

Trans-Tibial Prosthesis (Below Knee Prosthesis)

Your prosthesis has be created specifically for you. Always follow specific instructions given by your doctor and practitioner.

Wearing & Break-in Schedule

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Always check your skin after wearing your device. Any areas of pink should fade away after 10-15 minutes. If marks do not disappear after 10-15 minutes, or if you observe deep red marks, blisters, bruises, or sores, contact your practitioner immediately. If you have any concerns <u>do not</u> wear the device until you follow up with your practitioner.

It is important for you to follow the "break-in" schedule of wearing. Following this schedule allows time for your tissues to adjust to the new pressures on your bone and skin.

<u>Break-in Schedule</u>: Begin wearing your prosthesis for 15-30 minute intervals. Remove it earlier if you notice any pain or discomfort. Remove the prosthesis and check your skin for any redness that does not go away within 10-15 minutes. If marks do not disappear after 10-15 minutes, or if you observe deep red marks, blisters, bruises, or sores, contact your practitioner immediately. Gradually increase the time worn using the following schedule:

Day 1 – Wear for 1 hr. Day 2 – Wear for 2 hrs. Day 3 – Wear for 3 hrs.

Day 4 – Wear for 4 hrs.

Day 5 – Wear for 5 hrs. Day 6 – Wear for 6 hrs. Day 7 – Wear for 7 hrs. Day 8 – Wear for 8 hrs.

Day 9 – Wear for 9 hrs. ** Continue to add 1 hour each day until full wear is achieved. This usually takes at least 2 weeks

How to put on your prosthesis

Prior to wearing your prosthesis, it is important to check the following things on your device and residual limb:

- Make sure your skin is <u>clean and dry</u>.
- Avoid the use of skin creams and salves prior to wearing the device.
- Examine your skin and look for abnormal redness, blisters, bruises, or sores. Using a mirror may be helpful if you have difficulty seeing any areas on the back of your leg and behind your knee.
- Make sure there are no cracks, rough edges, or worn areas on the device.
- Make sure any straps are secure on the device.
- Check your prosthetic socks and liner (if applicable), for worn areas or holes.
- Determine the correct combination of prosthetic socks as instructed by your practitioner. You may also reference the *Prosthetic Sock Patient Information Sheet*.
- Insert your leg into the socket of the device as instructed by your practitioner.
- ** If you find any areas of concern or have questions, <u>contact your practitioner before wearing your prosthesis</u>.

Precautions

- When sitting, try to keep you knee bent at less than a 45-degree angle, this alleviates pressure on the back of your knee.
- **<u>Do not</u>** wear your prosthesis to bed or during a shower or bath.
- Clean the socket of your device with hypoallergenic soap and water. <u>Do not</u> immerse the device in water.
- The key to a comfortable fit is to understand how your prosthetic socks are worn and wear them appropriately. See the *Prosthetic Sock Patient Information Sheet* for details regarding your prosthetic socks.
- <u>Always</u> wear your prosthesis with a shoe. If you change shoes this may change the heel height and alignment of your prosthesis. Please contact your practitioner to make appropriate adjustments.

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