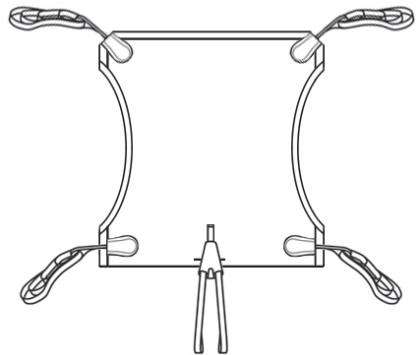


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steiss

Steiss™  
Hammock Sling

USER MANUAL



## Introduction

The Steiss Hammock Sling is a hammock style sling suitable for fitting from a recumbent position only. Made from a cushioned and breathable 3D woven 'Spacer' material, with high air permeability offering high levels of comfort. Suitable for the lifting of amputees following careful assessment.

## Special Sling Orders

On occasions, material, dimensional and other changes outside of the standard specification are requested. Please be advised, that aside of any model specific references, fitting, washing and safety guidelines remain applicable. If you are in any doubt, please contact Blueleaf Ltd.

## Statement of Intended Use

A sling is an item of moving and handling equipment that is used with a mechanical lift in order to facilitate the transfer of a patient. It comprises a specially designed and constructed piece of fabric that is placed under and/or around a patient before being attached to the spreader bar/cradle of a lift to raise, transfer and lower the patient. When selected and used correctly, a sling and lift combination will achieve a safer transfer and reduce the risks associated with manual handling.

It is the responsibility of a competent person to conduct a thorough risk assessment prior to using any sling, to ensure that the sling choice, method of positioning in the sling and procedure for transfer has been correctly determined for the patient. For further guidance, please contact Blueleaf Ltd.

**FOR USE WITH PASSIVE LIFTS ONLY.**

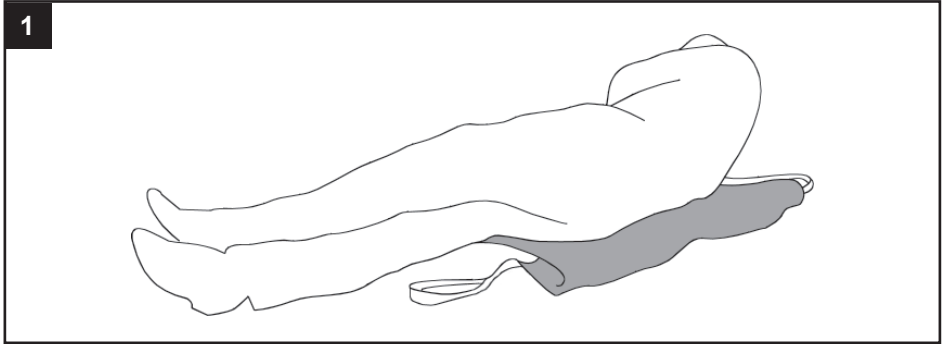
## Expected Service Life

The expected service life of a Steiss sling will vary dependent on use and following the care and washing instructions provided in the user guide. Factors such as wash temperature, detergents, frequency of use and patient weight will impact on the lifetime of your sling. Blueleaf Ltd recommends that slings are checked each and every time prior to use to ensure the safety of the patient. Bleached, torn, cut, frayed or broken slings are unsafe and must be discarded and replaced. It is a requirement under LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998) that slings are thoroughly checked and passed fit for use. For further advice, please contact Blueleaf Ltd.

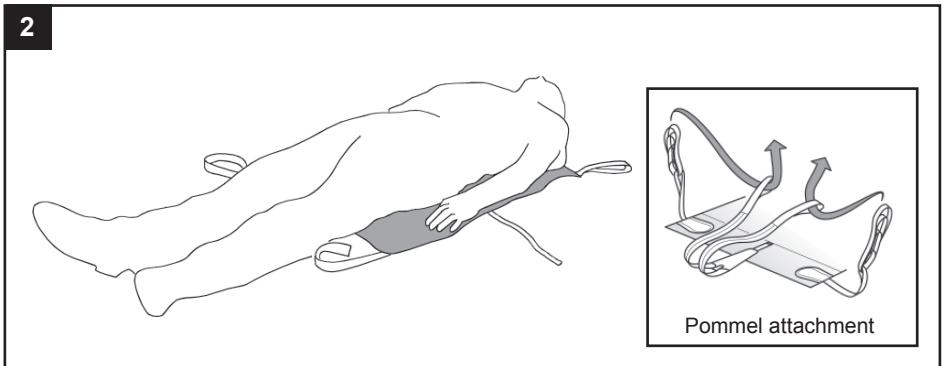
## WARNING

- **For the safety of the patient and carer; before using a sling a full risk assessment must be conducted to ensure that the correct sling choice, method of positioning in the sling and procedure for transfer has been determined for the patient.**
- **CHECK sling and stitching before each use. Using bleached, torn, cut, frayed or broken slings is unsafe and could result in serious injury or death to the patient.**
- **DO NOT alter slings. Destroy and discard worn slings.**
- **NEVER leave a patient unattended.**
- **DO NOT exceed the rated capacity of the sling or lift.**
- **DO NOT attempt to re-position a patient by pulling on the sling loops.**

## Fitting the Sling from a Recumbent Position



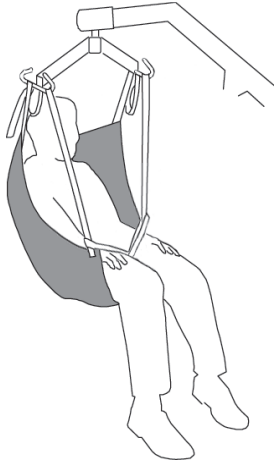
Using good manual handling techniques, roll the patient towards you so that you are positioned on their side. To introduce the sling, ensure that the handles are on the outside of the sling and roll half of the sling up under itself so that the patient is rolled onto their opposite side. The sling can be rolled out until it is flat. Tuck the rolled up side against the back of the patient's body ensuring that the bottom of the sling is 2 - 3 inches above the knee joint.



