

# Keep Passengers Safe By Carefully Securing Wheelchairs During Transport

When transporting someone who is confined to a wheelchair and cannot be transferred to a vehicle seat, be sure to properly secure the wheelchair inside the vehicle. In the event of a crash, proper securement protects both the person in the wheelchair and the other passengers.

## Before Transport

Equip vehicles with at least four permanently labeled securement points strong enough to withstand forces at 30 mph.

Train drivers in proper wheelchair securement procedures. Wheelchairs and scooters must be secure before the vehicle is moved.

Document your procedures. Keep a copy of the proper procedures in the vehicle at all times. Conduct periodic inspections of securement procedures and anchorage points.

## During Transport

Wheelchairs should be positioned facing forward.

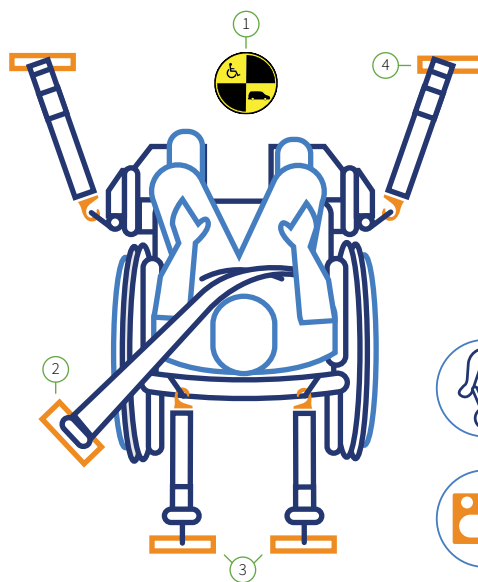
Wheelchairs should be secured with a minimum of four anchor/strap points.

Passengers in wheelchairs should be safely secured by shoulder/seatbelts.

Non-occupied wheelchairs must also be secured during transit. Equip service vehicles with a secured storage space for non-occupied wheel chairs.

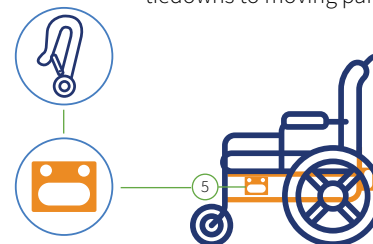
## Use a Wheelchair Tiedown and Occupant Restraint System (WTORS)\*

1. Always use a WTORS that has been crash tested and labeled as complying with ANSI/RESNA WC18. This tiedown can secure a wide range of WC19 and non-WC19 wheelchairs.
2. Use a seatbelt system with both lap and shoulder belts to protect the passenger. The lap belt should be placed low across the front of the pelvis on the upper thighs, not on the abdomen.
3. Choose securement points as close to the seat surface as possible to maximize stability. Rear tiedowns should ideally be at a 30-45 degree angle.



4. Front tiedowns should ideally be at a 40-60 degree angle.

5. Look for crash-tested securement points, found on WC19 wheelchairs. Hooks can easily attach to areas labeled with a hook symbol. If these are not available attach to the metal wheelchair frame. Never attach tiedowns to moving parts.



\*This resource provides a brief overview. For complete information, please go to: <http://wc-transportation-safety.umtri.umich.edu/transporter-resources>

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