



# All in the Details:

## Wheelchair Van Conversion Features

Provided by Rollx Vans



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## *A letter from Rollx Vans*

*Thank you for downloading the Wheelchair Van Conversion Features e-book that we've created just for you.*

*At Rollx Vans, we've made a commitment to help our customers and the community as a whole to get the best possible experience from the moment they begin working with us. That includes visiting our website, talking to our team over the phone or simply browsing through one of our educational pieces online.*

*But, we don't stop there.*

*Whether you're new to working with the conversion van industry and just doing some initial research, or you're ready to have your fourth vehicle converted, our team at Rollx Vans is here to lend a helping hand. That's because our team isn't just here to sell vans, we're here to make a difference for the communities that we serve.*

*We hope that our guide to Wheelchair Van Conversion Features will help you find the answers you are looking for, but should you find you have additional questions, please reach out to our team, so we can give you the best possible experience.*

*We hope to talk to you soon!*

**Mike Harris, Rollx Vans President**  
*and the rest of the team at Rollx Vans*



# Overview

*Wheelchair vans designed and manufactured by Rollx Vans can be fully customized to fit the needs of the users that will be driving or riding in the vehicle.*

Purchasing a wheelchair accessible van can be a daunting process, especially if it's your first time. But when you work with Rollx Vans it doesn't need to be. Our sales team will be with you every step of the way to ensure you get exactly what you need, instead of what's just available on a showroom floor.



Each of our minivan and full-sized van options are customized from start to finish for each of our individual customers. Which means our customers can build their own custom vehicle from seating arrangements and colors, all the way down to which conversion features they need to make their wheelchair van work for them, their caregivers and their family members.

So, which conversion features are available to help make the transportation process just a bit simpler? At Rollx Vans our customizable conversion options include lifts and ramps, hand controls, transfer seats, tie downs and securements, easy remote access and more! Throughout this guide we'll take a deeper look at each of these features, so you can begin to determine the options that will work in your next wheelchair accessible van.

# Lifts & Ramps

*One easy way to add customization to a wheelchair van is by choosing your preferred lift or ramp option. At Rollx Vans there's three styles to choose from: in-floor ramps, folding ramps and van lifts.*

Depending on the type of handicap accessible van that you buy, you will be able to use either a power ramp or a lift to enter and exit the vehicle.

Both options are reliable, safe and easy to use, but they operate in slightly different ways.



## How Van Ramps Work

When it comes to accessible van ramps, you have two models to choose from: folding ramps or in-the-floor ramps. Both come equipped with a non-skid surface and an emergency manual override that allows the ramp to be deployed by hand. They also come with a keyless entry system that operates with the single click of a button (we'll cover that more later).

**In-the-floor Ramps:** This style of ramp has become one of the most popular choices in the industry because it does not block the door while not in use. Instead, it slides into a slot and is stored under the floor of the minivan.

This ramp also has a transition plate that allows for a smooth transition in and out of the vehicle, and it allows for the door height to be increased to 55 inches.



Besides the remote entry, there are also three other power controls inside the vehicle that can operate the mechanism: one by the driver's seat, one by the passenger side door and one in the rear cargo area of the van.

The automatic kneeling system we install lowers the van when the ramp is used. This reduces the incline of the ramp, making it safer and easier to use with manual wheelchairs.

We were one of the first companies to offer this type of ramp and have been installing them in our vehicles since 1995.

**Power Folding Ramp:** This style of ramp is just as safe and reliable as the in-the-floor ramp option. Instead of sliding into a slot in the floor of the vehicle, the ramp folds up securely when the door is closed and the van is driven.

The dimension of the power folding ramp is 55.5 inches in length and 29.5 inches in width. For the in-the-floor ramp, the dimensions are 50 inches in length and 30 inches in width.



## How Van Lifts Work

Because they rest high off the ground, full-size vans usually require a lift to get in and out of the vehicle. Our dual entry platform is convenient for users and has the capability of lifting even heavy, 800 pound power wheelchairs.

The platform of the lift measures 40-43 inches in length and 29-30 inches (depending on the type of lift installed).

There are lift operating switches on the interior and exterior of the van, and it also comes with a power remote that allows you to open the door and operate the lift from a distance, all with the simple touch of a button.

## Choosing the Right One for You

When it comes to choosing a lift or ramp for your next van conversion, there's really no right or wrong choice.

The Rollx Vans sales team will be able to talk you through the different options that are compatible with the minivan or full-size that you're looking to purchase.

In the end, whether you choose a power lift or a power ramp, we guarantee that you will have a safe, fast and easy transition while entering and exiting your vehicle.



