



Freewheeler (FrW) Manual



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1. INTRODUCTION

STYLITE DESIGNS provides a range of custom-made seating systems. An overview of your seating system will be explained to you at the supply.

It is recommended that the client is introduced to their new seating system over a period. The length of time will depend on each person. During this introductory period, gradually increase the time spent in the seat and regularly check the skin for signs of marking or abrasion.

Some marking is normal in the introductory period. If the mark is persistent, please contact your OT/PT and a STYLITE DESIGNS representative.

Gradually build the clients sitting time in the new seat, it may be too much to expect them to use the seat for the same amount of time as their previous seating system. Check regularly for any red marks or areas of previous concern.

1.1. Overview

The **FrW** wheelchair is designed for individuals who require a high level of postural support and mobility. This manual provides essential information on the setup, use, and maintenance of your wheelchair to ensure optimal performance and safety.




1.2. Intended Use

This wheelchair is intended to provide mobility and support for individuals with specific seating and postural needs. It is custom-built according to the user's requirements and should be used as prescribed by a healthcare professional.

1.3. Manufacturer Contact Information

Stylite Designs Ltd
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Tel No: +353 (0) 21 4355821
Fax No: +353 (0) 21 4355756
E-mail: info@stylitedesigns.com
VAT No: 6593943V

2. SYMBOLS USED

	Symbol indicates a situation that could be dangerous and, if not avoided, may result in death or severe injury.
	Important instruction/ information
	symbol signals a situation that could lead to minor injuries or damage to property if not addressed.

3. OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Introductory Period for New Users

New users should be introduced to the wheelchair gradually. Begin with short periods of use, increasing the duration as the user becomes more accustomed to the seating system. Regularly check the skin for signs of marking or abrasion during this period. Persistent marks should be reported to the OT/PT and a STYLITE DESIGNS representative immediately.

3.2. Correct Positioning

Please ensure the client is correctly positioned as discussed in the new system. Correct positioning ensures the client is comfortable and sits according to the recommendations of the clinical team involved in the prescription.

If there are any concerns regarding the fit or postural correction/accommodation, please contact OT/PT and a STYLITE DESIGNS representative.

3.3. Review of your Seating System

Reviews of the seating system should be carried out on the recommendations of the Clinical Team. It should also occur if you notice any of the following:

- Increase or decrease in weight.
- Skin marking
- Client discomfort in the seat
- Post-Surgery (which may affect sitting or posture)
- Change in orthotic devices

4. MAINTENANCE AND CARE



CAUTION!

- FOR HYGIENE REASONS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THE CHAIR & SEATING ARE CLEANED REGULARLY
- NEVER TRY TO WASH THE CUSHION OR MOULDED SEAT!

4.1. Routine Inspection and Maintenance

Weekly maintenance checks are essential to ensure the wheelchair remains safe and functional:

- Inspect the frame, seating, and all components for signs of wear or damage.
- Check that all straps and belts are secure and free of wear.
- Ensure that the wheelchair's wheels and tires are in good condition, with correct tire pressure (for pneumatic tires) and no excessive wear.

The following tips will help maintain the life and appearance of your product. **Once a week:**

- Wipe the frame and upholstery with a damp cloth or recommended hygiene wipes.
- Check that there are no loose bolts or parts.
- Check that all moving parts brakes etc are working.
- Check that anti tippers are fitted correctly.
- Check the tyre pressure and for tyre wear.
- Check upholstery for wear, holes can lead to the trapping of food and allow water to lodge in the cushion.

4.2. Maintain the wheelchair to a safe standard

- You are responsible for checking the lap belts, posture belts, footrests, wheels and ensure they are all working properly.
- If you notice anything that requires attention, please contact an authorised service agent or STYLITE DESIGNS directly.
- If the Health Service Executive has purchased your wheelchair, they must be contacted by you or a representative to be informed before any works are to be carried out to your chair.

If you discover any deficiencies during maintenance, please contact STYLITE DESIGNS immediately and stop using the wheelchair.

