



Easy-Use Guide

Best Practice for Safely Using Your
Brotherwood® Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle



Designed
& Engineered
in Great Britain

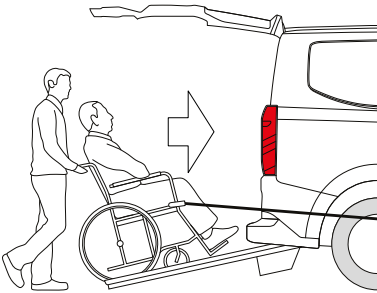


BROTHERWOOD®
ENGINEERING TO ENABLE



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Using This Guide

Brotherwood® conversions are designed to enable safe, comfortable and dignified travel for the wheelchair user, combined with easy access and simple operation for the attendant or carer.

In this guide we have complied a range of best-practise examples of how to safely use your vehicle, to ensure the best possible experience for all.

These instructions are intended to raise awareness of safe use, and do not constitute any guarantee. If you are in any doubt as to how to safely use your vehicle, please contact us immediately.



Designates a procedure suitable for manual wheelchairs



Designates a procedure suitable for powered wheelchairs



Easy-Use Guide Videos

Scan the QR codes with your mobile phone camera or QR reader app to watch our Easy-Use Guide video walkthroughs.

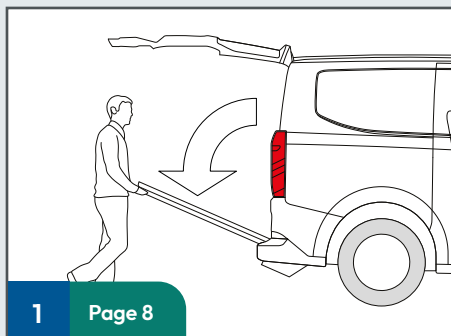
Quick Start Guide for Brotherwood® WAVs



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

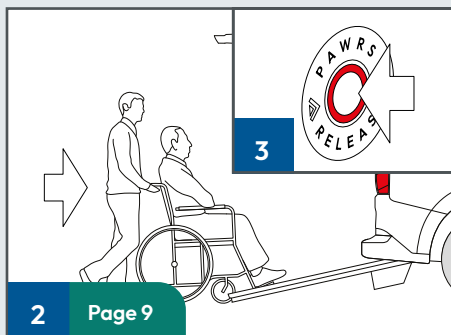
Ensure that you have at least 3 metres of space behind your vehicle, and that the vehicle is parked with the ignition OFF, and handbrake ON, on a flat, level surface.

1. Open the tailgate and deploy the access ramp. If the ramp is manual, it will be counterbalanced, making it light and easy to handle. Powered ramps can be operated by the remote control provided, or manually if necessary.

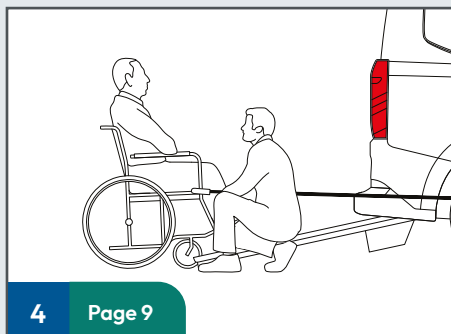


2. Position the wheelchair user at the base of the ramp and apply wheelchair brakes.

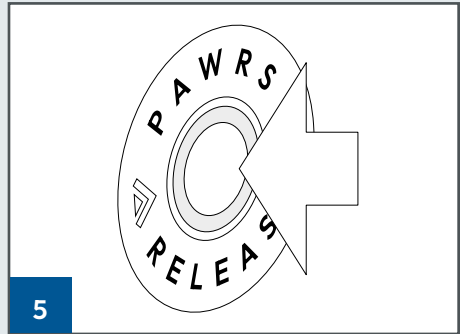
3. Press the restraint release button inside the vehicle. The red light should be **ON**.



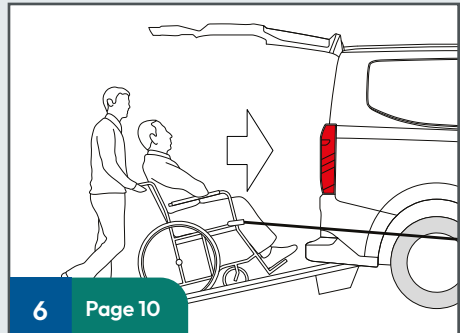
4. Pull the front restraint belts from inside the vehicle and attach them to the designated anchor points at the front of the wheelchair. For guidance on correctly attaching restraint belts see Page 9.



