



[www.free-foundation.org](http://www.free-foundation.org)



**Hoyer lift**

**A qualified medical professional should educate and train users for appropriate use. It is your responsibility to use this device correctly.**

Hoyer Lifts allow a person to be lifted and transferred with a minimum of physical effort. Before

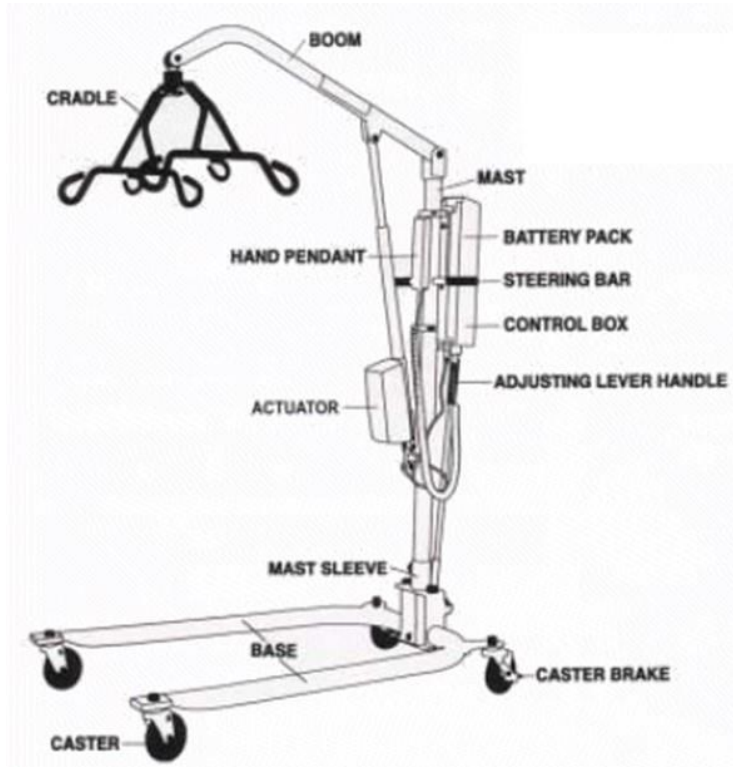
attempting to lift anyone practice with the lifter by using a helper, not the patient. You must know and understand how the lifter will feel with the patient in it. Be certain to explain the lifting sequence to the patient before attempting to lift them for the first time.

The Boom of the lift does not swivel. The patient's weight must always be centered over the base legs. Do not attempt to lift patient with the mast/boom assembly swiveled to either side. Always keep facing the attendant operating the lifter.

Manual and Powered Hoyer Lifts operate similarly. The manual versions have hydraulic cylinders and a hand-pump, the powered patient lifters use rechargeable battery packs and a pushbutton hand control. All lifters share the same nomenclature names as pictured.

To raise the patient the base of the Hoyer Lifter must be spread to its widest possible position to maximize stability.

To lower patient open the hydraulic pressure release knob by turning it counterclockwise, not more than one full turn. The release knob is located on the pump near the pump handle. Battery powered lifters have a button on the hand control for lowering the patient.



### Transfer from Bed

If a patient needs support and is in the hospital bed, raise the side rails and have the patient hold onto rails. Raise the level of the bed to the highest position before moving the patient onto the sling. This will reduce strain on the caregiver's back. Also, when the patient is ready to be lifted, lower the side rail and level of the bed, decreasing the distance the patient must be elevated.

### Positioning the Lift for Use:

- With the legs of the base open and locked, use the steering handle to push the patient lift into position.
- Lower the patient lift for easy attachment of the sling.
- When the patient is clear of the bed surface, swing their feet off the bed.
- Using the steering handle, move the lift away from the bed.
- When moving the patient lift away from the bed, turn the patient so that he/she faces the assistant operating the patient lift.
- Press the DOWN button (electric) or open the control valve (manual/hydraulic) lowering patient so that his feet rest on the base of the lift, straddling the mast.
- Close the control valve.

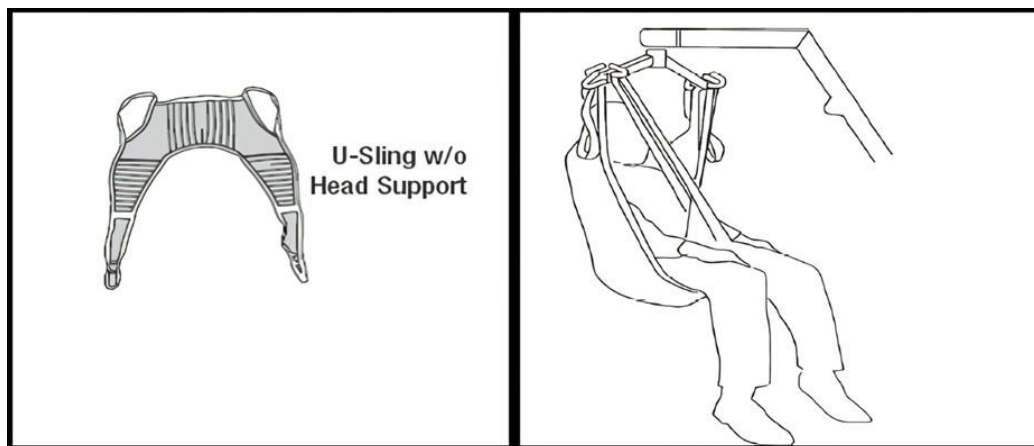
### The Sling:

The U-Sling is the most used sling for transferring patients from bed. These U-slings wrap around the thigh and cross between the legs. This gives the patient a secure feel and prevents the patient sliding out of the sling.

Below is a diagram of a typical “Internet image” (see diagram 1) of a typical padded USling. The image is meaningless if you do not have a visual of what this looks like when in actual use. See Diagram 2 showing the patient in a comfortable seated position facing the attendant. Feet should rest on the base of the lift.

Diagram 1 Typical U-Sling diagram

Diagram 2 Visual of sling being used



### Applying the Sling:

- Roll patient so they are resting on their side.
- Put the folded sling behind the patient's back and roll patient onto their back. Pull the leg loops forward and under the thigh.
- Cross the loops.
- Roll the base as far under the bed as possible locating the cradle over the patient. Be careful not to lower the frame onto the patient.
- The parking brakes (caster locks) should not be on when lifting the patient, let the lift move a little with the weight adjustment.
- When both sides of the sling are attached to their respective sides of the cradle, raise the patient slowly. If a patient is in a hospital bed it will help to raise the head section slightly.
- Raise the patient until buttocks are just above the mattress. The self-leveling cradle will bring the patient into a sitting position. Grasp patient's legs and turn patient so their legs dangle offside off the side of the bed. Do not push or pull the patient off the bed. Lower bed if you need more clearance.
- Grasp steering handles and move lifter away from the bed. Move patient into position over the seat or wheelchair. Make sure wheelchair brakes are on. Lower patient into wheelchair or other transport device.

### How to Fit Sling from Lying Position:

- Roll the patient onto the sling, ensuring that the top of the commode opening is at the base of the spine.
- Bring the leg support straps up and between the client's legs and proceed as if from the seated position, attaching to the shortest possible loops. If you are going to place the patient on a high bed it may be necessary to lower the patient onto an intermediate surface and adjust the strap length.

**It is your responsibility to maintain and provide upkeep of this item. It is your responsibility to use this device correctly.**

