

PATIENT EDUCATION



Tub Transfer Bench



What Is A Tub Transfer Bench Used For?

The tub transfer bench was originally designed for individuals who are unable to walk. The device gets its name from the fact that it slides horizontally beyond the edge of the tub, making it easier to move from a wheelchair to the inside of a tub.

The tub transfer bench is also helpful to ambulatory users who have difficulty stepping over the side of the tub safely. Once seated on the bench, with legs outside the tub, all that is required is to lift one leg at a time into the tub.

Installation

Installation of the tub transfer bench consists simply of placing it in the tub in the appropriate position. The bench should be placed in the tub facing the faucet end, with the two outer legs resting on the floor outside the tub. The two inner legs should be adjusted to a height approximately even with the side of the tub. The outside legs should then be adjusted so that the seat slopes slightly toward the inside of the tub. With this setting, any water falling on the seat surface drains into the tub instead of out onto the floor.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Cleaning the rubber feet/suction cups with alcohol removes any oil, grease, or talc, and enhances the slip resistant characteristics of the material. The feet should be cleaned upon initial use, and additional cleaning should be repeated periodically during regular use. It is also important to keep the bathtub clean and free of soap film to prevent from slipping.

For models with provisions for clamping the bench to the wall of the tub, the rubber surfaces of the clamping mechanism, as well as the wall of the tub, should be free of soap film, oil, or grease. The clamps should be tightened securely, and the clamp should be checked periodically to ensure that it remains tight.

Safety Precautions

In spite of all precautions to prevent slipping, it is important that the user understands the necessity to exert force only straight in a vertical direction when sitting, rising from the seat, or shifting position on the bench. Any significant force in a horizontal direction is likely to cause the bench to slip or even tip over. These are relatively lightweight products and are not securely anchored to the tub.

A hand held shower is usually a necessity with the use of a tub transfer bench. Other bathing aids such as a non-slip safety mats or tread may be helpful as well. Please call our office for more information regarding other products that will further enhance your safety and independence while bathing.



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