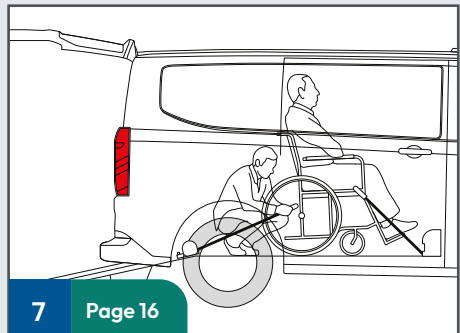
5. Press the restraint release button inside the vehicle. The red light should be OFF.



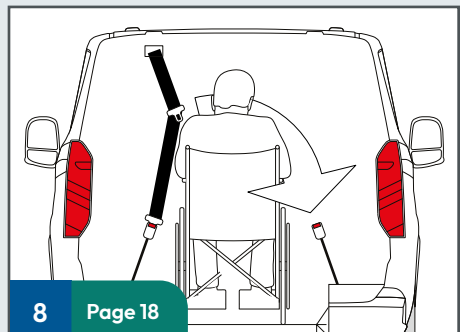
6. Release the wheelchair brakes and load the wheelchair user into the vehicle, ensuring adequate clearance for headroom. Ensure that the attendant or carer is positioned behind the wheelchair at all times when loading. For guidance on loading using the Electrical Retractors or PAWRS system see Pages 8-11.



7. Attach the rear restraint belts to the designated anchor points at the rear of the wheelchair, ensuring they are firmly tensioned. The front and rear restraint belts should be secured at a recommended angle of 45° on each corner of the wheelchair. For guidance on correctly attaching restraint belts see Page 16.



8. Fit the wheelchair occupant safety belt, ensuring it is safely and comfortably positioned. For guidance on correctly fitting the occupant safety belt see Page 18.

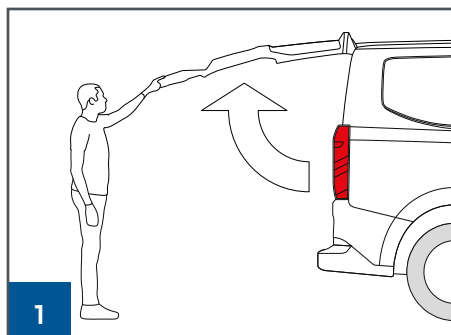


Loading Using the Electrical Retractors / PAWRS

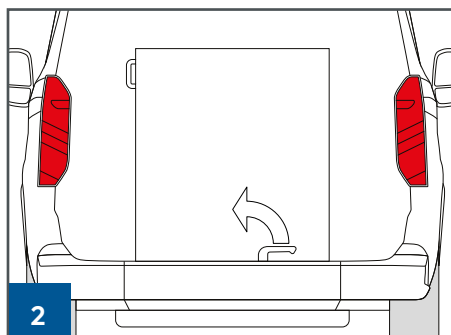


Electrical Retractors are a front restraint system with independent belt reels. PAWRS is a combined powered winch and front restraint system with remote control operation. If you are unsure which device is present in your vehicle, please contact us.

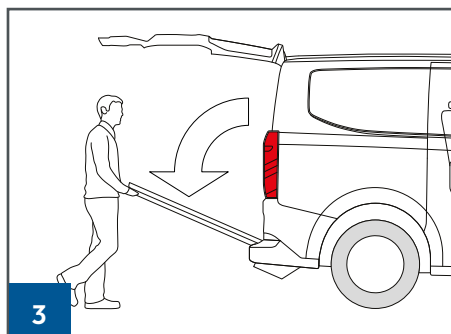
1. Open the tailgate following the manufacturer's instructions.



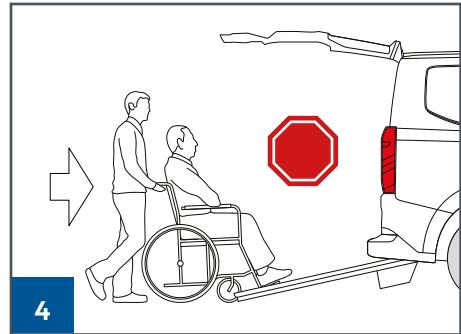
2. Deploy the access ramp.



