

LOW TAYLOR BRACE

A Guide for Patients

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INTRODUCTION

This type of brace is designed to control the upper and lower regions of the spinal column. The brace is made of aluminium and lined with padded felt and leather or kydex depending on the brace you have been fitted with.

A set of Velcro straps attached to an abdominal bib at the front of the brace secure it into position. A qualified orthotist will contour the aluminium frame to the shape of your spine and fit the bib and straps.

Applying with help from another person is done by the patient holding brace in correct position whilst the companion does up the Velcro straps.

Applying without help is best done by the patient positioning brace and then backing themselves up to a wall to hold brace whilst the Velcro straps are secured.



Consulting Orthotist

Clinic Attended

Date Attended

APPLICATION

Once your brace is fitted and is comfortable, your orthotist will mark all the straps so that each time you put the brace on it will be tightened to the correct position.

Choose one side of the brace that you will always use to open and close the Velcro straps. The other side remains untouched as a guide to how your chosen side should look when positioned correctly.

Begin With The Chest Strap



Then secure the three straps that attach to the abdominal bib, making sure the bib is low down on the stomach. If the bib is too high it will cut into the breasts.



The straps have been numbered and should be done up in sequence.



APPLICATION

Once all the straps are in place, check the position of the aluminium frame is low down over the pelvis- almost touching the seat you are sitting on (about 3 finger widths between the seat and the bottom edge of the brace).



If the pelvic bands are not sitting flush with your ribs and hips and are digging in, your brace could be sitting too high or too low.

The two back uprights should align either side of the spinal column.



WHEN TO WEAR

This brace is designed to support your spine whilst standing, sitting and walking.

Your spinal brace should not be worn to bed or in the shower. If your specialist requires you to wear the brace when in the shower, you will need to be fitted with a separate brace for showering.

Your specialist will decide the duration of time for wearing this brace.

GENERAL CARE

Wearing a cotton singlet or T-shirt under your brace will help keep the felt lining clean and make the brace as comfortable as possible against your skin. Regular changes of the singlet can help combat perspiration problems.

Your brace cannot be washed. If your brace becomes soiled, sponge clean with a damp cloth.

If any of the metal bands are digging in, do not try and modify the metal frame yourself. If you are uncomfortable, consult with your orthotist.

Do not place anything under your brace as it may create a pressure area.

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