Safely position the patient onto the sling far enough so that the sling can be fully unrolled and the patient laid flat and central on the sling. Pass each leg strap through the corresponding loop on the pommel according to the illustration above.

## Fitting the Sling from a Seated Position

3



Move the lift into position above the patient. Attach the side suspenders (if used), keeping them away from the patients face. Attach the shoulder straps and leg loops to the respective front and rear hooks on the spreader bar, ensuring the same coloured loops are used on each side.

Raise the lift just enough to tension the straps and check to ensure they remain securely attached. The patient can now be lifted to the required height.

**NOTE: It may be necessary to support the head while the patient is suspended.**

To remove the sling, carry out the fitting procedure in reverse.

**NOTE: ALWAYS peel the sling away from the patient to avoid skin friction.**

## Technical Specifications

STANDARD	BS EN ISO 10535
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## Sizing & Safe Working Load

SIZE	SAFE WORKING LOAD
PAEDIATRIC (BROWN)	440lbs / 200kg
SMALL (RED)	440lbs / 200kg
MEDIUM (YELLOW)	440lbs / 200kg
LARGE (GREEN)	440lbs / 200kg
EXTRA LARGE (BLUE)	440lbs / 200kg

## Washing Instructions



Machine wash at 85°C.



DO NOT wash with bleach. Bleach will damage the sling's material and make it unsafe for use.



Cool tumble dry, air dry or dry at very low temperature.



DO NOT dry clean.

### **⚠ WARNING**

**Slings can suffer damage during washing and drying and should be checked carefully before each use.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Additional slings are available to meet individual patient needs. We advise that you always seek the advice of a trained clinician or Blueleaf Ltd prior to purchase or use.

## Additional Important Safety Information

Following Medical Device Alerts on other manufacturers' slings, it is important that users of Steiss slings always follow the instructions in the user manuals provided with each sling and also the labels which are stitched into each sling.

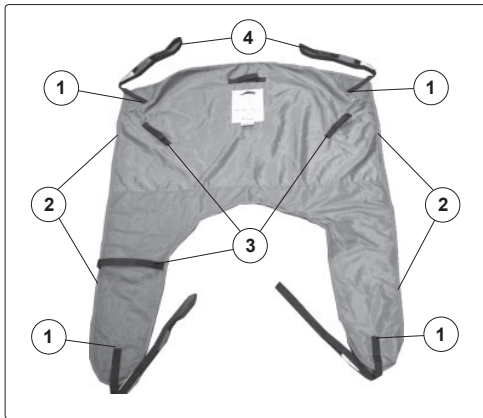
In particular, it is critical to the safety of the patient that the sling is checked each and every time prior to use. Failure to do so may result in patient injury.

If any of the following faults are identified, the sling should not be used and immediately destroyed:

- There are signs of general wear and tear
- There is loose or broken stitching on any part of the sling (including the straps)
- There are worn areas on the attachment points
- There are discoloured areas
- There are areas of frayed or torn material
- There are areas of bleached material
- The label is illegible

Inspection is required on all areas of the sling. The following information provides some guidance on key areas for inspection:

**Example of a sling:**



**Key areas for inspection include:**

1. Sling strap attachment point
2. Seams
3. Handle attachment points
4. End loops on sling straps



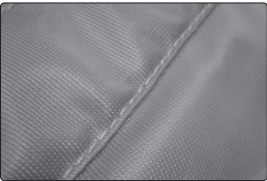
- Stitching on the sling straps on the sling body should be secure.
- Stitching is cross-stitched and not to be frayed.



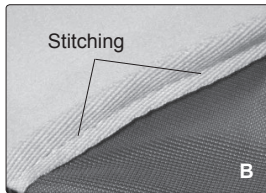
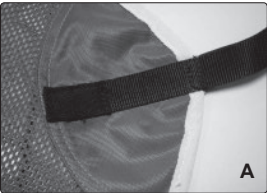
Cross Stitching



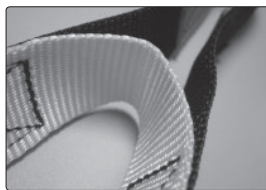
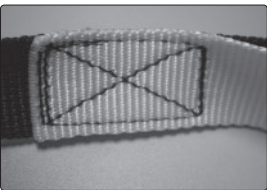
- Typical seam stitching.
- Photograph shows example of correct stitching in place and not frayed.



- Typical stitching on the main body of the sling.
- Photographs show examples of correct stitching in place and not frayed.



- A.** Attachment of the strap to a net style sling.
- B.** Example of correct stitching on the colour binding.



- Typical stitching of the end loops on the sling straps.
- Stitching is cross-stitched and not to be frayed.
- Ensure end loops are not worn or frayed.

Cleaning Instructions are clearly detailed in the user manual and on the label stitched on the back of the sling. Failure to follow these instructions may result in the sling becoming damaged and unsafe for use.

If you have any questions regarding these instructions please contact Blueleaf Ltd.



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