

SUBJECT	HOW TO USE FURNITURE STRAPS
Video	Located on the AFRA members website under Videos/Furniture & Effects

USING FURNITURE STRAPS

FURNITURE STRAPS

Furniture straps are used for lifting and carrying items over short distances. They are made of heavy leather and can be buckled at the end.

The main reason for using straps is to leave your hands free to move the load away from your body so your shoulders will take most of the weight. Furniture straps are used on heavy and bulky items such as wardrobes, refrigerators and washing machines.

There are some basic things you need to know when using straps.

1. Protect the straps from being damaged on sharp corners.
2. Make sure the straps are firmly in place to prevent slipping.
3. Buckle the straps into position so the buckle is not resting on your shoulder.
4. Keep your back straight and your legs bent..
5. Press the load away from your body with your hands
6. Never let the end of the strap drag on the ground.

USING FURNITURE STRAPS ... METHOD 1 - NORMAL METHOD

The method is used when the article has a short leg to keep the strap under the item.

STEP 1: Slide the buckle end of the strap under the item from back to front. Let the



buckle and about 60cm of the belt remain unused for easy removal when finished.

STEP 2: Put yourself at the end of the item with the long end of the strap over one shoulder. Adjust the strap length.

STEP 3: The buckle should be between the body and the load, not on the shoulder, and facing the front mirroring the position of your carrying partner.

STEP 4: Alter the position of the strap on your shoulder for comfort.

STEP 5: Support the loose end of the strap so it does not drag on the ground.

STEP 6: Straighten your legs and lift the article away from your feet.



STEP 7: Holding the item away from your body, remembering to mirror the hand positions of your carrying partner, you should be able to move the article comfortably.

STEP 8: Before climbing stairs, the person at the bottom will need to shorten their strap to keep the load level. Put the article down to do this.

STEP 9: Never secure the straps to castors.

USING FURNITURE STRAPS ... METHOD 2 - CROSSOVER METHOD

This method is used when the article has no leg to keep the strap under the item.



STEP 1: Tilt the item to one side and lay one strap diagonally on the floor beneath it with the buckle to the front of the item. Repeat this step to the other side to position the second strap.

STEP 2: Put yourself at one end of the item and put the long end of the strap over your shoulder room the back. Thread it through the buckle of the other strap at the front.

STEP 3: Bend your knees keeping your back straight and adjust the strap length.

SAFETY TOOLBOX TALK



STEP 4: Make sure the strap on your shoulder is comfortable and the loose end of the strap is tucked away. You don't want the strap behaving like a snake, designed to trip you up.

STEP 5: Straighten your legs and lift the item keeping it away from your body with your hands

STEP 6: If you need to, adjust the load so the level is the same between the two carriers.

STEP 7: Complete the carry as for the 'Normal Method.'



