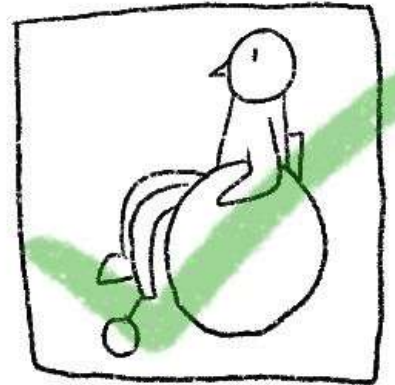
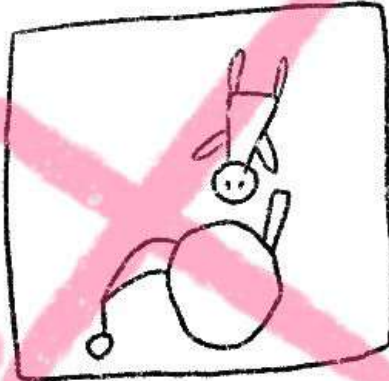
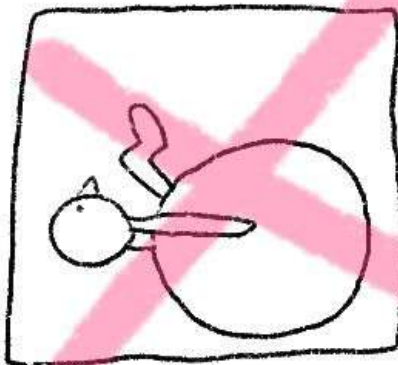
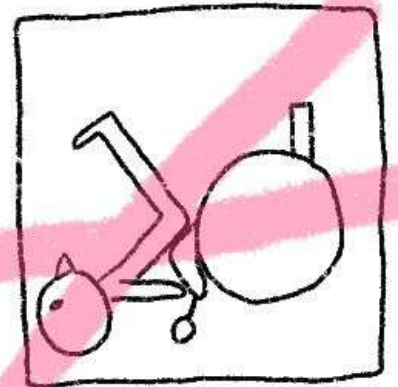
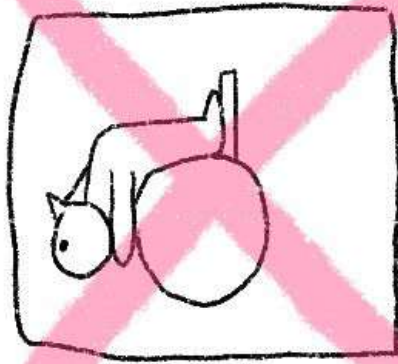


# A GUIDE TO VISUALLY DESIGNING WHEELCHAIR USING CHARACTERS



(FROM A WHEELCHAIR USER)

