

EVAC+CHAIR®

THE WORLD'S NO.1 STAIRWAY EVACUATION CHAIR SINCE 1982

Practical Training Session



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When evacuation is required the Dedicated Operator/Escort should remove the dust cover and lift the chair from the wall or from its cabinet.

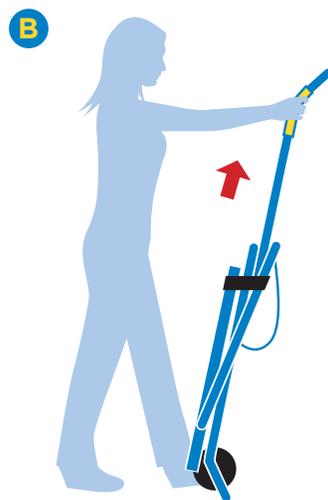
The chair must not be lifted by the handle at this stage as the handle will slide up suddenly.

Preparing the Chair

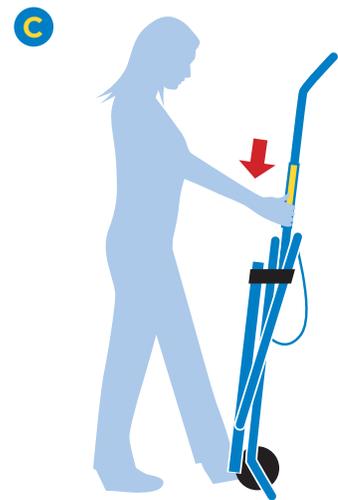
The following method of preparing the Evac+Chair is the approved code of practice and must be carried out in accordance with the 6 steps listed below. With practice, these will only take a few seconds.



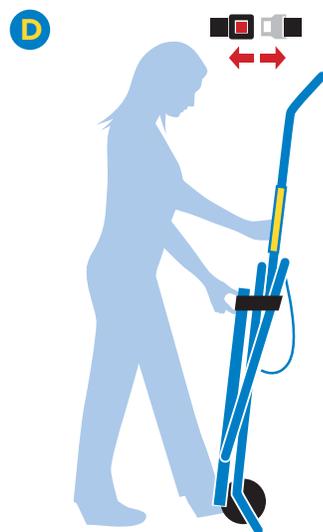
With both hands holding the chair upright with the handle bending away place one foot on the base of the chair frame.



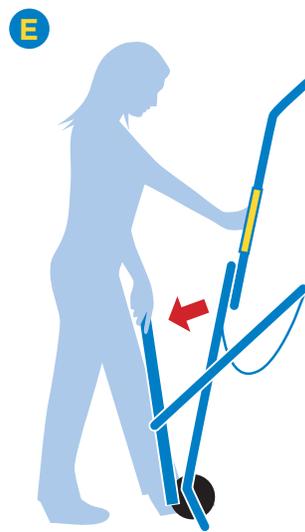
Holding the handle by the headrest raise handle until the securing clips have locked the handle in place.



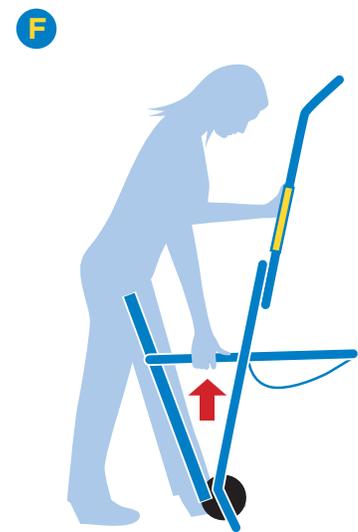
Slide the head support downwards.



Release the chair tracks by unclipping the passenger safety belt.

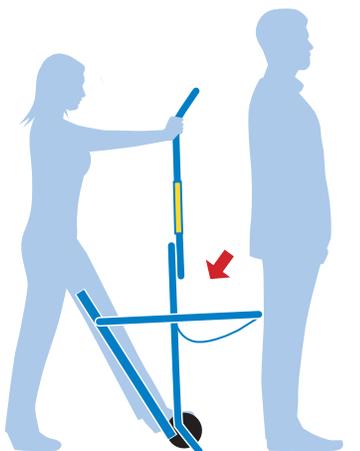


While holding the chair handle bring stair track towards you with foot still placed on the chair frame base.



