

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland

Restricted use lifts in homes for people with limited mobility

What is a restricted use lift and where are they used?

A restricted use lift is a lift that is “restricted” for use only by people who have been identified as having limited mobility.

Restricted use lifts are used in domestic situations and ‘small community buildings’ where people with limited mobility only access upper floors occasionally.

What can the lift be used for?

The lift can be used for transporting people (and their personal items) with limited mobility between floors (e.g. ground and house). This may include carers assisting people to use the lift provided the lift is large enough and is able to carry the total weight.

What can't the lift be used for?

The lift cannot be used for general use such as:

- transporting bulky shopping items between floors
- transporting people other than those who have been identified as having limited mobility and their carer
- moving furniture and equipment.

Children who do not have limited mobility should not be permitted to use or play within the lift at any time.

What owners need to do

Owners of a restricted use lift must:

- ensure the lift is used exclusively for transporting people with disabilities or limited mobility

- ensure users know how the equipment works and how to use it safely
- regularly maintain the lift in a safe operational condition, as specified by the manufacturer
- inspect and test the lift at intervals of not more than one year
- check for a load plate fitted to the inside of the lift car to determine if the lift is able to carry the load
- contact the manufacturer or service agent for advice if unsure about the load.

What documentation is needed?

The manufacturer or supplier should provide the following documentation for the lift when it is installed:

- confirmation that the lift has been designed to an acceptable technical standard and can be verified by a copy of the design registration certificate from Workplace Health and Safety Queensland
- an owner's handbook (sometimes called an operator's manual), including information about how to operate the lift and what maintenance and inspections must be done.

What to do with the documentation

The documentation should be kept in a safe place for the life of the lift so it can be shown to anyone who may use or inspect the lift. When someone does an inspection, a written summary of what was done, or a copy of the checklist used should be provided.

Does the lift need to be registered for use?

No. Currently there is no requirement for restricted use lifts installed in a home to be registered for use with Workplace Health and Safety Queensland.

The only registration required is the design registration which is the responsibility of the manufacturer or supplier.

cannot be found, the lift supplier should be contacted for replacement documentation.

For more information about restricted use lifts and other general workplace health and safety issues, call WHS Infoline on 1300 369 915 or visit www.worksafe.qld.gov.au

What to do if the lift is no longer needed

If the lift is no longer needed by the current owner, one of the following must occur:

- sell the lift—the new owner/user of the lift must qualify as a person with limited mobility
- upgrade the lift—to a general purpose lift for use in a private residence (e.g. be modified to comply with *AS 1735.18 – Lifts, escalators and moving walks – Passenger lifts for private residence – Automatically controlled*)
- decommission the lift— which must be done so as specified by the manufacturer or lift service provider; or
- remove the lift from the residence.

If the lift is on-sold to a person with limited mobility for use in their home, all records that were kept during the lift's previous use must form part of the sale. If the documentation

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