

# **USER GUIDE**

headaloft360.com HEADOVATIONS LTD Version: July 2023\2nd Rev 3 Adirim st. Tel-Aviv 6918414 Israel

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### Introduction

**HEADALOFT 360** is a state-of-the-art full headrest system that securely attaches to almost any wheelchair, walker, stander or other device that can be enhanced with a headrest. Once in place, **HEADALOFT 360** gently holds the user's head in a comfortable position, even for long periods of time. In many ways, it can vastly improve the quality of life of anyone using a wheelchair. It provides greater security and prevents the user's head from falling forward. Using **HEADALOFT 360**, people can engage in face-to-face communications with those around them and often gain more independence, feed themselves, relax and watch television, and comfortably sit and engage with their surroundings.

**HEADALOFT 360** is easy to assemble and can be attached to any standard wheelchair. It is equally easy to remove, and you only need to detach the headrest to fold the wheelchair for storage or transport. What makes **HEADALOFT 360** unique is not just the ease with which it is installed, but the flexibility that enables it to be easily adjusted regardless of whether the user is sitting straight, leaning forward, or to the left or right.

After **HEADALOFT 360** is attached to the wheelchair, it can be adjusted for any size, whether a child or an adult. In addition to adjusting the width to fit any standard wheelchair, you can also adjust the height, the tilt (forward or back), the symmetry (left or right), and the placing of the head cushions to ensure a proper, customized fit for any user.



As easily as it is adjusted for any specific size or position, **HEADALOFT 360** can also be easily re-adjusted for someone else, or even for the same user who simply wishes to change positions. To make **HEADALOFT 360** even more customizable, two different size bands are provided to ensure secure and comfortable headrest. With all of these adjustment possibilities, **HEADALOFT 360** is ideal for anyone, from a young child to a full-sized adult.









#### **Package Contents**

Item	Part	Function
Pre-Assembled Headrest Unit (1)		<ul> <li>Includes:</li> <li>5 detachable machine washable support cushions</li> <li>Telescopic poles easily expand and retract</li> <li>Upper grip adapter to easily adjust for head height</li> </ul>
Connectors (2)		Connects <b>HEADALOFT 360</b> to the wheelchair*).
Diameter Adapters (2 sets)		Small adapters are included ranging from 1 mm to 5 mm that are inserted into the Connectors as needed to close any gap between the Connector and the wheelchair* frame. They are packaged in two sets and 1 Allen key.
Anterior Support Headbands (2)		Headbands easily attach to the Headrest to provide anterior support, preventing the user's head from falling forward. Includes: 2 sizes, machine washable.
Measuring Tape		Assists you in determining if you need to add any adapters to secure the Connectors to the push handles.

Each **HEADALOFT 360** package includes the following:

\* Equally compatible with a walker, stander or other device that can be enhanced with a headrest.

Note:

When you first open the HEADALOFT 360 package, you need to change the angle of the telescopic poles to 90 degrees to enable it to be inserted into the Connectors.

#### **Safety Recommendations**

When installing and using **HEADALOFT 360**, the following safety precautions should be taken:

- Always consult with a physician, physical therapist, or other medical care providers before using this or any headrest system.
- The use of the product is recommended as provided and with the recommendation of a professional. Any other use, including without the textile cushions is the sole responsibility of the user.
- Keep out of the reach of children during installation.
- Keep the plastic bags provided out of the reach of children small parts are included in the product.
- It is recommended that you do not attach HEADALOFT 360 to the wheelchair while the wheelchair is occupied. Minor adjustments to the tilt and symmetry can be made after HEADALOFT 360 has been attached.
- Do not attempt to fold the wheelchair or disassemble **HEADALOFT 360** from the wheelchair while it is occupied.
- Verify that the Connectors have been locked after any adjustments have been made.
- Seek and follow medical instructions about how the wheelchair user is positioned and/or moved, how long the user is allowed to remain in the wheelchair, etc.
- When attaching the HEADALOFT 360 to the wheelchair, make sure the base and correct combination of adapters are used to ensure a tight, non-slip connection between the headrest unit and the wheelchair.
- The adjustable head cushions should be washed regularly. If **HEADALOFT 360** is used by more than one user, the adjustable head cushions should be sanitized between different users.

