

How to Select a Drawer Slide

The basic selection process for drawer slides is based on length and weight.

The length generally refers to the length of the actual drawer you have built or designed. The weight is the desired capability in kilograms that the finished drawer will carry. Note: drawer slides are listed and sold as a pair.

Here are a few key consideration with regard to drawer slides:

WEIGHT RATINGS: The weight capacity or 'rating' for a drawer slide varies depending on its usage. The profile or end view of a drawer slide changes both in physical size and material thickness as the intended load increases. Industry standards give a certain profile a weight capacity, however movement, vibration and exposure to elements all affect the function of a slide. Each slide on our website has 3 ratings: moderate use, frequent use and transporation use - remember to keep this in mind.

LOCKING OR NON LOCKING: There are drawer slides that include their own locating stops for all the way extended or back in the closed position. Whilst these are called locking drawer slides we always recommend a secondary locking device like a shot bolt in a mobile environment.

BASE MOUNT OR SIDE MOUNT: Some slides mount to the side of the drawer and others to the base/bottom edge.

FULL EXTENSION: Some slides only have a 2 part design where the slide is not able to extend its complete length. Others have a 3 piece setup which allows full extension.

LONG LENGTHS: A popular drawer slide for long lengths is our OCCO Track which is a simple extrusion and wheel combo that allows complete flexibility in the owners design. It is excellent for hefty loads that need to be spread out over a long distance.

EXAMPLE

Imagine working on a slide out drawer in the back of a 4WD. It is to be used as an utensil storage space. The maximum weight it will carry is about 40Kg and the drawer itself weights approximately 20Kg including fittings etc. - total weight 60Kg. The drawer length is 720mm and we wish the drawer to come out its complete length. The drawer slides can be mounted on the side of the drawer and do not need to be locking.

We can determine then that we need to look in the **non-locking** drawer slide section. As we search through we find that the **125Kg slides** can offer us a **712mm slide** with a **transportation rating of 70Kg**.

Also remember to take into account the depth of the slide for fitting purposes, these are generally marked on the product diagram.



For more information or additional help in working with Gas struts contact us on 1800 811 556 or visit us instore:

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