

Therapeutic inserts are always worn in shoes that have laces or velcro to hold them on your feet.

Inserts may be switched to different pairs of shoes that have laces or velcro.

Shoes and inserts are worn when you are up and out of bed.

Shoes and inserts are <u>always worn with stockings or seamless socks</u>.

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

Associates Prosthetics and Orthotics

What does it do?

Depending on your condition the inserts may be designed to:

- Provide necessary support for your feet.
- Offer relief from pain.
- Redistribute pressures.

- Correct mal-alignment of your feet.
- Provide correct balance of pressures on your feet.

Wearing and Break-in Schedule

Completely remove your stockings/socks and shoes, and examine and check your feet and legs after wearing your shoes and inserts each and every time! Using a mirror may be helpful if you have difficulty seeing any areas on your foot or leg. 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 questions or concerns do not wear the shoes and inserts until you follow up with your practitioner.

Use the following schedule as a "break-in" schedule to allow your feet time to adapt to the new pressures and demands of your new inserts.

Day 1 – Wear shoes & inserts for 1 hr. Day 5 – Wear shoes & inserts for 5 hrs. Day 9 – Wear shoes & inserts for 9 hrs.

Day 2 – Wear shoes & inserts for 2 hrs. Day 6 – Wear shoes & inserts for 6 hrs.

Day 3 – Wear shoes & inserts for 3 hrs. Day 7 – Wear shoes & inserts for 7 hrs.

Day 4 – Wear shoes & inserts for 4 hrs. Day 8 – Wear shoes & inserts for 8 hrs.

** Continue to add 1 hour each day until full wear is achieved. This usually

takes at least 2 weeks

Precautions

Prior to wearing your shoes and inserts, it is important to check the following things:

- Make sure the shoes and inserts are *clean* and *dry*.
- Make sure there are no cracks, rough edges, or worn areas on the shoes or inserts.
- Make sure there are no foreign objects in the shoe and the insert is inserted properly.
- Make sure your skin is clean and dry.
- Examine the skin on your feet and legs and look for abnormal redness, blisters or sores after each and every time you wear them. Pay particular attention to the areas between your toes and the sole of your foot. Using a mirror may be helpful if you have difficulty seeing any areas on your foot or leg.
- Shoes and inserts are designed to always be worn with stockings or seamless socks.
- Clean your device with hypoallergenic soap and water. **Do not** immerse the device in water
- ** If you find any areas of concern or have questions, contact your practitioner before wearing the brace.

How to apply your shoes & inserts.

Apply a clean and dry stocking or sock. Make sure the heel of the stocking or sock is over the heel of your foot and is wrinkle free. Insert your feet into the shoes on top of the inserts. Fasten the shoes comfortably. Do not overtighten the straps or laces.

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