

Profiling Bed

Before you buy, consider the points below

- A profiling bed is a powered bed with an articulated mattress base. These are either fixed height, or height adjustable. They can be adjusted to a variety of different positions for comfort, support and/ or transfers. '4 part' profiling beds are recommended for full support.
- When lying on a profiling bed always lift the knee section before raising the head end of the bed; this prevents sliding down the bed which could lead to pressure damage to the buttocks and heels.
- Some beds have an 'Auto regression' back rest, which slides back as it rises to ensure you can still reach the bedside table. The 'Auto regression' movement tends to reduce back support and may be less comfortable than a non 'Auto regression' back rest.
- Height adjustable profiling beds are recommended for changing care needs: They can be raised to help with transfers off the bed as well as reduce strain on carer's backs. N.B. The bed must be low enough to get your bottom in the middle of the bed when getting in, and for when lifting legs up on to the bed from the floor.
- 'Floor beds' can go lower than a standard profiling bed, which may be helpful if you are at risk of falling out of bed. They can be lowered after you get into bed, and raised when you need to get out of bed.
- Beds may also have a horizontal tilt movement called 'Trendelenberg Tilt' to enable more varied positioning/support. These can help to achieve more functional upright positions for eating and drinking.
- Profiling beds may be 'divan' style or hospital style; hospital style beds are more likely to have accessories like grab rails/safety rails.
- The bed may be longer and wider than your existing bed, check you have adequate space and that standard sheets will fit.
- You can get double profiling beds (see relevant before you buy guide)
- Choose a mattress for comfort that will bend with the bed movement.
- Ensure you can reach and manage controls even in the dark.
- When choosing a supplier consider if they can also maintain/repair the bed as needed.

Prices start from £1000

**For impartial advice from an Occupational Therapist
& information about equipment for independence, suppliers, prices
and to try equipment at our demonstration centre contact:**

The Independent Living Centre 01392 380181 independentlivingcentre.org.uk