Raise seat frame up until it meets the track strut.

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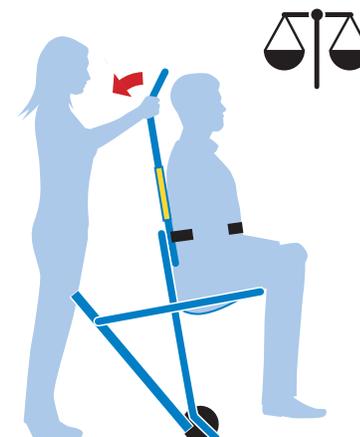


Preparing to receive a passenger

The operator should now hold the Chair in a vertical (upright) position with hands on right and left upper parts of the handle.

Place one foot on the axle of the front wheels (this increases stability especially on slippery floors). Maintain a firm foot position as the occupant transfers to the Evac+Chair. On rare occasions, other helpers may be necessary to provide additional assistance at this stage if the occupant has severe difficulties or is injured.

Once in charge of the Chair, the operator must NEVER let go of it. The occupant is relying on the Operator to keep them safe.

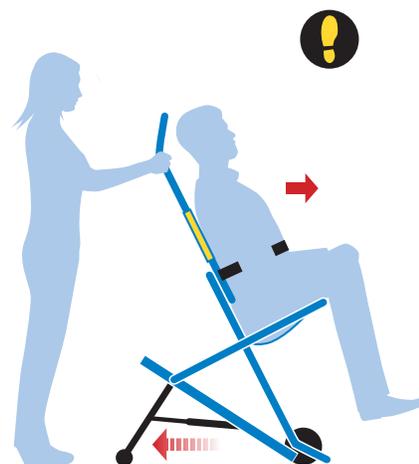


Balance position

Once the occupant is safely seated, it is safe to take the foot off the axle and to ease the Chair backwards until it reaches its 'balance point'..

This is when the front wheels and the bottom horizontal bar of the frame are on the ground. DON'T let go of the handles. A second handler, or the occupant, can now close the seat belt to secure the occupant. To become mobile from the 'balance point, the top of the handle must be tilted back about 3-4 inches (7-10cms) which allows the chair to roll along the floor on the two front wheels.

The Chair can now be turned with ease by pivoting around rather than by 'pushing' or 'steering'.



Moving forward

When proceeding towards the staircase, or if the distance is to be crossed on a level surface, the trolley assembly should be utilised.

To operate the trolley assembly, place the Chair in the vertical position and place a foot over the yellow sticker on the bar of the rear trolley. By pulling the foot backwards, the trolley assembly is unclipped and will automatically open.

With the trolley assembly fully opened the Chair can be used to travel smoothly and quickly along level ground on four wheels. Roll the Chair towards the stair case for the next stage of operation.

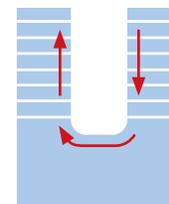
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Preparing to descend the stairs



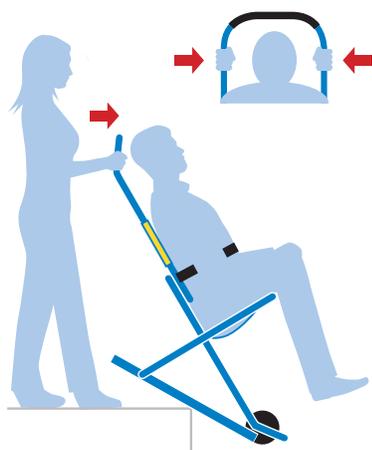
The trolley assembly must be closed and secured before moving onto the stairs. To achieve this, the Chair must be tilted slightly forward; reassure the passenger that this is normal procedure. It is best to do this away from the top of the stairs.

After closing the trolley assembly, the Chair is in the two wheeled position and ready to be moved within 12 inches from the top 'inside' of the staircase.



