

## Knee Orthosis (knee brace)

A knee orthosis is a brace worn on the knee.

The device is molded and/or modified to fit your hip and leg.

Always follow specific instructions given to you by your doctor and practitioner.



## What does it do?

Depending on your condition the brace may be designed to:

- Support your knee.
- Provide relief for arthritis knee pain.
- Prevent ligament injuries.
- Aid in the recovery of ligament injuries.

## **Wearing & Break- in Instructions**

If you have any questions or concerns, <u>contact your practitioner before wearing the brace</u>. Always follow the wearing schedule provided to you by your doctor and practitioner. Use the following schedule as a "break-in" schedule to allow your body and skin time to adjust to your new device. Always check your skin after wearing your brace <u>every time</u>. Any areas of pink should fade away after 10-15 minutes. If marks do not disappear after 10-15 minutes, or if you observe deep red marks, blisters, or bruises, contact your practitioner immediately. If you have any concerns <u>do not</u> wear the brace until you follow up with your practitioner.

Day 1 – Wear the brace for 1 hour.	Day 5 – Wear the brace for 5 hrs.	Day 9 – Wear the brace for 9 hrs.
Day 2 – Wear the brace for 2 hrs.	Day 6 – Wear the brace for 6 hrs.	** Continue to add 1 hour each
Day 3 – Wear the brace for 3 hrs.	Day 7 – Wear the brace for 7 hrs.	day until full wear is achieved. This
Day 4 – Wear the brace for 4 hrs.	Day 8 – Wear the brace for 8 hrs.	usually takes at least 2 weeks.

Prior to wearing the brace, it is important to check the following things on the brace and your leg.

- Make sure the brace is clean and dry.
- Make sure there are no cracks, rough edges, or worn areas on the brace.
- Make sure the rivets and straps are secure on the brace.
- Make sure your skin is *clean and dry*.
- Examine your skin and look for abnormal redness, blisters or sores at least 1 time a day.
- \*\* If you find any areas of concern or have questions, contact your practitioner before wearing the brace.
- \*\* No knee brace has a 100% guarantee against injury/re-injury.

## **Precautions**

- Always check your skin after wearing your brace <u>each and every time</u>. Any areas of pink should fade away after 10-15 minutes. If marks do not disappear after 10-15 minutes, or if you observe deep red marks, blisters, or bruises, contact your practitioner immediately.
- The brace needs to fit snugly in order to stay on and function properly.
- The brace may need to be repositioned throughout the day.
- The strap that sits directly below your knee is the most important for preventing the brace from sliding down.
- Keep the brace away from excessive heat.
- If you are going to participate in contact sports while wearing your brace, be sure to talk with your practitioner about a special covering for the brace. This will protect fellow athletes and protect your brace.
- Follow the manufacture's cleaning directions, provided to you at the time of delivery.