3. If the ramp is manual, it will be counterbalanced, making it light and easy to handle. Powered ramps can be operated by the remote control provided, or manually if necessary.



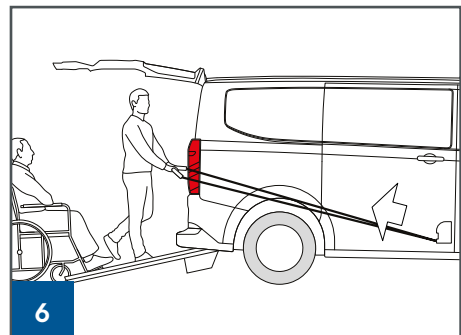
4. Position the wheelchair user at the base of the ramp and apply wheelchair brakes.



5. Press the restraint release button inside the vehicle. The red light should be **ON**.



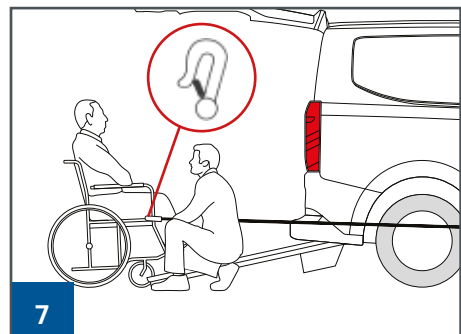
6. Pull both front restraint belts from inside the vehicle together.



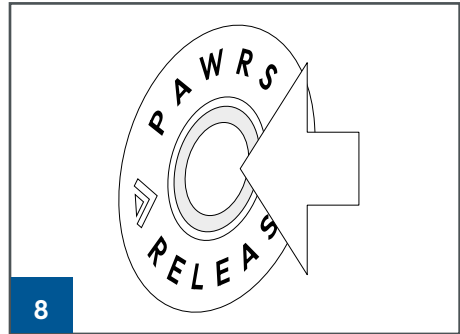
7. Attach the front restraints to the designated anchor points at the front of the wheelchair.

IMPORTANT:

It is recommended that wheelchairs used in vehicles are ISO 7176 compliant with marked designated anchor points carrying the hook symbol.

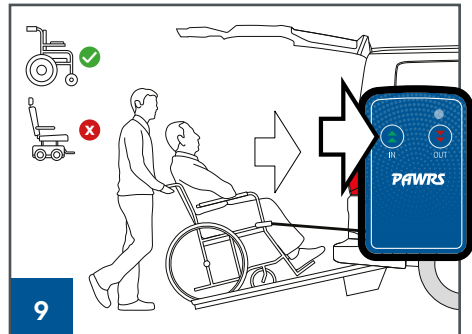


8. Press the restraint release button inside the vehicle. The red light should be OFF.



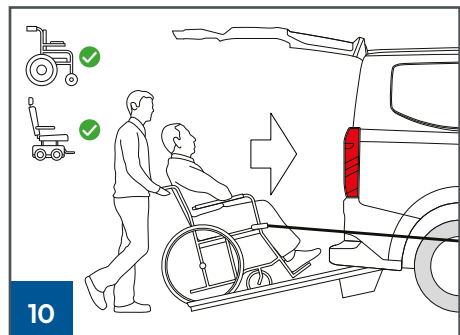
9. POWERED LOADING WITH PAWRS
for manual wheelchairs

Release the wheelchair brakes. Press and hold the IN button on the PAWRS remote control. PAWRS will steadily pull the wheelchair user into the vehicle.

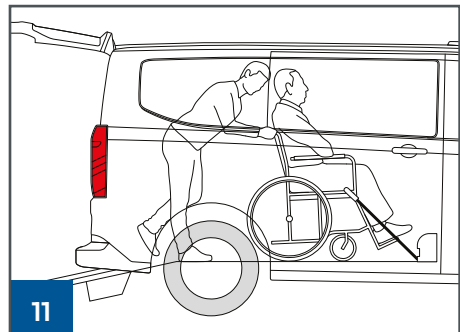


10. MANUAL LOADING WITH ELECTRICAL RETRACTORS or PAWRS
for manual or powered wheelchairs

Release the wheelchair brakes and push or use the wheelchair drive to ascend the ramp, ensuring that the belts retract together.