- Keep the product away from corrosive liquids such as urine, chlorine, salt water, etc.
- Fine dust such as talcum powder, pet and human hair, carpet thread etc can lead to the clogging of moving parts.
- In the event of such contact clean the product immediately with a light cleaning agent

4.3. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- **Seating Covers:** Remove covers from cushions and wash in hot water (maximum 60°C) using a mild detergent. Items for cleaning should be fully immersed in water to avoid splashing and the creation of aerosols. The detergent should be rinsed from the material with clean water. A vital part of cleaning is drying because this encourages reduction of bacteria. Rinse thoroughly and air dry. Avoid bleach and heat sources.
- **Frame and Upholstery:** Wipe down with a damp cloth or recommended hygiene wipes. Avoid abrasive cleaners.
- **Disinfecting:** Use a clean cloth soaked in a mild detergent solution to wipe surfaces. Do not use heat, bleach, or autoclaves.

4.4. Service Life

The product has a service life of 5 years or 2 reuses (3 users) if the requirements stipulated for the period of use are met. The service life consists of the period of use and the storage times between reuses. The product can be used beyond this point if it is in safe and technically sound condition. Time spent in storage does not count towards the period of use. The theoretical period of use does not equate to a guaranteed service life. It depends on the intensity of use and always undergoes an individual assessment by the distributor. The period of use does not apply to wear parts like tyres, brake pads, etc. Service and repairs to the product may be carried out only by qualified personnel. The user of this wheelchair must ensure that the required inspections / maintenance be carried out regularly and on schedule. If damage is evident, the user must actively inform the qualified personnel and have the damage repaired immediately. Only original spare parts may be used for repairs. Removal / attachment of spare parts must always be performed by qualified personnel only. If it is necessary to return the product to your dealer, please make sure that you pack the frame so that it can be transported without damage.

4.5. Maintenance schedule

A user manual must accompany the product. If none is present, please order one from the manufacturer. Familiarise yourself with the functions of the product. If you are not familiar with the product, read the instructions carefully before the inspection. Clean the product before the inspection. If necessary, heed the care instructions and product-specific inspection instructions in the user manual.

4.6. Product / serial number

To obtain the correct spare parts or for any technical call-backs that may be required, we always need you to provide us with the serial number and the precise item number. The serial number and the item number of the wheelchair are located on the bar code label that is attached to the lower frame.

4.7. Reuse

The product is suitable to be reused. Before being passed on to the next user the product always must be carefully cleaned and disinfected. The condition must be checked by trained staff for any wear and damage. Any issues must be remedied to ensure the continued safe use of the product. A copy of the Instructions for Use (IFU) is a component of the product and must be passed on to the new user. The product must always have undergone an individual assessment by the issuing authority (or their designated agent/repairer), each time it is reused. Any issues must be remedied to ensure the continued safe use of the product.

5. HANDLING AND SAFETY WARNINGS

The STYLITE DESIGNS FrW wheelchair has been successfully crash tested against ISO 7176-19

Inappropriate use of this product can lead to accidents.

The following are offered as guidelines. Check that your methods comply with any statutory Laws.

5.1. Reaching or Bending



Reaching or bending from a wheelchair may cause it to tip over.



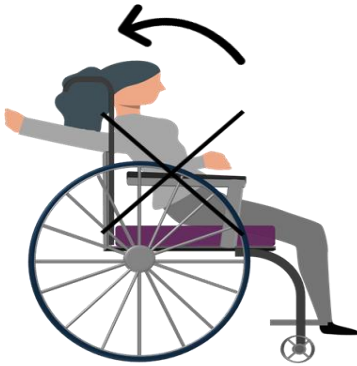
If you must lean or reach forward from your wheelchair, make sure your back is against the back of the wheelchair and the castors are rotated to the forward position. This lengthens the wheelchair footprint increasing the stability of the wheelchair.



DO NOT sit near the edge of the seat and reach for high objects, as this may cause the wheelchair to tip forward and lead to injury.



DO NOT lean forward to pick up objects located between your legs on the floor. **ALWAYS** ask for help if you need to retrieve items beyond your reach



DO NOT reach too far backward or make sudden movements, as this can lead to instability. Never let the user "fall" backward into the seat without support, as it could cause the wheelchair to tip over.

5.2. Attendant pushing



- The wheelchair should be easy to push over hard, even surfaces but may be more difficult over rough, uneven ground and the wheels may sink into soft ground. **Never force the wheelchair if it becomes stuck**, this may cause the rear wheels to lift and the user may be tipped out of the chair. If the wheelchair gets jammed on a stone or cracked pavement, tip the wheelchair backwards slightly using the anti-tippers to raise the front castors


off the ground to manoeuvre over the obstacle (keep a firm grip on the push handles). On soft ground it may be easier to pull the chair backwards (if you get stuck).


