



Let us help you!

When it comes to choosing the right cushion for your patients' needs, AliMed makes it easy. Choose from a range of solutions for basic comfort and convenience to cushions engineered for specific medical needs.

Buying cushions for an entire facility? Every patient is different.

The Cushion Selection Guide simplifies the decision-making process with a choice of two categories: Facility Cushions and Specialty Cushions.

Facility Cushions are your best bet for standard-use solutions that offer comfort and basic cushioning for the general patient population. Simply choose the level of quality, comfort, and support that serves your patients best. Stock your entire facility!

AliMed Specialty Cushions

consist of a variety of styles designed to meet the specific needs of an individual, or a smaller group of users, whether for fragile skin protection, postural support, security or any combination of these. The right choice makes all the difference. For all your wheelchair cushion needs, the solution is easy: AliMed.

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Buying cushions for a facility?
Not sure what to stock?

Wheelchair cushion

Foam Comfort Cushions

These rectangular blocks of foam are covered with either a fabric (preferably knit) or wipe-clean, waterproof covers. A four-way stretch-knit fabric cover offers a cooler sitting surface with less interference with the basic properties of the foam.

However, incontinence and spillage often make a waterproof cover more useful in a facility.



AliMed offers three grades of quality foam cushions: **Value Line**, **HR (High Resilience)**, and **Latex**. The Value Line offers good overall performance. The HR polyurethane foam cushion conforms well for enhanced comfort and is highly durable, yet not made with natural rubber latex. Latex foam, in the opinion of many, has never been equaled in terms of long-term sitting comfort.

Comfort and Skin

Protection Cushions When managing large populations of fragile-skinned, sedentary individuals, consider the option of superior pressure distribution. The better a cushion conforms to the sitter's anatomy, the lower the pressure experienced. T-Foam or temper-foam, was the original "memory foam" offered, and still ranks among the best. T-Foam is able to mold and contour



to subtle anatomic features, resulting in lower, more uniform pressure distribution. Memory foam, when used on its own, must be matched to the user's weight to avoid bottoming out. For general facility use, our T-Foam Combo is preferred because it is not weight-dependent. It consists of three layers to offer instant comfort, long-term support, and a firm base to prevent bottoming out.

Another method to achieve pressure-lowering uniformity is by dividing foam into individual blocks that act independently, like a series of many independent small cushions. The surface of our **Independent Cell Cushion** has individual 2" squares that act as springs, adjusting to anatomical contours, minimizing pressure over bony prominences and shifting independently to reduce friction and shear.

Foam Comfort Cushions

Comfort and Skin Protection

selection made easy

Comfort and Positioning

Cushions A common problem for wheelchair users is sacral sitting—the act of sliding forward on the seat and going into a posterior pelvic tilt. After several minutes this becomes extremely uncomfortable, primarily because of the high degree of pressure placed on the sacrum. In addition, sacral sitting compromises the respiratory function as well as the ability to perform normal tasks like eating.

A wedge cushion, with the high side at the chair front, can help. It keeps the hips thrust back in the chair, promoting an anterior pelvic tilt, and also keeps the back in contact with the backrest. The result is upright posture and improved comfort, sitting tolerance, and function.



In order to be effective, the wedge must be of high-quality foam construction that will not collapse under the sitter's weight. AliMed's simple wedge is firm enough to maintain its shape, yet comfortable for all-day sitting.

Alternatively, for general use, consider the **Sit Straight GP**. It incorporates a gentle wedge, an ischial dish to reduce sacral pressure, and a convex base that fills the wheelchair sling-seat sag. Filling the sling-seat sag maintains a flat sitting surface, much the same as with a solid-seat insert. This is a preferred sitting surface—that stabilizes the sitter and avoids unwanted pressure points.

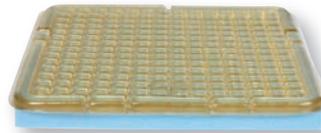
Comfort and Positioning

Gel Cushions The outstanding characteristic of gel cushions is their ability to absorb shear (friction) forces in addition to giving moderate pressure distribution. Shear is the result of sliding and slipping on a sitting surface.

Gel, however, acts like an additional layer of fatty tissue, absorbing destructive shear forces.

Two kinds of gels are commonly used in wheelchair cushions—elastomeric and water-based. An elastomer is a soft, viscoelastic solid rubber material that redistributes heat and weight across the cushion's surface. Water-based gel, however, is a mixture of water and a substance to give it a syrupy consistency. Water-based gels must be contained in a heavy leak-proof bladder.

Clearly the elastomer gel cushions are more effective for skin protection, more reliable, and maintenance-free.



Gel Cushions

Specialty Cushions for specific needs

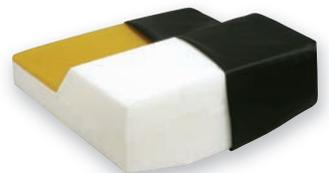
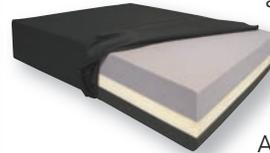
There are a host of cushions that require an analysis of the unique needs of the patient to determine the appropriateness of a particular cushion.

AliMed offers an extremely wide selection of specialty cushions, including specialty foam, gel, and air-cell options, wedge, pommel, anti-thrust and multipurpose positioning cushions. We have cushions for specific diagnostic groups including stroke, hip replacement, and amputee. We offer many cushions in bariatric sizes

as well. In addition to the many AliMed cushions, we also offer cushions from Jay, ROHO, Relax, Action, Keen, and other leading manufacturers.

And if you just can't seem to find the right cushion for your specific needs, call us!

We can make a custom cushion to your specific requirements.



Specialty Cushions