#### **Technical Support**

Headovations, the developers of **HEADALOFT 360**, cares about our customers and users. If you experience any difficulties in using **HEADALOFT 360**, you are encouraged to contact us in one of the following ways:

• Through our local resellers and partners

• Email: info@headovations.com

You can also learn more about the **HEADALOFT 360** system by subscribing to our YouTube channel.

## Attaching HEADALOFT 360 to the Wheelchair

**HEADALOFT 360** enables almost all wheelchairs or similar devices that is suitable for a headrest to fully support the user's head at all angles and heights. Attaching **HEADALOFT 360** to any standard wheelchair takes only a few moments. Only one tool, the Allen key that is included in the **HEADALOFT 360** package, is required.

#### **Overview of HEADALOFT 360 Assembly Process**

Attaching HEADALOFT 360 to a wheelchair includes the following steps:

#### The connectors:

- Add Diameter Adaptors to ensure a tight fit around the push handles of the wheelchair, as needed.
- Attach the connectors to the wheelchair.
- Tighten the screws on each push handle to ensure the connectors are securely fastened

#### The telescopic poles:

- After removing the headrest from the box, press the side buttons and change the angle of the telescopic poles to a 90-degree angle.
- Insert the telescopic poles of the headrest panel into the connectors.
- Make the final adjustments based on the needs of the user, including adjusting the height, tilt, symmetry, and lateral requirements.

#### <u>Note</u>:

#### Each of these steps is further explained below.

To learn more about adjusting **HEADALOFT 360** to the specific needs of the user using the wheelchair, see **Adjusting Options**.

#### Attaching the Connectors to the Wheelchair

Standard wheelchairs generally have push handles with diameters that range from 17 to 32 millimeters. HEADALOFT 360 comes with a Base Adapter and individual Span Adapters (measuring: 1 mm, 2 mm, 3 mm, 4 mm, and 5 mm).



These Span Adapters can be combined in any combination as needed to close the gap that occurs when the connectors are attached to the wheelchair push handles. For example, if the push handles are 24 mm in diameter, you can use the 1 mm, 4mm and 5mm. Adapters to close the gap and ensure a secure fit.

#### To attach the connectors:

Use the measuring tape to measure the circumference. The letter you see will be the diameter you need to reach when you add Adapters.



- 1. Insert the Base Adapter into the upper part of the Adapter and then add the appropriate Span Adapter or Adapters, as measured in the previous step. The Adapters fit securely into the upper part of the Connector.
- 2. Open the handle of one Connector and fit it around one of the wheelchair's push handles.
- 3. Close the top part of the Connector over the Base and Adapters and, using the Allen key provided in the **HEADALOFT 360** package, tighten the screw to secure the Connector to the push handle.
- 4. Repeat this same procedure, using Adapters from the second set provided in the **HEADALOFT 360** package for the second Connector on the other push handle.



IMPORTANT: Both connectors should be checked carefully to make sure they are securely fastened to the handle.

#### Note:

To calculate which Adapters to use, see the Appendix: Calculating which Adapters to Use.

Ideally, the connectors should be placed against the metal part of the wheelchair handles and not against the rubber protectors. However, if you feel the connectors offer more benefit in terms of security or appropriate positioning, you can secure the Connecters to the rubber handles.

Using the Allen key, it is recommended that you slightly tighten one screw, then attach and slightly tighten the second screw in place. Straighten the Connector and then securely tighten both screws.



#### Note:

Care should be taken to attach each of the connectors in the same relative location on each wheelchair handle.

