



# Using a stump board on a wheelchair

**General guide and safety information**

# **Your mobility aids service**

The British Red Cross are part of a global humanitarian network, responding to conflicts, natural disasters and individual emergencies, helping people in times of crisis, providing a range of services in your local community. All our services are delivered by skilled volunteers and staff.

Having the right medical equipment at the right time can make a great deal of difference.

## **Who is the service for?**

The British Red Cross mobility aids loan service aims to help people who require medical equipment on a short term loan basis, typically for a six to eight week period. This service is provided free of charge, although we would ask for a donation towards our running costs.

## **Equipment available to loan**

- Wheelchairs and ancillary equipment
- Toileting Aids

A small range of Independent Living Products are available to purchase in our local facilities, Disability Living Centres and from our online shop at **redcross.org.uk**.

## **Contact us**

For more information, visit **redcross.org.uk/wheelchairs** or call us on **0300 456 1914**.

# Using a stump board on a wheelchair

## General guide and safety information

The following provides guidance on the use of a stump board for a standard wheelchair loaned to you from the British Red Cross. The guidance provided should be used to complement, but not supersede information provided by a health or social care professional.

### Suitability

Stump boards can be fitted to a wheelchair to provide support following a lower limb amputation.

### Fitting

Stump boards are available as a right or left sided fixture. The board is fitted to the wheelchair to replace the existing footrest. The stump board is cushioned to provide maximum support and comfort to the user. Fitting a stump board to a wheelchair can affect the stability of the wheelchair by affecting the wheelchair's centre of gravity and so specifically trained British Red Cross Mobility Aids staff and volunteers are required to fit a stump board(s) to a wheelchair prior to loan.

### To use

- Ensure the stump board is fitted securely prior to use and that it is 'locked' into position when in use.
- Ensure that all bolts/screws are securely tightened before using equipment.

### Safety

A stump board can cause the wheelchair to be less stable, please be extra cautious on hills or uneven surfaces. In line with MHRA safety regulations it is British Red Cross policy that wheelchairs that are loaned to double amputee patients requiring both left and right stump boards should be fitted with anti-tips and require written confirmation from the service user's allied health professional expressing the reasoning for forfeiting British Red

Cross from any liability should an accident occur.

## **Cleaning**

The stump board should be cleaned with detergent in hot water then dried thoroughly with disposable paper towels.

## **Return**

The Red Cross ask that stump boards are cleaned as per cleaning instructions prior to return. Please bear in mind that our stock is limited, if you no longer require the loan of the equipment before its return date please bring it back early so that we can continue to assist the needs of others requiring the same equipment.

## **Do's and don'ts**

- Do ensure correct fitment
  - always by trained staff/ volunteers.
- Ensure that all bolts/screws are securely tightened before using equipment.
- Don't attempt to get in or out of the wheelchair with the stump board elevated.

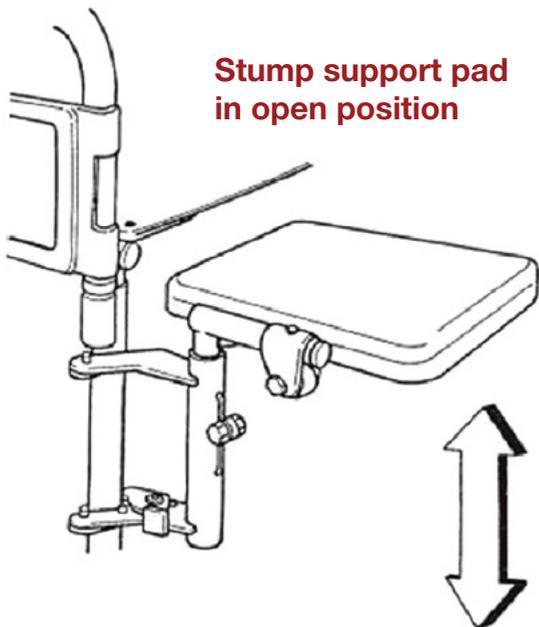
- Don't stand on the footplate when getting in or out of the wheelchair; swing the stump board around to the side of the chair or swing the calf pad and footplate aside.
- Don't use with the stump board elevated when the wheelchair and user are being transported and the wheelchair is restrained using a Wheelchair Transport & Occupant Restraint (WTORS).

## **Warnings**

- Take care to avoid trapping fingers
- The stump board should be returned to the non-elevated position when encountering steps, kerbs, ramps or any other changes in floor height
- If using the stump board causes any instability or imbalance in the wheelchair, reduce speed accordingly and avoid sudden changes in direction
- Users ignoring any of the above information or attempting to use the wheelchair outside the manufacturer's recommendations may put themselves and the patient at risk or serious injury or even death.

## Diagram

Stump support pad  
in open position



# Would you like to volunteer for the British Red Cross?

Do you have free time? Are you able to support our Mobility Aids Service?

We offer the chance for you to work with people to make a real difference to their lives. There is comprehensive free training so you can represent the Red Cross with confidence and it's a great opportunity to develop your existing skills and to gain new ones.

You will enjoy the company of a warm and friendly team and we reimburse any reasonable out-of-pocket expenses when on duty.

## Our volunteer tasks include:

- Demonstrating how to use and look after our wheelchairs and other items of equipment
- Dealing with telephone queries, completing paperwork and adding orders to our online stock management system
- Receiving and recording donations
- Being a home delivery driver.

If you would like to become a volunteer for the mobility aids service or you would like to know more, please contact your local office identified on the front of this booklet, or search for volunteering opportunities at [redcross.org.uk/volunteering](http://redcross.org.uk/volunteering).



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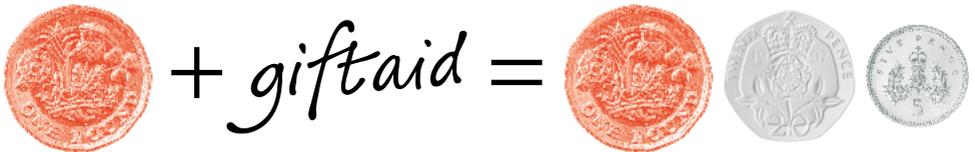
# Support our service and help others

This service would not be here without your support.

## Donate today to help others who need to borrow equipment

If you are able to, any donation is very much appreciated and helps us to continue to support others who may need a wheelchair or other equipment. It costs on average £10 per week to make a wheelchair available through our service.

**If you are a UK taxpayer please don't forget to add gift aid to your donation.**



Last year, if everyone had added gift aid to their donation we could have provided another 1,000 new wheelchairs.

Card payments accepted.