- Whenever possible avoid steep and uneven surfaces because there is a danger the wheelchair may tip over. If you cannot avoid them please take extra care when travelling across them
- Always use two hands for pushing the wheelchair
- Do not use wheelchair in sandy conditions
- The chair is steered by the front castors. Most pavements slope slightly towards the kerb and the chair will tend to curve in the downward direction towards the kerb. Two hands will be required to prevent this.
- Avoid kerbs. Whenever possible use ramped kerbs or slopes.
- Avoid steep kerbs and flights of steps. The danger of the attendant losing their grip on the chair and the occupant may be tipped out.




5.3. Transport

5.3.1. Transportation while unoccupied

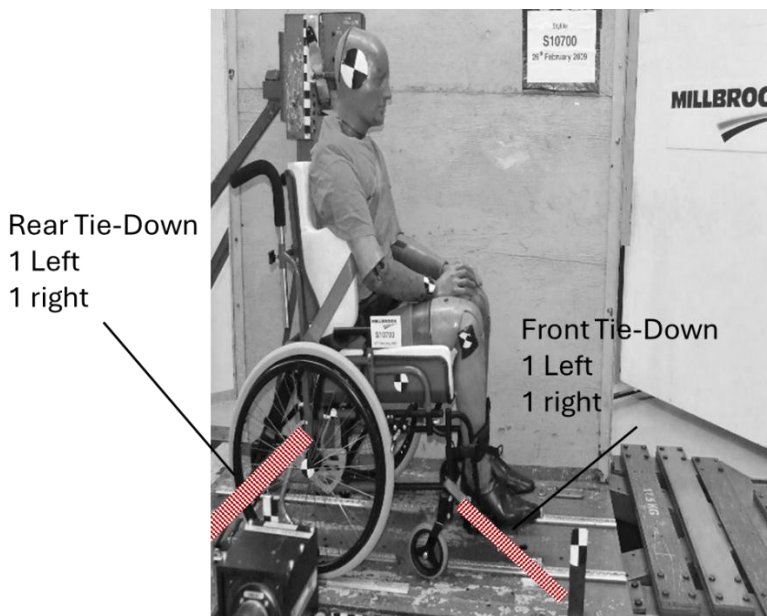
 You should treat the mobility aid, the posture control system and any of their sub parts as potential missiles. Care should be taken to store these items in a safe location.

 The wheelchair, even when transported unoccupied, must be secured in the same method as when occupied and all items need to be tied down.

5.3.2. Transportation while occupied

 An approved harness and clamping system should always be used for the transporting of a person while using the mobility aid and/or the posture control system.

Recommended Tie-Downs



Brakes and Wheel Locks: Ensure that the wheelchair's brakes or wheel locks are engaged before the wheelchair is tied down. This adds extra security and helps prevent any movement during transportation

Tie-Down Procedure: The wheelchair, even when it is not being used, must always be secured properly with tie-downs during transportation. Use the recommended tie-down points as shown in the diagram. Typically, there are two rear tie-down points (1 left, 1 right) and two front tie-down points (1 left, 1 right).

5.4. Straps, belts & head-supports

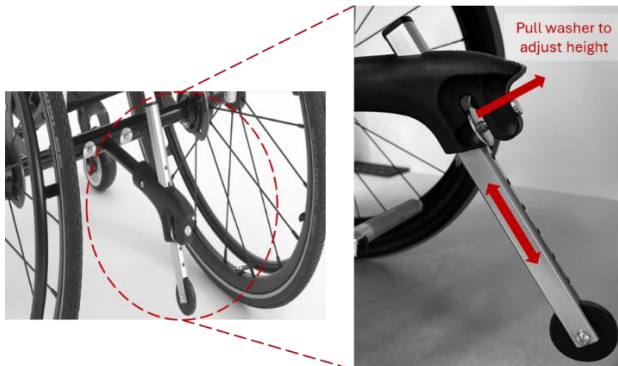


Straps, belts and head-supports provided with the mobility aid and/or posture control systems are for the express purpose of retaining and promoting body positioning. They have not been tested for use in transport and should never be used in place of an approved harness/seat belt system

5.5. Anti-tippers




Under normal use, anti-tippers will prevent the wheelchair from tipping over backwards. Anti-tippers are available from STYLITE DESIGNS. We strongly recommend that anti-tippers be used when the chair is in situ.




- To adjust the Anti-tipper height just pull and hold the washer attached to the pin.
- Be cautious when moving the wheelchair without the anti-tippers engaged, as this increases the risk of tipping.