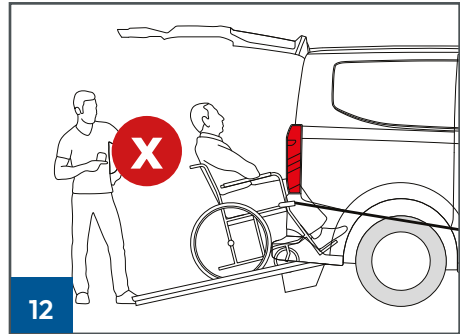


11. Position the wheelchair with the front restraint at approximately 45°.



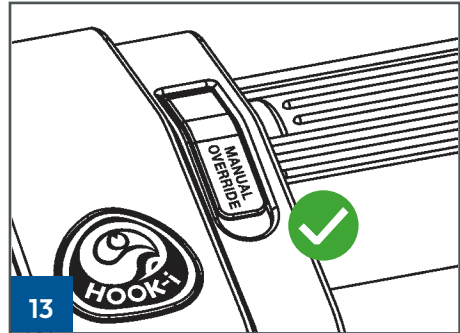
12. IMPORTANT:

The attendant or carer should be positioned behind the wheelchair at all times when loading with either the Electrical Retractors or PAWRS.



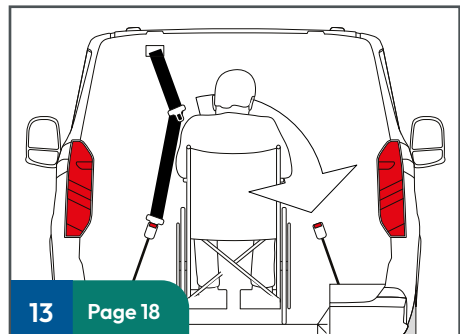
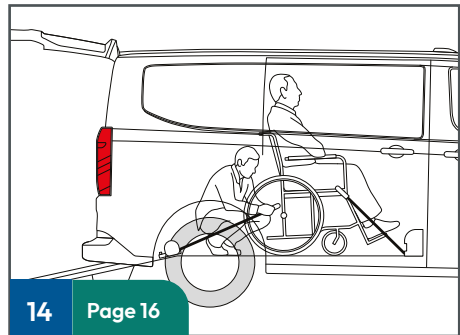
13. IMPORTANT:

The MANUAL OVERRIDE lever should not be opened for normal operation of PAWRS. It is only to be used in the event of electrical failure.



14. IMPORTANT:

THE LOADING PROCEDURE SHOULD NOW BE COMPLETED FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 16 - 18.

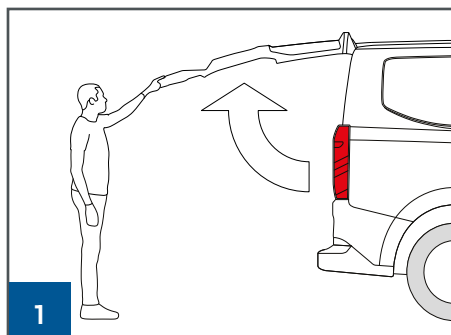


Unloading Using the Electrical Retractors / PAWRS

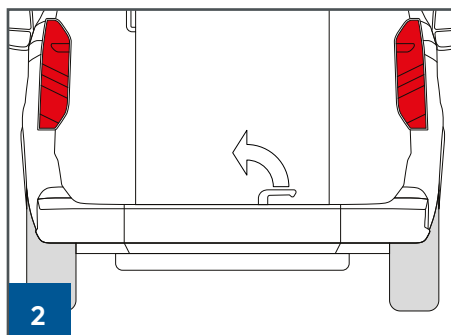


Electrical Retractors are a front restraint system with independent belt reels. PAWRS is a combined powered winch and front restraint system with remote control operation. If you are unsure which device is present in your vehicle, please contact us.

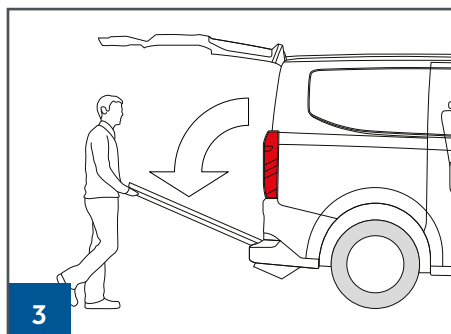
1. Open the tailgate following the manufacturer's instructions.