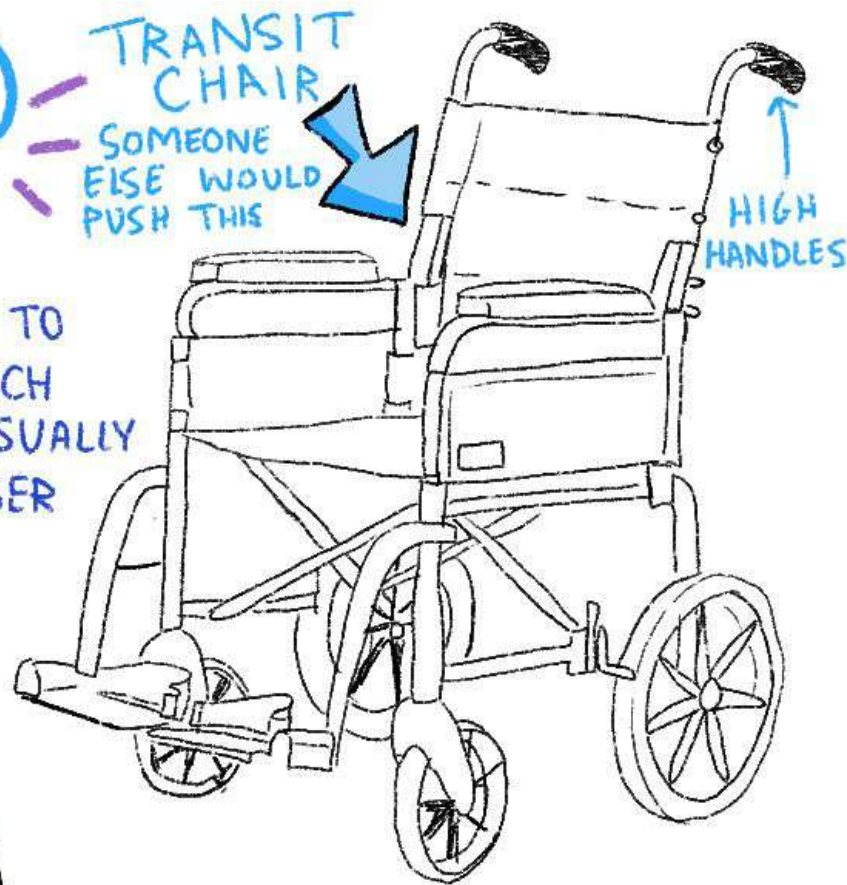
@COWSABUNGUS

# STANDARD CHAIRS

STANDARD CHAIRS ARE EASY TO OBTAIN, CHEAPER CHAIRS WHICH COME IN STANDARD SIZES, SO USUALLY DON'T PERFECTLY FIT THE USER

## SELF PROPEL

THIS CHAIR CAN BE MOVED INDEPENDENTLY, BUT IS OFTEN BULKY AND THEREFORE HARD TO MOVE



CONSIDER HOW YOUR CHARACTER MIGHT CUSTOMISE THEIR WHEELCHAIR. THESE CHAIRS ARE USUALLY DARK COLOURS, SO THINK ABOUT EASY PERSONALISATIONS SUCH AS STICKERS, AND SPOKE SKINS



WHEELCHAIRS CAN MATCH YOUR OC'S VIBE!



HEAD  
REST

# SOME PEOPLE NEED MORE SUPPORT IN A STANDARD CHAIR

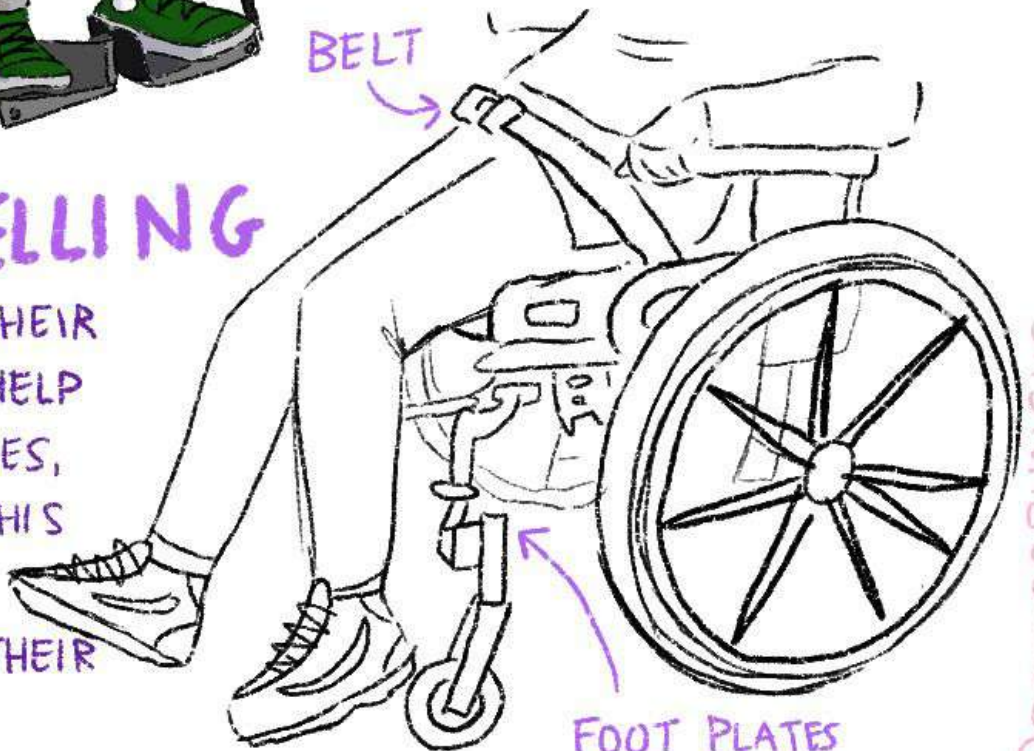
SOME USERS NEED EXTRAS ON THEIR CHAIRS TO SUPPORT THEM, SUCH AS HEAD RESTS, AND BELTS. SOME USERS MAY USE 'TILT IN SPACE' CHAIRS. THIS IS ALL DEPENDENT ON FACTORS SUCH AS CORE STRENGTH, AND SEATING NEEDS, SO CONSIDER HOW YOUR CHARACTER IS EFFECTED BY THEIR CONDITION WHEN DECIDING THE RIGHT CHAIR FOR THEM



