



Photo: Vancare

## Ceiling lifts

### Snapshot

**Lowest priced unit:** \$1,995 | **Mid-range priced unit:** \$2,944 | **Highest priced unit:** \$3,945

**Typical delivery time:** 2 to 4 weeks, but installation will take longer.

**Typical delivery charges:** Free shipping may be available for large purchases, otherwise budget around \$150

**Average life span of product:**  
Up to 20 years

**Standard warranty:**  
Two years

**Extended warranty:** Up to 5 years

**Average maintenance costs per year:**  
Make sure to budget for monthly, quarterly and annual checks. Also include replacing slings regularly. Replacement parts may amount to around \$60.

### Buyers Notes

- Ceiling lifts are increasingly installed with innovative technology that can list when the lift needs to be serviced, the last time it has been operated and other information.
- Make sure to discuss installation costs. Providers often prefer to have these as part of a new build or renovation, as retrofitting is difficult.
- Some ceiling lifts have a curtain pass-through option, which allows privacy curtains to stay in the room.
- When short on space, a ceiling lift can make sense, especially if there's limited storage available for floor lifts.

*"If a ceiling lift does sit on a track, look at the charging system and whether you have to charge it the whole time. Currently, ours does not. That means the battery will die if it's not charging, which we have learned the hard way."*

**— Heidi Buffenbarger, MS, RN, CNML,**  
**Parkview Continuing Care Center, Fort Wayne, IN**

*(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)*

**Sources:** Arjo, Joerns, Hill-Rom, Vancare

**For a list of vendors go to the:  
EQUIPMENT section,  
pages 73-74**