

# Stairclimber operation guide



**\*NB - This machine is only to be operated by trained personnel.**

To go upstairs:-

1. Insert the key. Check that the battery level is sufficient for operation.
2. Check that the incline of the steps to be climbed is not too steep - use the inclinometer. If the arrow is within the green area the steps are manageable.
3. Position the climber so that you can safely manoeuvre the wheelchair user onto the platform. You will need to reverse the wheelchair, pushing it from the front.
4. Put the climber in the park position - the left hand white switch pushed towards 1, so that the climber can't move backwards. Lower the ramp from the front.
5. Carefully push the wheelchair user up the ramp making sure that it doesn't go off the edge of the platform. Engage the brakes on the wheelchair. Attach the four blue straps, two at the front sides and two at the rear, to the wheelchair to ensure that it cannot move. Put the safety belt around the wheelchair user through the sides of the chair.

**\* NB If the safety belt is not connected the machine will not operate.**

6. Adjust the headrest so that it is in a comfortable position for the wheelchair user. This will be important when going up and down stairs.
7. Put the climber in the move position - the left hand white switch pushed towards 0. You can now push the climber on its wheels into a position to climb the stairs. To go up stairs the wheelchair user will be facing backwards, i.e. you will be approaching the stairs with your back to them, to go down stairs you will be facing forwards. i.e. the machine is in the same position for going up and down stairs. Make sure that you are square on to the stairs and that there is enough width available, for instance a doorway at the top of the stairs.
8. Explain to the person you're moving what is happening at all times. They may not have used such a climber before so they will need reassurance that they are safe. Information and communication is a good way to achieve this.
9. Press the incline button (up) on the left of the control panel so that the chair tilts backwards. Keep the button pressed until the platform is fully tilted. It automatically stops at the correct point.

10. Set the button on the right of the control panel to go up.

11. Simultaneously press the two white buttons on the handles to operate the machine. If the machine does not move check that the power is on, the reset button released, the platform is fully reclined and that the safety belt is connected. As soon as you release the buttons the machine will stop moving. The tracks will lock and so the machine will not move.

12. At the top of the stairs or at a landing, stop at the appropriate point (marked on the platform) and pivot the machine so that it is flat on the ground. There is a little latitude to this and it will vary with the weight of the chair and person on the platform. In the correct position the machine will easily pivot, if you go too far the machine will fall suddenly which will be shocking for the wheelchair user. If you stop too soon then you will not be able to pivot the machine without great effort and strength. At the correct point it will be easy.

13. Continue operating the machine until it is in a safe position to lower it, unless the next stairs are very close by in which case the machine can be wheeled to the next stairs.

14. Press the incline button (down) on the left of the control panel so that the chair return to the horizontal position. Keep the button pressed until the platform is fully level. It automatically stops at the correct point.

15. Put the climber in the park position - the left hand white switch pushed towards 1, so that the climber can't move backwards. Lower the ramp from the front, release the safety belt and straps. Release the wheelchair brakes and help the wheelchair down the slope.

To go downstairs:- The instructions are the same as above. At the top of a set of stairs or at a landing the you will need to stop at the correct point and pivot the machine downwards.

The machine can climb about 600 steps when fully charged. Please contact the Disability Office for further advice and information.

**Disability Advisory Service**

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