



# Mackworth Dual Access Sling

## Sling Fitting Guide

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## Product Overview

The **sling range** is used by carers and health care professionals to assist in the lifting and transferring of patients whilst also satisfying the professional and home care environments.

The sling is designed to provide a patient handling and moving solution within a healthcare setting. The sling range is designed to support a patient when used in conjunction with a hoist. It has the ability to safely and securely raise an individual up from one location such as a bed, move the individual and then be easily removed or left in location once the patient is in the desired location.

The sling range will be used in conjunction with a hoist (either ceiling track or mobile) and will also interact with the environment eg bed and/or chair. The specific size and type of sling will be selected for each task based on a couple of user and environmental factors:

- Size and weight of the patient
- Other medical conditions of the patient
- The nature of the task to be completed
- If the sling is to be left in situ after the manoeuvre

The sling is the component that provides the fit around the patient and ensures a safe and secure lift. Due to this there needs to be consideration of the weight and size of the patient to ensure a safe manoeuvre. The sling attaches to a hoist through the use of a carry bar. There are two types of connectors – hook and clip. Slings need to be manufactured to the correct specification to meet the need of the carry bar.

## Dual Access Sling Generic Design

This sling provides access to be able to remove and refit garments during the transfer, making this sling ideal for toileting purposes. The large aperture means dressing and personal care can take place more easily.

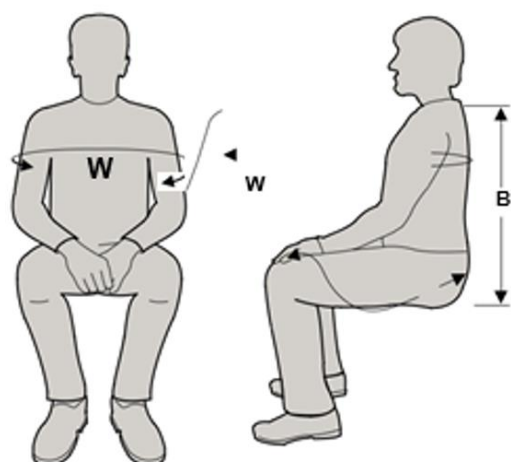
The sling has been designed with comfort in mind. Cut away sections reduce pressure under the arms whilst padded leg sections provide extra comfort to the user during transfers.

The Dual Access Sling is available in polyester material, providing a number of benefits to the user.



Designed to help with the toileting process. Minimal support but good access for clothing removal

## Patient Measuring



**W:** Humorous bone – outer most post (left to right)



**B:** Coccyx to base of neck



## Sling Sizes

Sling sizes are identified through the colour of the ribbon edging. The colour and size is identified below.

Size	Col	Sling Width	User Width Range		Sling Back	User Back Range	
			(Minimum)	(Maximum)		(Minimum)	(Maximum)
XX Small	Purple	690	466	552	250	400	500
X Small	Brown	770	520	616	280	448	560
Small	Red	860	581	688	280	448	560
Medium	Yellow	980	662	784	280	448	560
Large	Cyan	1050	709	840	305	488	610
X Large	Dark Blue	1130	763	904	310	496	620
XX Large	Pink	1260	851	1008	315	504	630

## Material Types

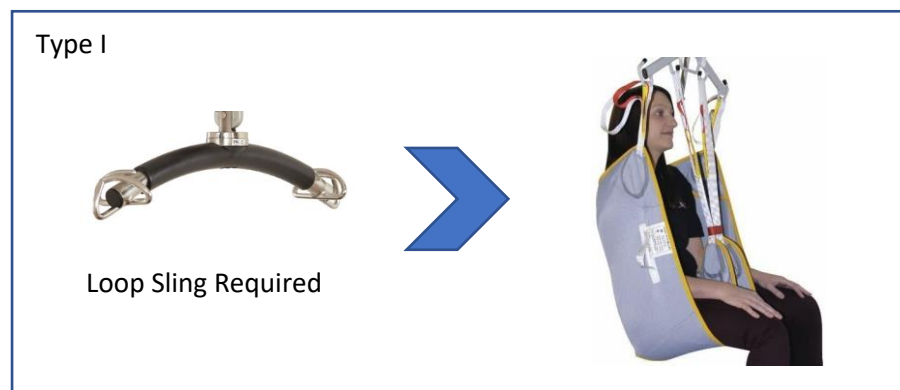
The polyester material specification provides various benefits to the patient:

Material	Benefits
Polyester Solid (Grey)	<p>The material is quick to dry and is able to be submerged in water along with being extremely tough, lightweight and flexible, reducing shock while loading.</p> <p>The high-quality polyester webbing material allows for these slings to be used time and time again, giving you outstanding value for money.</p>

## Carry Bar Attachment

The sling attaches to a hoist through the use of a carry bar. There are two types of connectors – hook and clip. Slings need to be manufactured to the correct specification to meet the need of the carry bar.