The 'inside' of the staircase is the side of the stairs next to the centre handrail.

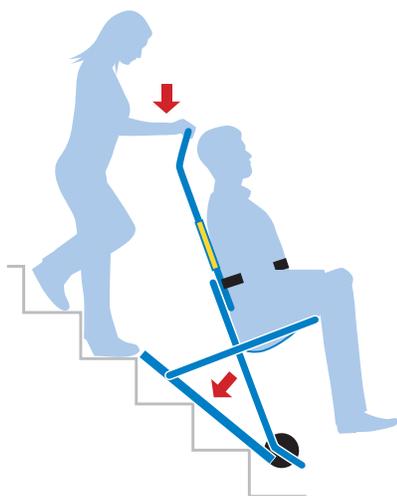
Launch



Place feet apart, one foot in front of the other. This maintains a secure base when launching over the first stair. Tilt the chair slightly backwards and push the chair over the first stair. This should be done with confidence and 'gusto'; do not hesitate at this stage.

The purpose of this action is to ensure that friction belts make contact with the **top two stair 'nosings'**. This should be done in one single, smooth, bump free movement..

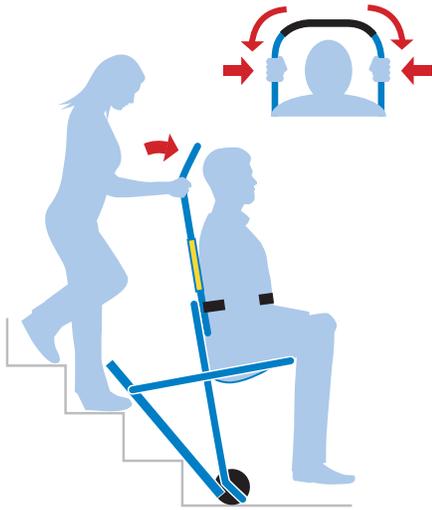
Stairway descent



Once the tracks have made contact with the top two stair nosings, pause briefly and re-position your hands by sliding them upwards to the top of the handle. **DON'T FORGET - NEVER LET GO OF THE CHAIR.**

Now, press downwards in a vertical direction to maintain continuous contact with the two stair 'nosings' and to enable the operator to move down the stairs smoothly without causing a 'bumping' action.

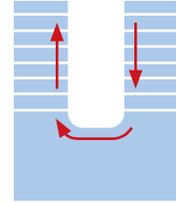
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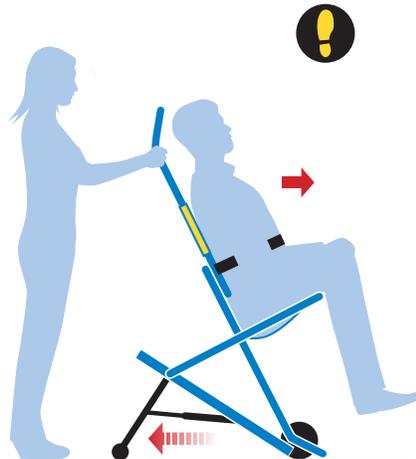
Pivoting the chair

When the front wheels come in to contact with the first landing, whilst the ski assembly is still on the stairs, pause again and re-position the hands by sliding them down to a vertical position on each side of the handle. This will allow the two-wheel position to be adopted when crossing the landing. The 'pivot' action is necessary to re-position the Chair at the top of next flight of stairs.

Repeat the stairway descent procedure.



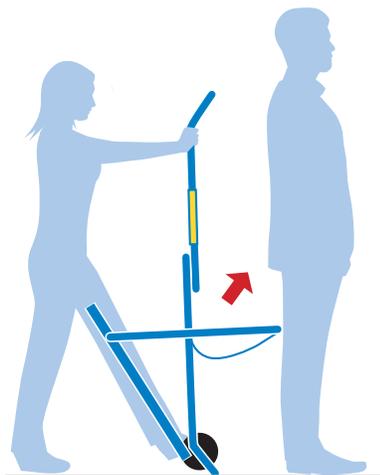
Chair can be pivoted on the landing area and wheeled to the next flight of stairs.



