

Mobility Information Sheet 5.

Buying A Vehicle

Buying a car can be a huge expense and can cause people a lot of problems. It is strongly recommended that you shop around for the 'best deal' for yourself.

Almost all the motor manufacturers offer discounts to disabled drivers, who are in receipt of the Primary Medical Certificate.

This discount is typically 3%, but some company's, such as Ford, provide a blanket discount off a vehicle, and others, such as Fiat, offer a discount of 6%.

The best advice seems to be:

- Check the discount available to you
- Establish if the discount is included in 'extras' such as power steering and automatic transmission
- Establish if the discounts are included before or after the VAT/VRT rebates

You should also choose your car carefully and make sure it suits your needs, and the needs of other family members who might use it. Things to bear in mind are:

- door widths
- sill heights, inside and outside,
- boot space
- height of the boot from the ground
- stowage space in the boot and in the back seat from mobility aids such as wheelchairs, walkers etc
- costs of adaptations
- cost of extras, e.g. automatic transmission, electric windows & mirrors
- leg room at drivers foot well
- ease of entry and egress
- ease of transferring over from passenger side to drivers side, and back again

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