Refer to 'The General User Safety Guide: Patient Slings' for instructions how to safely and correctly attach the sling to the carry bar.

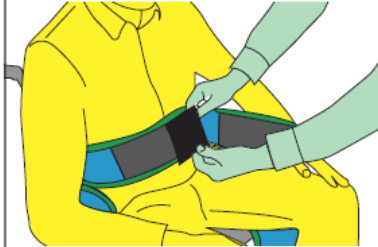


## Sling Fitting

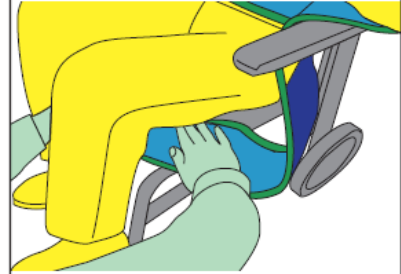
- 1** Before fitting remove the square hook patch on the body belt. Ensure that the guiding handles and identification label are on the outside. Place the sling down the back of the client. Ensure the aperture is just above the client's waist.



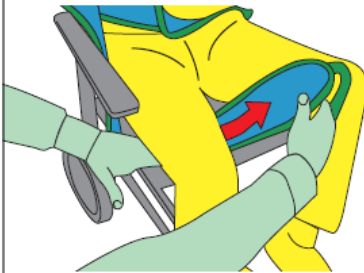
- 2** Pull the body belt into position and reapply the hook square patch to belt. Close belt firmly ensuring a comfortable fit. This does not need to be over tight. Check the sling is equal and square



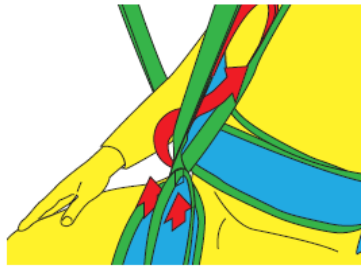
- 3** Straighten the leg section ensuring there are no twists or folds and that the sling is not caught on the chair. Kneeling in front of the client, pull each leg towards you in turn until all of the slack is taken up.



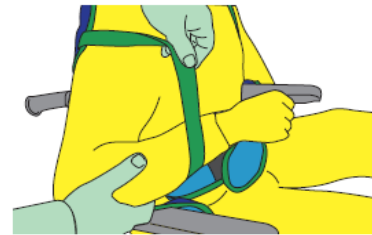
- 4** Carefully feed the leg of the sling underneath the user's leg pushing the sling down into the seating surface to avoid friction and shear against the clients legs. Repeat the procedure on the other leg.



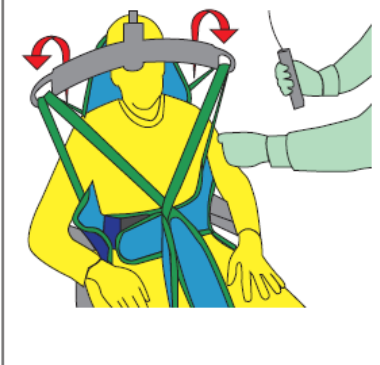
- 5** Ensure that the sling is not twisted or creased under the thighs and check both leg straps are equal in length. Feed one leg strap through the other.



- 6** Place the client's arms through the extensor straps. Attach the leg straps to the spreader bar followed by the shoulder straps.



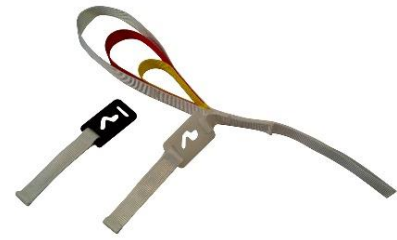
- 7** Raise the hoist until the straps start to take tension, stop the lift and ensure that all straps are attached correctly before completing the lift.



## Sling Checks



**Sling Loops** – Check the condition and integrity (if relevant)



**Sling Clips** – Check the condition and integrity (if relevant)



**Clips** – Check the condition and integrity



**Fabric and Seams** – Check the condition and integrity

Equipment safety checks for slings prior to each use, need to ensure that:

- The sling is the correct size and type for the patient and is fit for purpose
- The sling and hoist are compatible
- All labels are legible and show the SWL (safe working load) and unique identifier and size
- There are no signs of fraying, tears or deterioration
- All fabric and stitching is present and intact
- The Velcro (if applicable) is clean and free of fibres/fluff etc.
- The loops/clips have no obvious signs of damage/fraying etc.
- It has been cleaned.



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