

So Many Options..... A Short Guide to Cushion Selection



- 1. Complete a mobility & Skin Integrity Assessment**
- Assess the client's general health, cognition, posture, skin condition, balance, coordination, body symmetry, and upper/lower extremity function. Lifestyle and preferences, as well as functional skills and physical abilities are also part of the initial assessment. Finally, consider the client's health (is their weight stable, do they have any upcoming surgeries, etc.).
- 2. Determine the correct size of the cushion to ensure the client receives the full benefit of the cushion's properties**
- 3. Trial the cushion with the client to determine if it meets the intended goals for the client.**
HME also offers pressure mapping to assist in complex cases.



Foam

Key Points:

- Low to moderate pressure redistribution
- Can be contoured for postural support

Best For: Client's with no history of skin breakdown and require postural support.

Examples:

Blake Zentury; Prism Supreme II;
Matrix VI; Ride Forward



Gel

Key Points:

- Moderate to high pressure redistribution
- Fluid or solid gel options - low maintenance
- Can be heavy

Best For: Client's with moderate redistribution needs

Examples:

Jay 2; Jay 2 Deep; Blake Silver,
Blake Gold



Air

Key Points:

- High pressure redistribution
- Can be unstable for clients requiring postural support; can require maintenance

Best For: Client's with a history of skin breakdown

Examples:

ROHO, Vicair



Hybrid

Key Points:

- Can be Foam/Gel or Foam/Air
- Can be customized
- May require maintenance

Best For: Client's with pressure redistribution and postural support needs

Examples:

ROHO Hybrid, Jay Fusion, Blake Hybrid

- * Always complete a thorough client assessment
- * Factor in client's medical, postural and environmental needs
- * Call HME to arrange a demo to determine the most appropriate cushion option



This edition of Health Corner was compiled by Jeff Lang, HME Seating & Mobility Consultant, based on his experience.

For more information about cushions, please contact your local sales rep today.

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