BELT

# FOOT PROPELLING

SOME USERS USE THEIR FEET OR TOES TO HELP PROPEL THEMSELVES, AND ACCOMADATE THIS BY REMOVING THE FOOTPLATE ON THEIR CHAIRS.



FOOT PLATES  
REMOVED

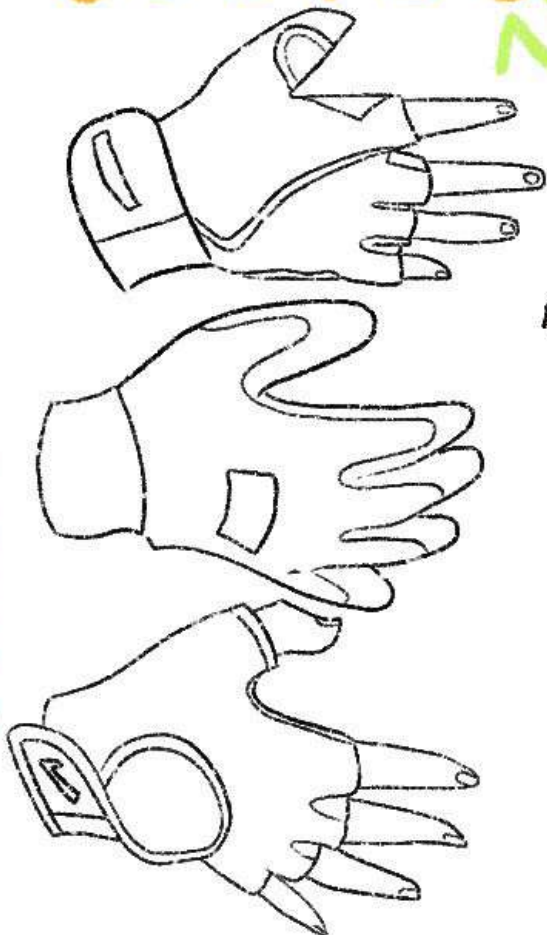
# ACTIVE CHAIRS

ACTIVE LIGHTWEIGHT WHEELCHAIRS ARE BESPOKE CHAIRS MADE TO ALLOW THE USER TO PROPEL THEMSELVES WITH AS MUCH INDEPENDENCE AS POSSIBLE. DUE TO BEING TOTALLY CUSTOMISED TO THE USER, THEY ARE EXPENSIVE AND LESS ACCESSIBLE THAN STANDARD CHAIRS