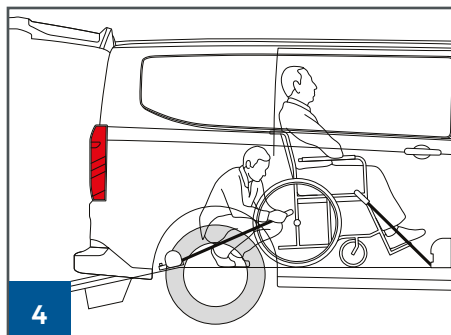
2. Deploy the access ramp.



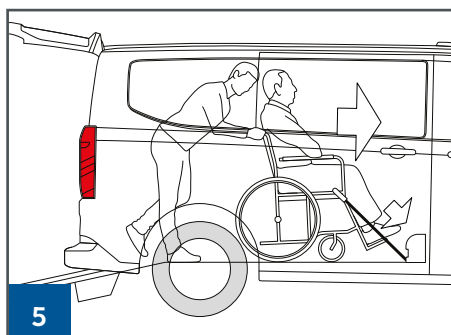
3. If the ramp is manual, it will be counterbalanced, making it light and easy to handle. Powered ramps can be operated by the remote control provided, or manually if necessary.



4. Remove the rear wheelchair restraints and wheelchair occupant safety belt.



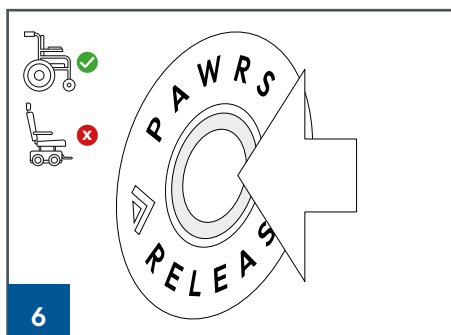
5. It may be necessary to push or drive the wheelchair forward slightly to release the ratchet holding the tension in the PAWRS front restraint.



6. POWERED UNLOADING WITH PAWRS SYSTEM

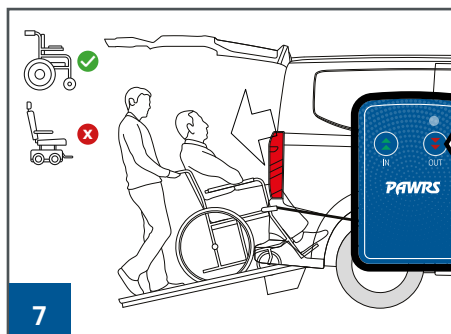
for manual wheelchairs

Ensure restraint release button inside the vehicle is off. The red light should be OFF.



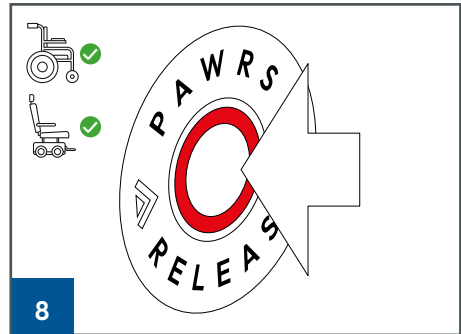
7. Press and hold the OUT button on the PAWRS remote control whilst pulling the wheelchair to the top of the sloping section. PAWRS can then be used to control the wheelchair as it descends the ramp.

Now go to step 10.

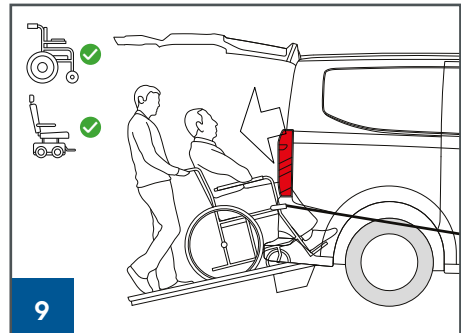


8. MANUAL UNLOADING WITH ELECTRICAL RETRACTORS or PAWRS for manual or powered wheelchairs

Press the restraint release button inside the vehicle. The red light should be **ON**.

