

# DRIVE SAFE

## Safety Tips for Driving While Seated in a Wheelchair

### 1 Start with the right equipment

Select a wheelchair with:

- Ability to attach hardware for a docking-type wheelchair securement system **a**
- Cantelevered or open-front armrests **b**
- Total width below 29 inches (to fit on minivan ramps & lifts)
- A headrest and high wheelchair back support for rear-impact protection **c**
- Postural supports if needed for balance while driving
- ANSI/RESNA WC19 crash test compliance with a docking-type wheelchair securement system when possible



WC18/WC19  
Crash Tested  
Symbol

Select a docking-type wheelchair securement system that:

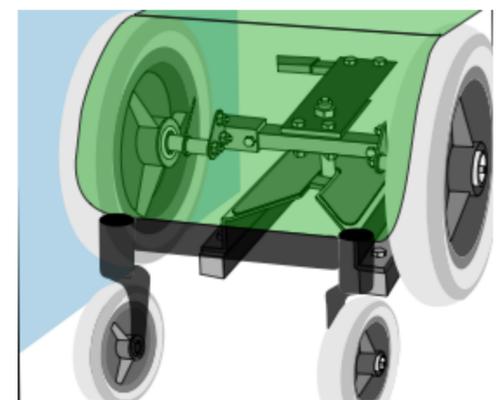
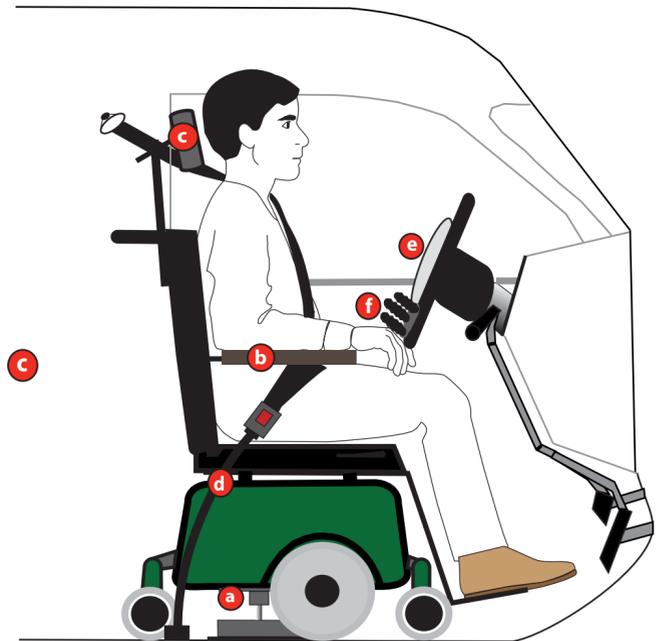
- Has been crash tested to the ANSI/RESNA WC18 standard
- Has been crash tested with your wheelchair model when possible

Select an occupant restraint system that:

- Has been crash tested to the ANSI/RESNA WC18 standard
- Includes a hard buckle stalk or cable on the inboard side for easy reach **d**
- Includes an activated steering wheel airbag **e**

Select adaptive steering controls that:

- Do not have sharp metal edges protruding out towards driver **f**



### 2 Secure the wheelchair

- Pull forward in the space until you hear or see an indication that your wheelchair is properly engaged in the docking device.
- Position the wheelchair as far away from the steering controls as possible without compromising reach/functionality requirements

### 3 Protect the driver with a lap and shoulder belt

- Always use **BOTH** a crashworthy lap and a shoulder belt
- Lap belt should be positioned low on the pelvis near the thighs  
**DO NOT POSITION THE LAP BELT ON THE BELLY!**
- Do not place the lap belt in front of or over the top of your wheelchair armrests!
- Select a vertical position of the D-ring so that the shoulder belt passes over the center of the chest and shoulder  
**SHOULDER BELT SHOULD CROSS THE CENTER OF THE SHOULDER!**
- **DO NOT RELY ON POSTURAL BELTS ALONE!!**
- Position the lap/shoulder belt junction or buckle near the inboard hip
- Lap and shoulder belts should be snug at all times  
**REMOVE ALL SLACK FROM THE BELTS!**
- Do not sew, pin, tie or otherwise modify the belts

**GOOD BELT FIT!**

