

# Wheelchair Ideas #1

## **Clean Your Ride**

Shortly after getting my wheelchair I had someone use zip ties and flexible wire loom to clean up any loose wires hanging off my ride. It prevents catching them during everyday use. I keep zip ties and Velcro handy.



## **Wheelchair Backpack and Bags**

I started out with a modified backpack, we removed the straps and used zip ties to attach it to my chair. I eventually got rid of that bag and upgraded to a bag designed by Case Logic (\$50) there are others online but I liked this one best. It's just the right size, holds everything I need i.e. container for drinking straws, spare medication, tools for basic chair repairs, baseball hat and sun lotion for summer or a stocking cap and gloves during the winter.

## **Wheelchair Repair**

There are a number of nuts and bolts that can loosen over time and finding a socket set or allen wrench can be difficult. I keep an allen wrench set in my chair backpack. I have also purchased a good socket set to keep around the house. In addition, I have a designated toolbox for extra hardware in the events I lose a screw or chair pad.

## **Chair Parts and Pieces**



I use a sip and puff electric wheelchair and as the air hose becomes worn it loses its rigidity. You can buy replacement hose from your chair supplier but I have also found it online cheaper at [www.modularhose.com](http://www.modularhose.com). I was able to get the replacement parts and pieces for about \$20. In addition, check out their Assistive Technology products, to hold phones and I-pads on your chair.

[www.modularhose.com/Assistive-Technology](http://www.modularhose.com/Assistive-Technology)

I also found the replacement straws online at [www.exmed.net](http://www.exmed.net) but I found them cheaper at the dentist office. It's a basic oral saliva ejector straw.

Just ask your dentist if you can buy a bag. I paid \$20 for a couple of hundred and that's enough for a number of years.



## **Business Card**

A personal business card with your name, phone number e-mail address and some indication of your level of injury or condition are helpful. I still network and it's easier than finding a pen and paper.

You can design and print them on your computer, online or at your local OfficeMax/Office Depot. It's cheap enough to print off 100- 200 at a time.