RIGID CHAIR

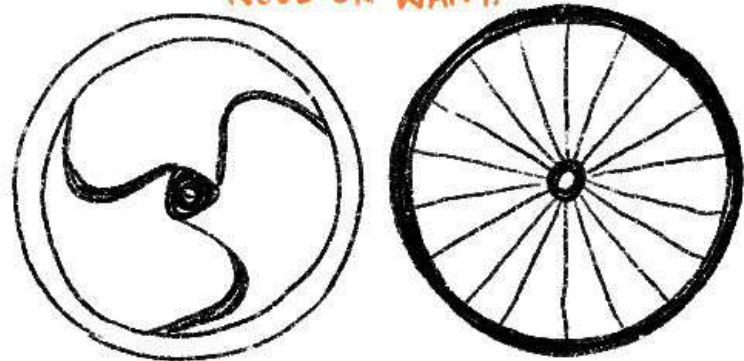


GLOVES



WHEELS

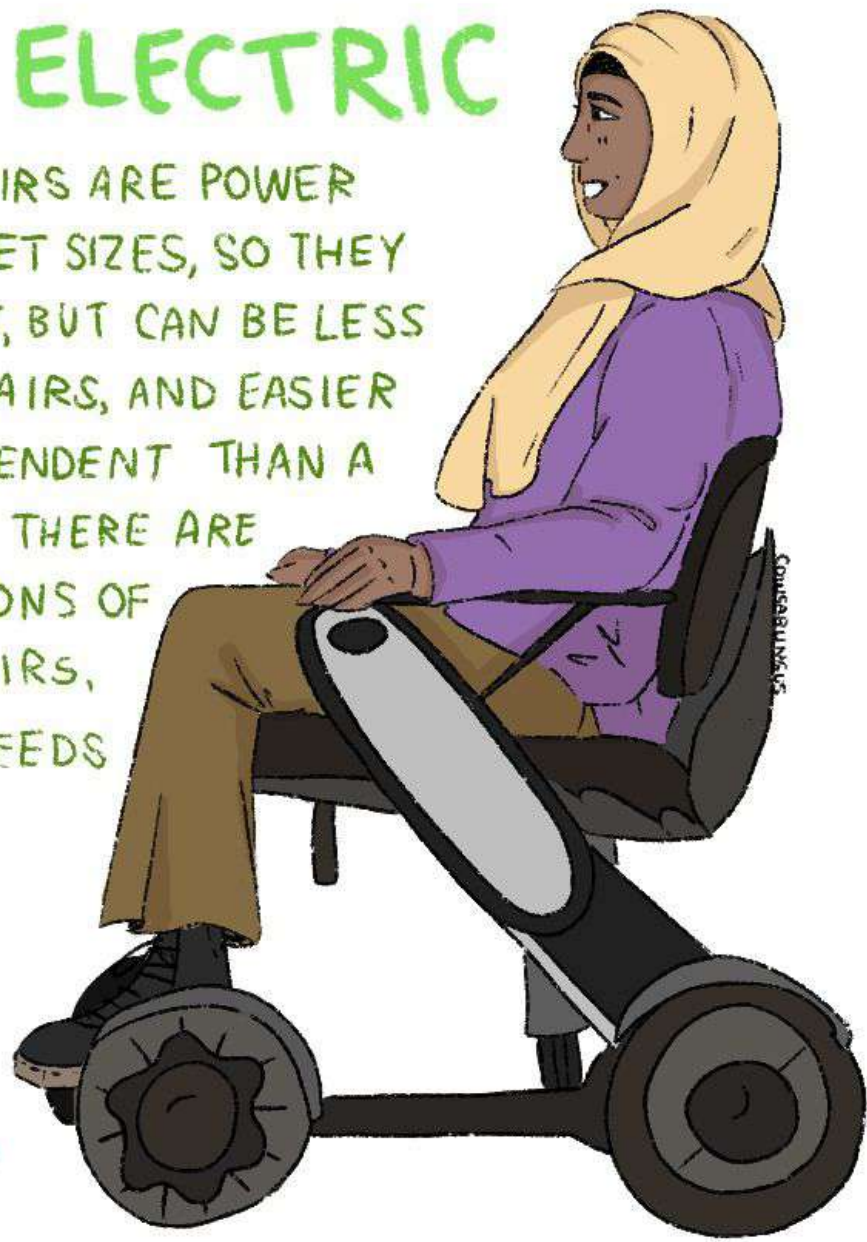
THERE ARE ALSO DIFFERENT TYPES OF WHEELS FOR CHAIRS, WITH DIFFERENT PRICE POINTS AND DIFFERENT QUALITIES THAT PEOPLE MAY NEED OR WANT.



WHEELCHAIR GLOVES ARE LIKE MARMITE; SOME PEOPLE LOVE THEM, SOME HATE THEM.