Descent completion

When the Chair and operator have reached ground level, unclip the rear trolley assembly and proceed to the designated assembly point.

In a training situation these exercises must be repeated as often as necessary until all students have gained the necessary practical skills and confidence.



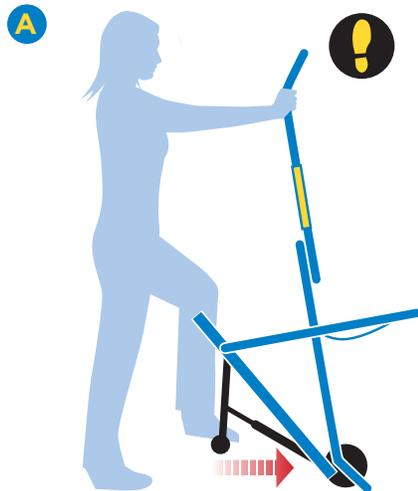
Passenger exit

Now tilt chair frame forward for passenger to exit the chair easily.

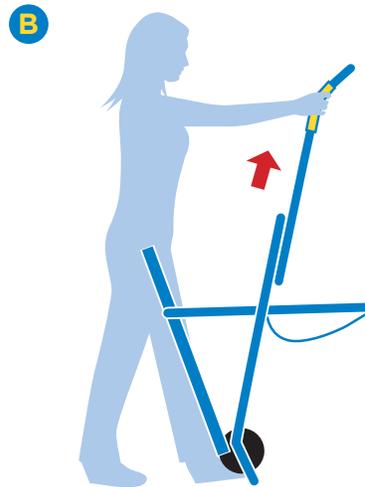
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Closing the Chair

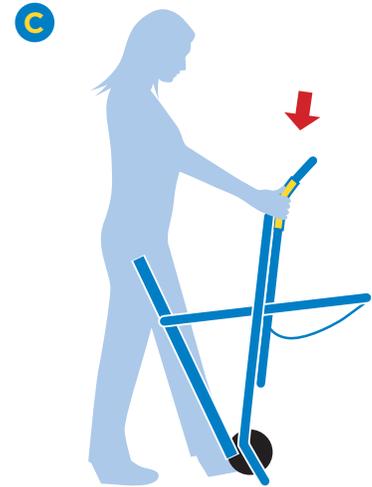
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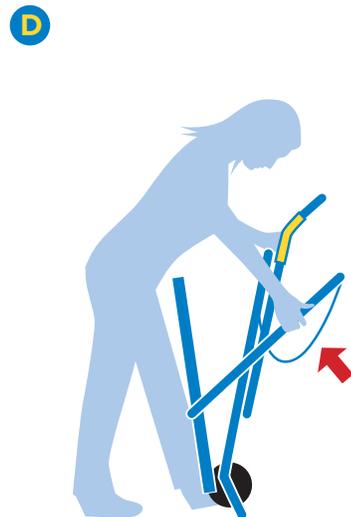
Stands behind the Chair with hands on either side of the handle. Tilt the Chair forward onto the bottom frame and close the trolley assembly using one foot.



Place one foot on the bottom bar and raise the head restraint to the top of the handle.



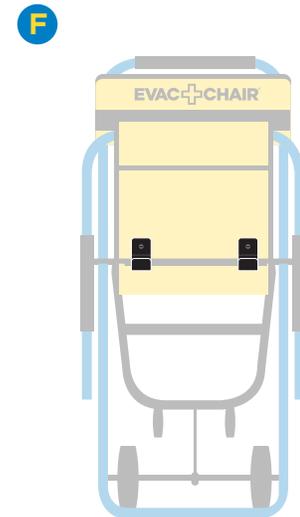
Close spring clips using thumbs and allow the handle to fall to its closed position.



With one hand, raise the seat frame.



Grab one end of the seat belt in each hand, bring back to behind the Chair and close over the ski assembly.



The Chair can then be returned to its housing by placing the stabilizer bar over the wall hooks



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