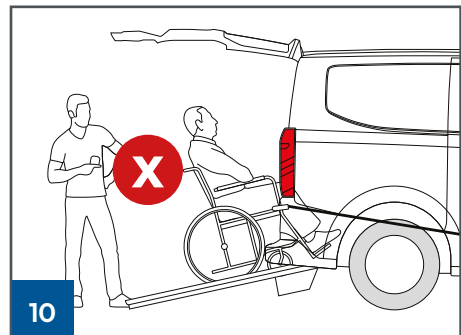


9. Pull or use the wheelchair drive to steadily descend the ramp, ensuring that the restraint belts retract simultaneously.



10. IMPORTANT:

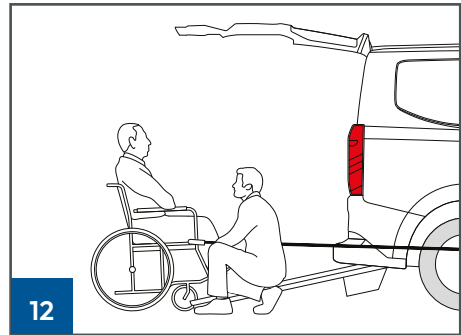
The attendant or carer should be positioned behind the wheelchair at all times when loading with either Electrical Retractors or PAWRS.



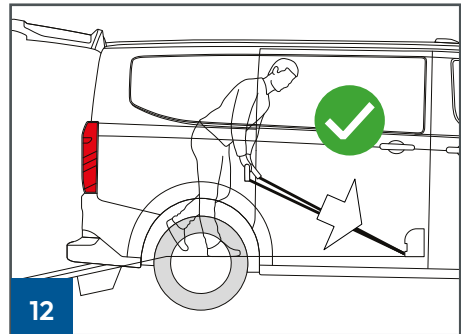
11. Ensure the restraint release button inside the vehicle is off. The red light should be OFF.



12. Unattach the front restraints from the designated anchor points.

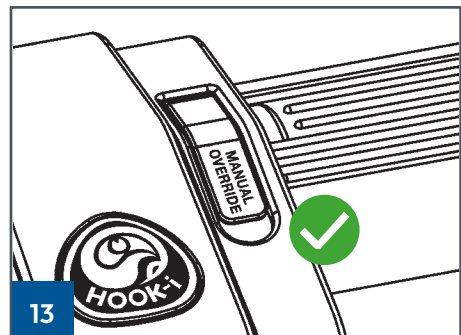


13. Return the front restraint belts by walking them into the vehicle, ensuring equal tension and simultaneous retraction. **DO NOT** let go of the belts and allow them to retract under their own power as this may lead to the belts binding or jamming.

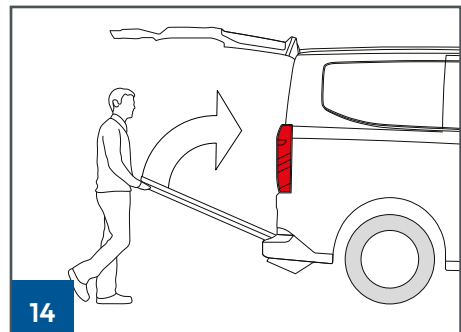


14. IMPORTANT:

The **MANUAL OVERRIDE** lever should not be opened for normal operation of the PAWRS. It is only to be used in the event of electrical failure.



15. Close the access ramp and tailgate following the manufacturer's instructions.

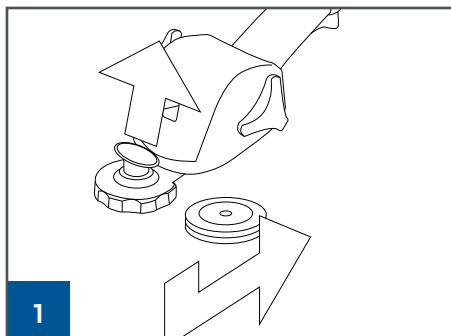


Fitting the Wheelchair Restraints

For effective use of the restraint system the front and rear restraints should be attached to designated anchor points on the wheelchair, as close to the seat base as possible. The recommended restraint angle when tensioned is 45° , on each corner of the wheelchair.