# STANDARD ELECTRIC

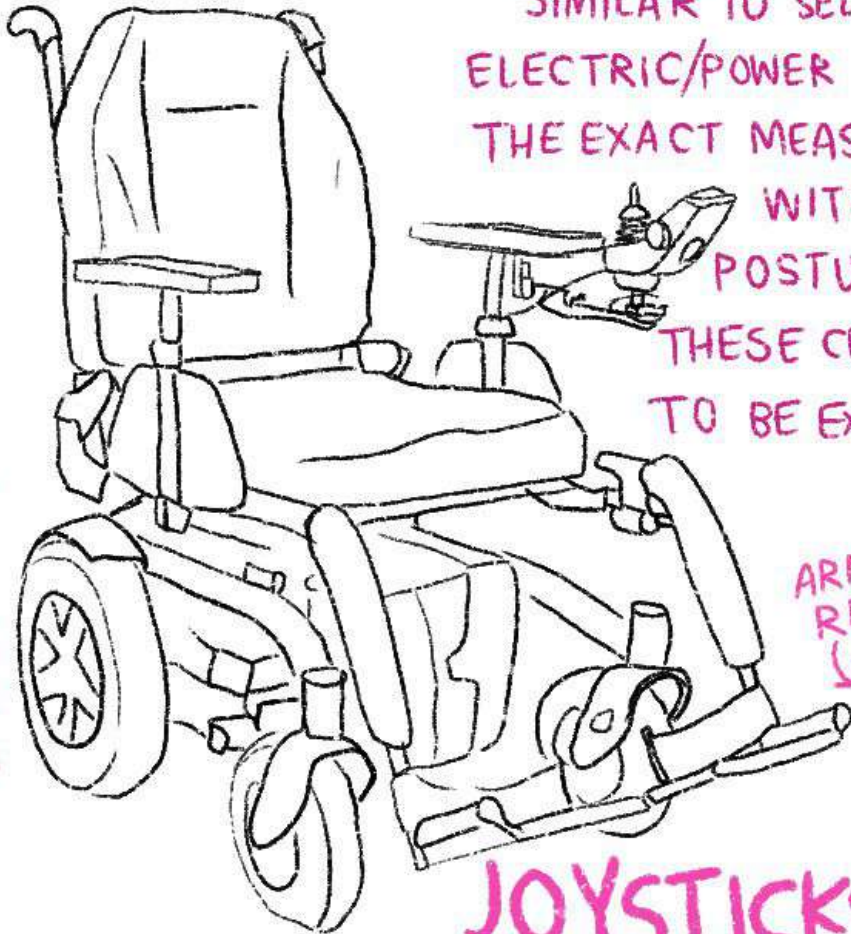
STANDARD ELECTRIC CHAIRS ARE POWER CHAIRS THAT COME IN PRESET SIZES, SO THEY MIGHT NOT BE A PERFECT FIT, BUT CAN BE LESS EXPENSIVE THAN ACTIVE CHAIRS, AND EASIER FOR THE USER TO BE INDEPENDENT THAN A STANDARD MANUAL CHAIR. THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT VARIATIONS OF STANDARD ELECTRIC CHAIRS, TO FIT DIFFERENT NEEDS



CHAIRS CAN COME IN DIFFERENT COLOURS, WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS OF PORTABILITY, AND POSTURAL SUPPORT. LIKE WITH ALL CHAIRS, USERS CAN BE FULL TIME, OR AMBULATORY (PART TIME)

# BESPOKE POWERCHAIRS

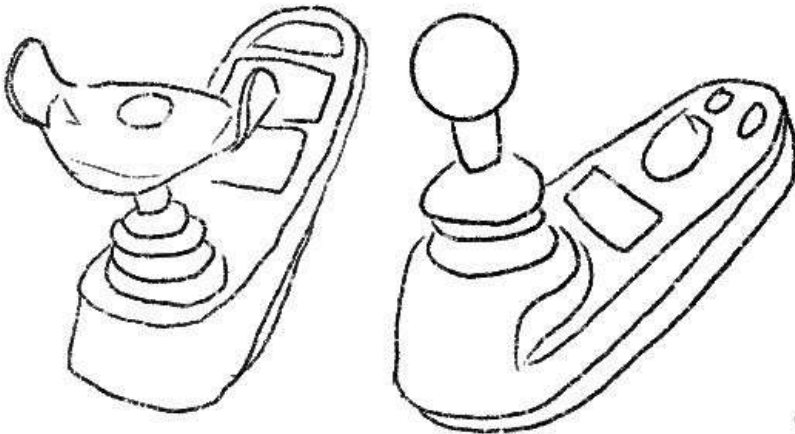
SIMILAR TO SELF PROPEL WHEELCHAIRS, ELECTRIC/POWER CHAIRS CAN BE MADE TO THE EXACT MEASUREMENTS TO THE USER, WITH ELEMENTS ADDED TO AID POSTURE AND STABILITY IF NEEDED. THESE CHAIRS TEND TO BE EXPENSIVE.



