional funding over a longer period. Your Care Partner can provide you with advice on this.

Time period

You have up to 12 months to use your AT-HM funding, which is separate to the rest of your Support at Home funding. In instances where a major home modification is taking longer than 12 months, funding may be available for a further 12 months if you can provide evidence that the work has commenced.

For more information

If you are not already receiving Support at Home services, please contact us to find out how we can help you get the support you need at home.



- **1300 650 803**
- info@silverchain.org.au
- silverchain.org.au

Assistance to access information



To access the Translating and Interpreting Service call 131 450.

The National Relay Service (NRS) can help you if you are deaf or hard of hearing. Visit accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs

Although funding for the Support at Home program is provided by the Australian Government, the material in this information sheet does not necessarily represent the current views or policies of the Australian Government. It does not constitute advice. Please ensure you seek your own advice and information suited to your specific circumstances.

About Silverchain

Silverchain is one of Australia's leading in home care specialists, providing health and aged care services to more than 140,000 clients a year.

Trusted by Australians to deliver care that is differentiated by quality and safety for over 130 years, we are proudly one of the only Australian home care providers accredited in both national health and aged care standards.

At Silverchain we celebrate, value and include people of all backgrounds, genders, sexualities, cultures, bodies and abilities.

Acknowledgement of Country

Silverchain respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live. We acknowledge Elders both past and present, whose ongoing effort to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future leaders and reconciliation within Australia.

Health. Human. Home.