### Ramp Options by Model

#### ***In-the-floor Ramps:***

- Chrysler Town & Country LTD
- Chrysler Town & Country Touring-K
- Chrysler Town & Country Touring-L
- Dodge Grand Caravan R/T
- Dodge Grand Caravan SXT
- Honda Odyssey EXL-N
- Honda Odyssey EXL-R
- Honda Odyssey SE
- Honda Odyssey Touring
- Honda Odyssey Touring EL

#### ***Folding Ramps:***

- Chrysler Town & Country LTD
- Chrysler Town & Country Touring-K
- Chrysler Town & Country Touring-L
- Dodge Grand Caravan R/T
- Dodge Grand Caravan SXT

#### ***Van Lifts:***

- Ford E-150
- Ford E-250
- Ford Transit Van
- GMC Savanna 2500

## Chapter Two

# Hand Controls

*When hand controls are installed into a Rollx Vans vehicle, wheelchair users gain the independence to transport themselves everywhere they need to go.*

Wheelchair vans bring a lot of freedom to wheelchair users. They offer opportunities for people to travel without having to worry about transporting their wheelchair inside of a small car, and they also allow wheelchair users to easily enter and exit their vehicle in a safe manner.

But nothing brings more freedom to wheelchair users than wheelchair van hand controls. These custom fit driving controls allow wheelchair users to pilot their vehicle with ease. When combined with Rollx Vans' 180-degree swivel transfer chair (which we'll cover more in-depth in the next chapter), wheelchair hand controls make owning an accessible van the ultimate driving experience.



As you can see, our hand controls rest just underneath the steering wheel and are entirely adjustable to fit each driver. They are always within reach of the driver, making them simple to operate, and are just as reliable as standard vehicle pedals.

Learning to operate the hand controls in a wheelchair van isn't hard to do at all. Our technicians will show you how to work them when your van is delivered. In time, you will be able to master the use of your hand controls.







### **Hand Control Options for Everyone**

*Wheelchair hand controls can be installed on both the right and left sides of the vehicle. This is particularly useful for wheelchair users who live in countries where driving on the left side of the road is customary (ask our sales representatives about overseas shipping).*

## **Custom Controls for a Smooth Ride**

Hand controls can be installed into most vehicles without any problems, and they are always customized to fit the person who will be using them.

Every wheelchair user has a different set of needs and preferences, and our engineers are happy to fulfill them when designing and installing the hand controls. After you have been evaluated by a professional, our engineers will go to work outfitting your hand controls to fit you perfectly. This will ensure the most optimal amount of safety and comfort during every ride.

Hand controls also come in mechanical, pneumatic and electronic setups. For drivers who have limitations in upper body strength and mobility, an electronic or pneumatic setup may be necessary to use because they make the wheel much easier to turn.

Finally, hand control setups do not interfere with the pedals to the standard driving setup. Anyone who needs to use the pedals to pilot the vehicle can do so without any interference from the hand controls. This makes it easy for a spouse, family member or friend to drive the vehicle at any time.

## **Learning to Drive with Hand Controls**

When your van is delivered, a Rollx Vans professional will personally show you how to operate the controls before handing over the keys. If you are uncertain at all they will always be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.

While hand controls are generally very simple to operate we do recommend that drivers train with a certified professional before taking them out on the road on their own. There are also classes available for you to take before you set out to obtain a license. With a bit of practice and time, piloting your wheelchair van will become second nature.

# Transfer Seats

*Transfer seats offer a safe, easy and fast way for passengers to get in and out of their wheelchair van. They can be installed on either or both the driver's or passenger's sides of the vehicle and are just as comfortable as a traditional vehicle seat.*

## How Transfer Seats Work

Transfer seats allow wheelchair users to easily move from their wheelchair into the driver's or passenger's seat while remaining inside the vehicle. The transfer seats travel up to 20 inches back and forth, from the center of the van and right up to the steering wheel or passenger side window.



The seats also have 9 inches of vertical adjustment and a sliding footrest that offers maximum comfort to people of differing heights.

The trackless transfer seat system features a clean, compact design that is controlled by a six button pendant remote. The remote also attaches to a magnetic holder on the side of the seat, keeping it in place while in motion.

The entire transfer seat system is monitored through a self-diagnostic computer control module, which guarantees optimal performance, comfort and ease of use.

It's important to note that transfer seats are a necessity and not every company offers them as a feature in their conversion vans. But, at Rollx Vans we feel your comfort is just as important as your safety, and transfer seats happen to offer you both.



### Safe, Stylish, Standard

Rollx Vans proudly offers transfer seats as an optional feature in all of our minivan and full-sized van conversions.

Plus, transfer seats can also be paired with any other conversion items like hand controls and all ramp and lift options.

Transfer seats are not only safe, comfortable and perfectly blend in with the interior of your vehicle, they're a great addition to any conversion van purchase and can be used by drivers and passengers for years to come.

### The Benefits of Using a Transfer Seat

Nothing beats the ease of using a transfer seat. Rather than trying to dangerously transfer from a wheelchair outside of the vehicle and into the driver's or passenger's seat, all users need to do is enter from the side door and transfer safely from their chair into the transfer seat. This greatly reduces the risk of falling while transferring from a wheelchair to a traditional vehicle seat. It also reduces the amount of strain on the person transferring's body.