ARM RESTS  
↓

## JOYSTICKS

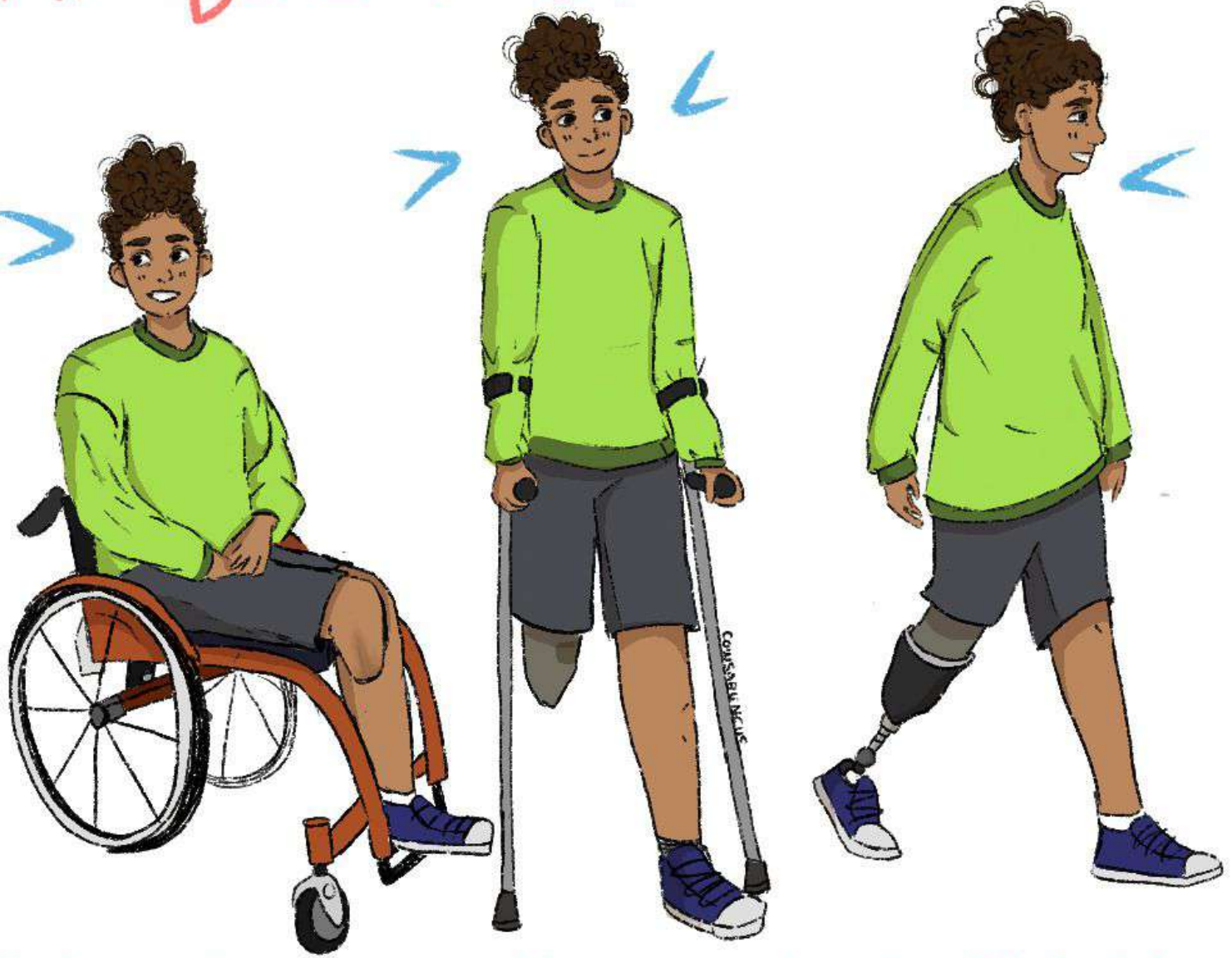
JOYSTICKS, USED TO CONTROL THE CHAIR, CAN BE CUSTOMISED TO THE STYLE AND NEEDS OF THE USER