1. The rear restraints fit the mounting points at the rear of the floor. Slide the 'U' shaped cup over the mounting point whilst lifting the clasp to secure.

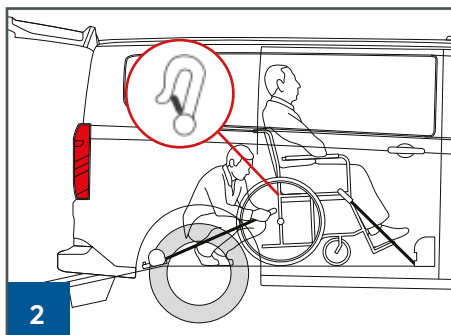
Your vehicle's restraints may vary from those illustrated - for operating instructions for your restraints, refer to the restraint manufacturer's instruction manual provided with your vehicle.



2. Attach the restraint to the wheelchair at the designated anchor point.

IMPORTANT:

It is recommended that wheelchairs used in vehicles are ISO 7176 compliant with marked designated anchor points carrying the hook symbol.



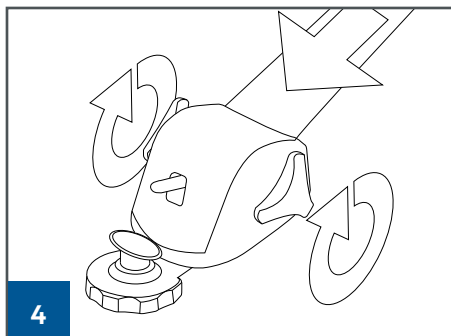
3. IMPORTANT:

If your wheelchair does not have suitable designated anchor points, please contact us immediately. We are able to offer a set of 'Hook-i' anchor points to fit tubular wheelchair frames of 20mm to 38mm in diameter.



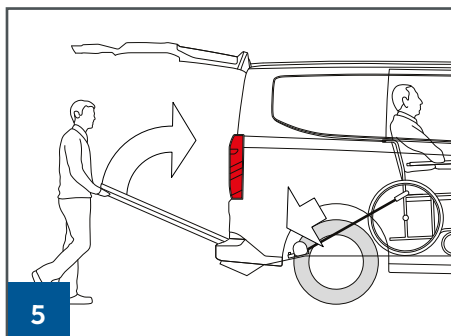
4. Ensure that the restraint is adequately tensioned.

Repeat the process 1-4 for the other restraint to complete the 4-point restraint system (2 front, 2 rear).



5. VEHICLES WITH STORQ SYSTEM

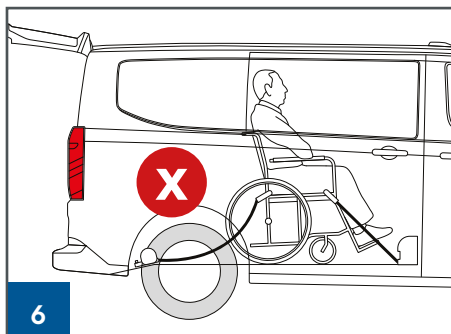
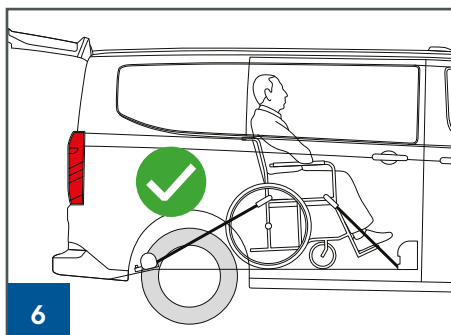
Some Brotherwood models are fitted with STORQ, a self-tensioning restraint system. If your vehicle is fitted with STORQ, it is advisable to only tension your rear restraints to remove any slack from the restraint belts. STORQ will apply additional tension as the ramp is retracted.



6. IMPORTANT:

Before setting off, ensure that all restraints are fully tensioned and that the wheelchair cannot move forwards, backwards or side to side.

Not only is this best practice for safe travelling but also to ensure a comfortable, stable ride for the wheelchair user.