 We generally recommend using the anti-tipper device.



 The anti-tipper must be deactivated when driving down on edges.

5.6. Armrest



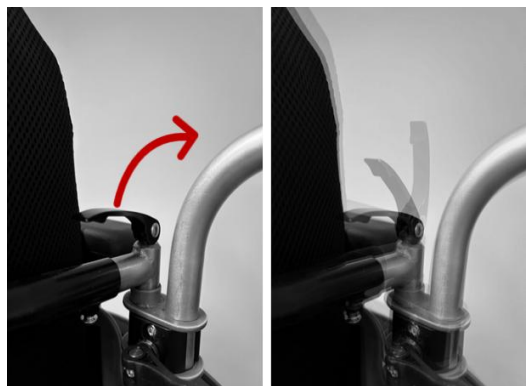
Armrests should always be secure before using the wheelchair. Never lift the wheelchair by its armrests. Lifting the wheelchair by them may cause damage to the wheelchair and/or injury to the user.



5.7. Backrest



If the backrest on your chair is detachable please ensure the quick release pins are in the correct locked position before use on edges.



5.8. Curbs, Inclines, Obstacles and Ramps



Always practice with an attendant before attempting to negotiate kerbs, inclines, obstacles or ramps alone. It is important for you to develop a safe technique that is suitable to your abilities. When attempting to go up or down inclines greater than 1 in 12 an attendant may be required. Always negotiate kerbs backwards

5.9. Cushions

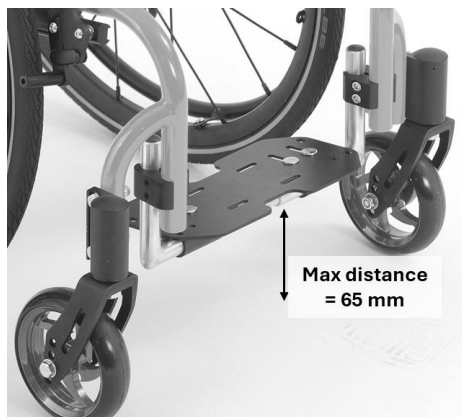


Unless specified, STYLITE DESIGNS cushions should not intend to be used as pressure relieving device.

5.10. Footrest



At the lowest point the footrest footplate should have a ground clearance of 65mm. Never stand on the footrest as this may cause the wheelchair to tip forward. Lifting the wheelchair by them may cause damage to the wheelchair and/or injury to the user.





DO NOT stand on the footplates, as this can cause the wheelchair to tip forward. Always flip up the footrests and place your feet on the floor.

5.11. Modifications



Making any unauthorised modifications or using parts not supplied by STYLITE DESIGNS may change the wheelchairs' structure and create an unsafe condition voiding the warranty.

5.12. Assembling/disassembling the Wheelchair



Care should be taken not to trap fingers etc. between moving parts when Assembling/Disassembling the wheelchair.

5.13. Fasteners and Parts



Any replacement of fasteners or parts to a STYLITE DESIGNS product should be from an authorised supplier or an equivalent specified item.

5.14. Belts and harnesses



Belts and harness kits supplied by STYLITE DESIGNS are for the express purpose of retaining and promoting body positioning. They are

not restraining devices or motor vehicle safety equipment. Consult your healthcare professional for correct use.

5.15. Equipment



Any equipment that is required to be carried in the wheelchair must be identified at the handover process with a STYLITE DESIGNS engineer. Under no circumstances must a bag be hung on the back of the chair as this affects the chair's centre of gravity and make the chair less stable making it more prone to tipping over.

5.16. Pc Tray



The tray must be removed when transporting the occupant in the wheelchair in adapted vehicles. Extra care must be taken when placing food or drink on the tray. Under no circumstances must a hot drink be placed on the tray. **Maximum carrying capacity of the tray is 1 Kg.**

5.17. Pneumatic Tyres (If Applicable)



Check pneumatic tyres regularly for the correct inflation level listed on the tyre sidewall. Tyre pressure is critical to wheel lock effectiveness.



Correct tire inflation extends tyre wear and contributes to ease of operation.

5.18. Poly Tyres (Puncture Proof)



Check for tyre wears. Tyre wear can affect the wheel lock gap, which is critical to wheel lock effectiveness.

5.19. Quick-Release Axles



Always mount quick-release axles facing away from the frame.



Check that wheels are secure before using the wheelchair.