CUSTOM ↑ COLOURS

@COWSABUNGUS

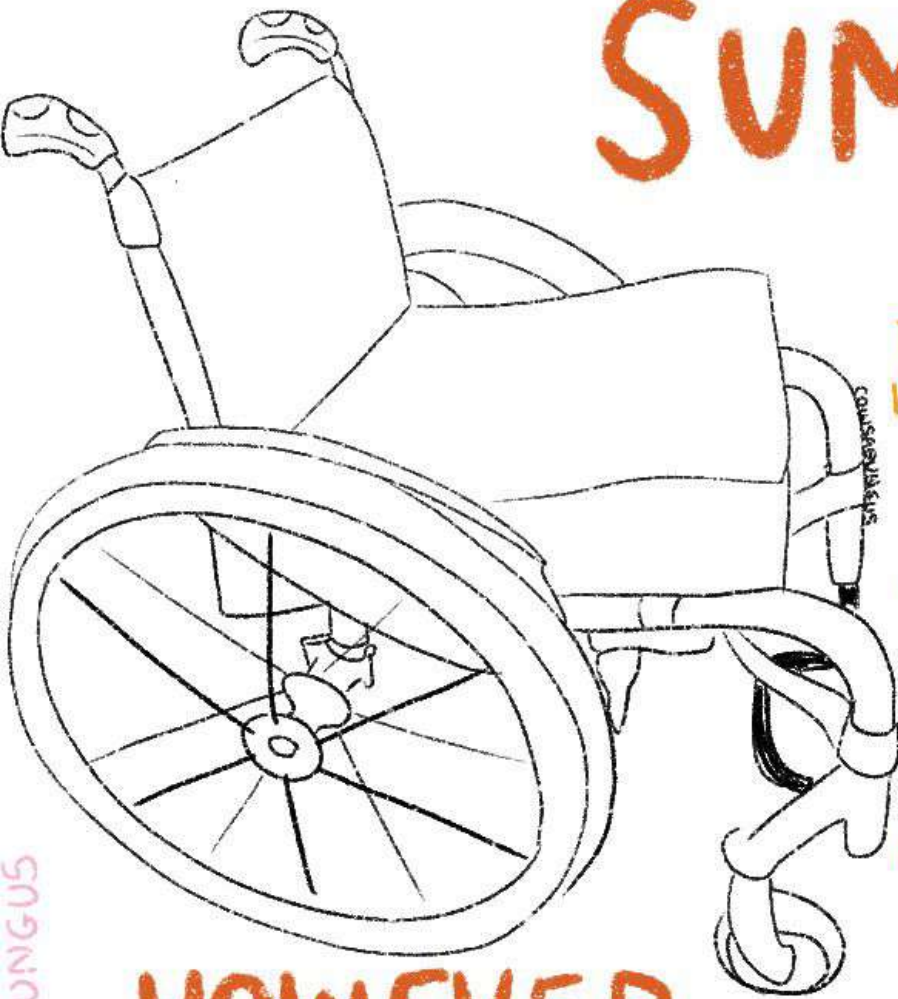
# AMBULATORY USERS



OUT OF THE 12 MILLION WHEELCHAIR USERS IN THE UK, A THIRD ARE AMBULATORY USERS, MEANING THEY ARE ABLE TO WALK TO SOME DEGREE/UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. IT'S TOTALLY POSSIBLE FOR YOUR CHARACTER TO BE A PART TIME WHEELCHAIR USER, AND VARY WHICH MOBILITY AIDS ARE USED.

# SUMMARY

THIS ISN'T A TOTALLY COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE AND THERE ARE DEFINITELY FACTS I'VE FORGOTTEN, THIS CAN BE A START FOR THOSE TOTALLY CLUELESS ON DESIGNING WHEELCHAIR USERS. RESEARCH IS THE BEST WAY FORWARD IF YOU HAVE BITS YOU HAVE NO IDEA ABOUT. WHEELCHAIR USERS' EXPERIENCES ARE THE BEST RESEARCH!



## HOWEVER

DON'T JUST GO ASKING WHEELCHAIR USERS AND DISABLED PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER OR INVASIVE QUESTIONS FOR YOUR RESEARCH. THEY AREN'T HERE JUST TO GIVE YOU INFORMATION. THERE ARE LOADS OF ALREADY EXISTING INFORMATION FROM WHEELCHAIR USERS ONLINE.

