

Please read this manual carefully to insure safe usage and understanding of maintenance instructions.

Congratulations on your purchase of a **Merits** wheelchair. Merits wheelchairs are designed with your ease of use, comfort, and along usable life in mind.

USAGE and SAFETY RULES:

Wheel Locks - Please be sure to engage both wheel locks before getting into or out of chair, leaning forward in the chair, or while in an elevator or wheelchair lift. Proper adjustment of a wheel lock is at least 1/8" when locked. Locks are engaged by pushing the handle completely forward. Adjustments to locks are made by loosening or tightening nut on the carriage bolt. Embed the lock shoe at least 1/8" by sliding clamp toward rear wheel while the handle is engaged in the locked position. Tighten the nut and bolt to secure in position. Test to be sure it is correctly locked before actual use.

Tires - Solid rubber tires need minimal maintenance, but should be cleaned occasionally with a damp cloth. Replace the tires if they become severely worn or cracked.

Front Casters - The casters should be checked periodically and lubricated occasionally. Lubricate them by removing the fork and greasing caster stem bearings. Lubricate the wheel bearings by removing the wheel from the fork. Reassemble the fork and wheel by tightening nuts until no play remains, but the wheels can roll freely. If the nut is too loose, the caster will shimmy, if too tight, chair will be difficult to steer.

Removal of Swing-away footrests/Legrests- Release the lock by pushing on the front rigging lever. Swing-away the foot rest/leg rest out and sideways. Lift to remove.

Adjusting Length of Footrest/Legrest - When adjusting length of footrests or legrests, user should be sitting in wheelchair with feet on the footplates. Loosen bolt on the clamp around support assembly. Raise or lower footplate to desired position that will provide maximum support of thighs. Front rigging should not be so low that it causes uncomfortable pressure to thighs at front of seat upholstery. Footrest should not be lower than 2-1/2" from the ground to ensure clearance.

Adjusting/Elevating Legrest - Lift footplate on leg rest assembly to desired position. Release leg rest assembly and it will automatically lock into place. To lower, push out on leg rest lever and lower footplate to desired position.

Wheels - Large rear wheels should be inspected at least once a month to ensure proper tightness. If wheel wobbles or is loose, release lock nut and tighten axle bolt slightly. Test for proper tightness by leaning chair to one side and spin adjusted wheel.

General Care - Wipe chrome parts with a clean, soft cloth at least once a week. All metal parts can be cleaned with auto wax or similar products. If exposed to moisture, dry immediately. Do not use an abrasive cleanser that will scratch the finish.

To Open Chair - Open wheelchair by tilting to one side and pushing down on seat rail until fully opened.

To Close/Fold Chair - First fold footplates to vertical position. Grab seat with both hands at front and back edge and lift. Or, tilt chair to one side and lift up on seat rail.

Removable Arms - Remove arms by depressing spring button and lifting arms out of front and rear sockets.

Flip-Up Arms - Release the lever in front of arm to flip-up the arm to the backward side.

WARNING!

Do not attempt to adjust or operate wheelchair without reading carefully all instructions in this manual.

- This wheelchair has not been approved as a seat that can be used within vehicles of any kind. Always transfer wheelchair user to a vehicle manufacturers approved seat and use safety restraints available.
- Do not operate this wheelchair on roadways, streets or any surfaces with vehicular traffic.
- Do not attempt to operate on inclines 10% or greater without proper assistance.
- Be sure to completely engage wheel locks when getting in and out of wheelchair or when in elevator or wheelchair lift.
- Wheelchair should be on a smooth, stable and level area with wheel locks engaged before transferring user in or out of wheelchair.
- Do not adjust footrests any lower than 2-1/2" from floor.
- When getting in or out of wheelchair, do not stand on or apply weight to footrests.
- Before reaching or leaning forward, rotate casters to front of the wheelchair engage wheel locks to help prevent wheelchair from tipping over.
- Do not lean over or apply weight to the top of wheelchair back. This can cause wheelchair to tip over. When trying to extend arms over back, only reach as far as your arm. can extend without having to alter your seating position.
- DO NOT stand on wheelchair.
- DO NOT use wheel locks to slow your descent down an incline.
- Abruptly changing directions while going down an incline could cause instability or possible tipping over.