The axle is not secure until the outside quick-release button pops out to its fully extended position (the ball bearings on the opposite end of the axle must be fully visible beyond the end of the axle sleeve). Check to make sure the axles are locked; excessive play should not exceed 2 mm.

5.20. Street Use



Care should be exercised on all uneven or broken surfaces.

5.21. Transferring



Always engage the wheel locks before transferring in or out of your wheelchair. Never stand on the footrest footplates while transferring because the wheelchair may tip over.

5.22. Tilting Wheelchair



Using the tilt function of the wheelchair, when the frame is at its maximum tilt position this alters the centre of gravity of the chair which may make it prone to tipping backwards. Even with the anti-tippers

engaged this will not prevent the chair from tipping backwards. The occupant must be supervised at all times if left in a tilted position.



To tilt a wheelchair backward or forward, place both hands on the wheelchair handles while pressing down on the leg press lever. This coordinated movement with the leg press lever and handles helps control the chair's tilt, providing stability and balance as you shift the wheelchair's position.

5.23. Wheel locks/brakes



Check tyre pressure (pneumatic) and tyre wear, as it will affect the gap of the wheel locks.



Wheel locks are not designed to slow down the wheelchair when it is moving.



Wheel locks, when properly adjusted, prevent the driving wheels from turning when the wheelchair is stopped. Always adjust the wheel locks after making any changes to the rear axle sleeve position, so the grip handles embedded into the tyres approximately 5 mm (when in the locked position) it is recommended that a trained person should carry out these adjustments.



- To lock Knee lever brake by pushing away the lever.
- To unlock knee lever brake by pulling the lever towards the wheels.

5.24. Weight limit



Maximum user weight should not exceed **110 kg**.

6. WARRANTY AND SERVICE INFORMATION

THIS GUARANTEE *IN NO WAY* AFFECTS YOUR STATUTORY RIGHTS

6.1. Warranty Conditions

1. An authorised dealer or service engineer must carry out the repair or replacement of parts.
2. To apply for the warranty, notify the designated service contact immediately giving full information about the nature of the difficulty. Should you be operating the 'Product' away from the locality of the designated service contact, work under the "Warranty Conditions" will be carried out by a service contact designated by the manufacturer.
3. Should any part of the 'Product' require repair or replacement as a result of a specific manufacturing or material defect within twelve months from the date on which the possession of the 'Product' was transferred to the original purchaser, and subject to it remaining within the ownership, the part or parts will be repaired or replaced completely free of charge (Completely free of charge if replaced by the authorised service contact). The 'Product' must be returned to the place of purchase, designated service contact or manufacturer.

NOTE: This guarantee is not transferable.

4. Any repaired or replaced part will benefit from these arrangements for the balance of the warranty period applicable to the 'Product'.
5. Parts replaced after the original warranty has expired are covered for a further three months.
6. Items of a consumable nature will not generally be covered during the normal warranty period unless such items have clearly suffered undue wear as a direct result of an original manufacturing default. These items include, amongst others, lubricants, motor brushes, upholstery, tyres, tubes, brakes etc. Powered wheelchair batteries will be covered where they have been charged and maintained fully in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

7. Under normal circumstances, no responsibility will be accepted where the 'Product' has required repair or replacement as a direct result of:
- a) The 'Product' or part not having been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, where such recommendations exist.
 - b) For failure to use the specified original parts or equipment on the 'Product'.
 - c) Where the 'Product' or part has been damaged by neglect, accident or improper use.
 - d) The 'Product' or part has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications, or repairs have been attempted prior to the contact being notified.

7. CE STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

7.1. Medical Device Directive

In the design, production and supply of this device STYLITE DESIGNS Ltd. have made every effort to conform to the essential requirements, Annex I of the directive on Medical Devices 93/42/EEC. STYLITE DESIGNS **FrW** Wheelchair has successfully been crash tested according to ISO 7176-19. (**UNWIN Safety Systems** 4 – Point webbing restraints were used during testing and are the straps recommended for transport of this chair).

The upholstery has been tested to:

WARNING

Operational instructions must be followed to ensure safe use of the device.

Please keep a note of your local service contact address and telephone number. In the event of a breakdown contact them and try to give all the relevant details so they can help you quickly.

8. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

These measurements will let you know if your wheelchair will fit onto public transport.

Max dimensions allowed:

- Overall length (l): 1200 mm
- Overall width (b): 700 mm
- Overall height (h): 1090 mm