Besides the increase in passenger safety, transfer seats also maintain the same level of comfort as a traditional vehicle seat. Because a transfer seat is simply an addition to the bottom of a traditional seat, the seat itself can still be adjusted for lumbar support and tilt, allowing seat users to be as comfortable as possible while driving or riding as a passenger during a road trip.

# Tie downs & Securements

*Every Rollx Vans vehicle is built with safety as a top priority. This includes the addition of tie downs and securements that keep wheelchair users safely in place while the vehicle is in motion.*

The most important priority when designing and manufacturing wheelchair vans is passenger safety. But wheelchairs can't be secured with standard seat belts. That's why we have taken extra care in making our vans compatible with multiple types of wheelchair tie downs and securements.

All of our tie downs will keep you safe, and you even get a variety of options when it comes to your safety. However, which style of securement is best for you depends on how you plan to use your wheelchair van, and sometimes the type of wheelchair you're using, as well.



**The power tie down** (pictured on the left) is the safest, easiest tie down option for wheelchair users. The EZ lock mechanism quickly secures either manual or power wheelchairs in place, so they can remain in place while the vehicle is in motion from point A to point B.

**The manual tie down** (pictured on the right) is the simplest form of securement and can be used anywhere within a wheelchair accessible vehicle. This option is easy to use for caregivers, and also for wheelchair users if their range of motion allows for it.





### **Safety is Our Priority**

*Whichever type of tie down you choose, know that all of your passengers will be safe while riding in a Rollx Vans vehicle. We make sure that every van we manufacturer passes even the most stringent safety tests. Your safety is our number one concern!*

## **Standard Manual Tie Downs**

Although manual tie downs are the simplest form of securement, that doesn't mean they are in any way unsafe for passengers.

Manual tie downs hook to the floor of the van and secure both power and manual wheelchairs in four different places. They are very cost effective and can be used in both the center and passenger areas of the vehicle.

The drawback to manual tie downs is that they cannot be used in the driver's seat, so if a wheelchair user wants to drive the vehicle, a power tie down becomes necessary.

## **Retractable Tie Downs**

Retractable tie downs are very similar to a manual tie down in that they hook to the floor of the van and can be used to secure both manual and power wheelchairs.

The best part of these types of securements is that they are incredibly easy to use. They retract just like a seat belt, meaning you don't have to deal with errant straps getting tangled up on anything.

## **Power Tie Downs**

Power tie downs are the safest form of tie down. They secure wheelchairs with a locking mechanism placed on the floor that connects to a rod on the bottom of a wheelchair. To release the wheelchair, you simply press a button mounted on the dashboard. The chair can also be manually released using a lever on the tie down itself.

Power tie downs can be used with both manual and power wheelchairs and can be placed in any area of the vehicle. If a wheelchair user will be driving the vehicle at any time, this is the only option that will allow them to do so.

# Remote Access

*Access to your vehicle with just the touch of a button. Could gaining access to transportation get simpler than that?*

Accessibility is one of the most important aspects we take into consideration when designing and converting wheelchair accessible vans for our customers. With our single remote-button access, users can easily open and close the doors to their van. The remote also activates the folding or in-floor ramp for a minivan, or the lift if your van is a full size model. One single touch is all you need to get your vehicle boarding-ready.



## Simple to Use

Even users with strength and mobility limitations in their upper body can easily operate our remote access system. The remote itself has a single button that is large, easy to push and can be kept on a keychain for immediate and easy access.

Our remote access makes it easy to get in and out of your van because it provides a means of keyless entry. If the weather is bad, you can open the doors to your van and deploy the ramp from within your home. This way you won't have to wait outside while the door opens and the ramp is lowered. You can simply board the van at your leisure.

With the single-button, one-touch, keyless remote access, your van just got a whole lot more accessible!

# Conclusion



At Rollx Vans, we know that the options available for wheelchair users, their caregivers and their families to customize their accessible vehicle are endless. Through this e-book we hope to have shown you that too.

It's our mission to provide our customers with peace of mind through endless options. Whether that means providing them the option to transfer out of their wheelchair and into the driver's seat, or the ability to remain in their wheelchair and reduce the amount of strain on their body, or just simply through the ease provided by various securement devices. No matter the customization, it's our goal to make sure it will work for our customers, their families and their caregivers, so they can safely and securely get from point A to point B every single day. But, we're looking to go beyond that too.

At Rollx Vans, we offer multiple ways for customers to receive their new wheelchair vans. Can't make it to our location? No problem. We'll come right to your driveway with your newly converted wheelchair van and show you exactly how everything works.



Because at Rollx Vans, we deliver more than just conversion vans. We deliver an exceptional experience that makes the disability community stronger than ever before.

# Resources

Do you have questions about the conversion features available for our minivan and full-sized van options?

Does your company or organization have additional customization pieces that could benefit our customers when they're out on the road?

Contact the Rollx Vans team by emailing your inquiry to:

**[info@rollxvans.com](mailto:info@rollxvans.com)**

Or, call our National Headquarters located in Savage, Minnesota on our toll-free line:

**1-800-956-6668**

*Thank you again for your download!*