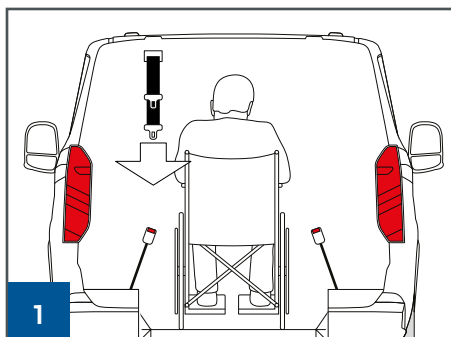


Fitting the Occupant Safety Belt

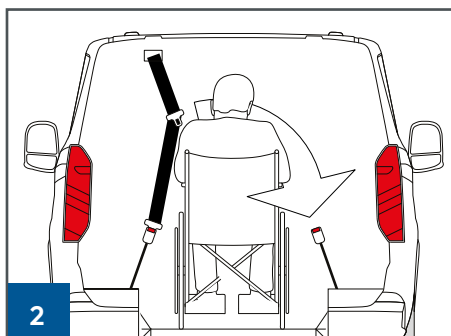
Brotherwood conversions are fitted as standard with a 3-point wheelchair occupant safety belt, which must be worn at all times when travelling. It may be possible to fit a harness, seat belt adjuster, or other types of safety belt; contact us for details.

These instructions assume the standard fit belt is positioned to the left of the wheelchair user.

1. Start by fitting the tongue at the end of the safety belt to the buckle on the left-hand side of the wheelchair.

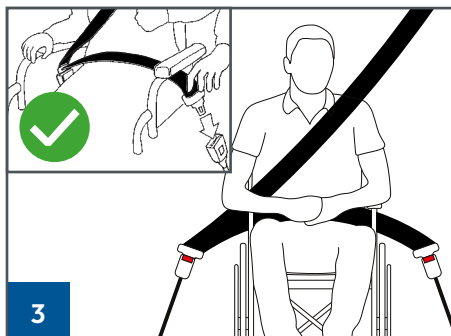


2. Take the other tongue fitting and click into the buckle on the right-hand side of the wheelchair. The safety belt should fit across the wheelchair user's lap and torso.



3. The tongue on the left-hand side of the wheelchair can be re-fitted to travel through the wheelchair and not over the wheelchair armrest.

Where possible, the belt should travel through the wheelchair, close to the body, and not over the wheelchair armrests.

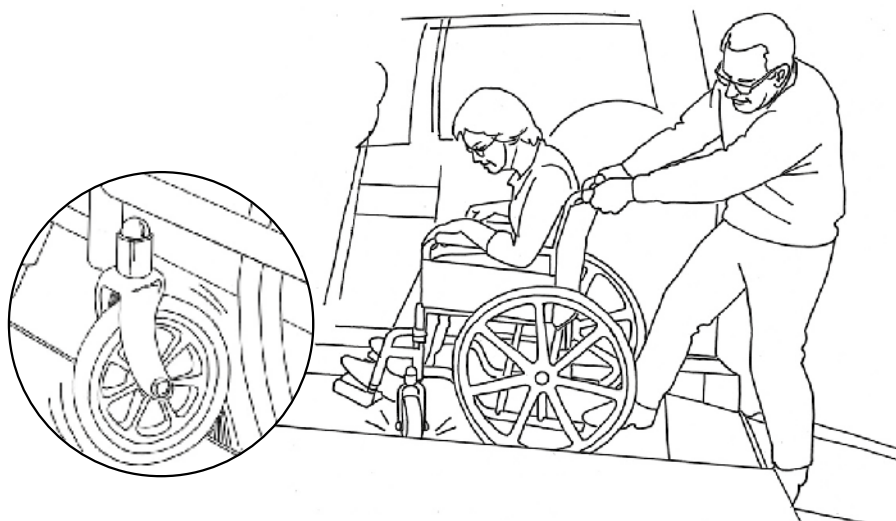


Hook-i Casteers

If your wheelchair's front caster wheels have a tendency to 'jam' as you prepare to exit the vehicle you may benefit from a set of Hook-i Casteer anti-swivel plates.

When Casteer® is permanently fitted to the travelling position on the lowered floor of a WAV the front caster wheels of a wheelchair will be orientated to swivel inward and therefore minimise the width and reduce the possibility of jamming when moving to exit the WAV.

For Casteer® to function it must be installed in the WAV carefully, following the instructions. Keeping your Casteer® device clean is important to its efficient function. Pieces of grit or a build up of mud and dirt will impair the Casteer® working properly.



Customer Support Contacts

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