Once the connectors are attached to the wheelchair, they can remain there, even while storing or transporting the wheelchair. You will only need to remove the connectors if you wish to disassemble and attach HEADALOFT 360 to a different wheelchair.

#### Adjusting and Inserting the Headrest through the Connectors

After the connectors, the next step is to expand the width of the **HEADALOFT 360** headrest by turning the blue control knob on the back of the headrest.

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Normally, you only need to do this one time. Unless you need to fold or transport the wheelchair, you will not need to remove the headrest.

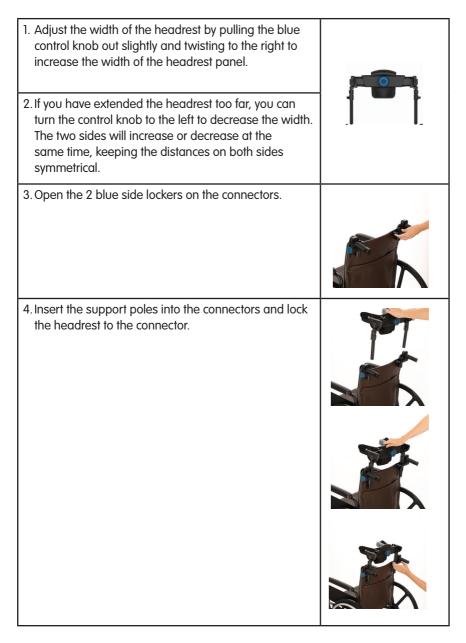
The position of the headrest should be adjusted according to the needs of the user and this is done after the unit is attached to the wheelchair.

The width of the **HEADALOFT 360** headrest is the only adjustment that needs to be made before mounting it. In the following sections, other adjustments, such as height and tilt, are described.





#### To adjust and attach the headrest to the wheelchair:



Note:

The blue control knob must face the rear of the wheelchair and the cushions and headrest must face the front.

# **Adjusting Options**

**HEADALOFT 360** is fully customizable to meet the size, position, and needs of nearly every user. In general, while the width only needs to be adjusted once to fit it securely on the wheelchair, other adjustments may need to be made more often.

While many people prefer the head position centered for someone sitting straight, **HEADALOFT 360** offers great flexibility by enabling you to adjust for the tilt for someone who prefers or needs to lean forward and/or adjust for those who prefer or need to lean to either the left or right side while still having their head secured.

These adjustments can quickly and easily be made as frequently as they are needed, according to the status and preferences of each individual.

#### Note:

Before adjusting the headrest's height, tilt, or symmetry, it is recommended that you attach the appropriate Headband piece to the headrest.

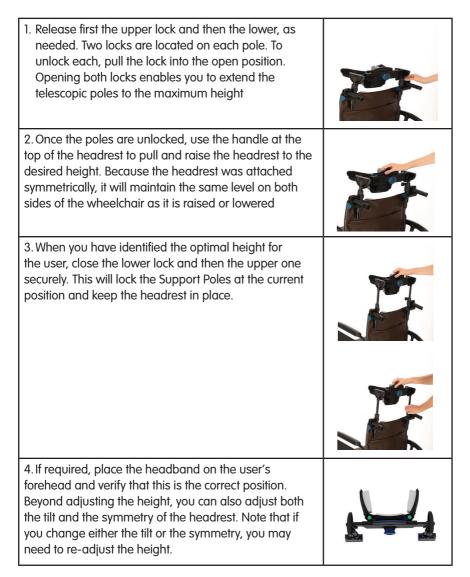
#### Adjusting the Height

The first and most common adjustment that needs to be made is for the height of the **HEADALOFT 360** headrest in relation to the user's head. This can be approximated before the user is seated in the chair and then adjusted afterwards. In most cases, the height needs to be adjusted for each individual. In practice, this should be checked and adjusted as needed, even when the wheelchair's use is restricted to one user.

#### Note:

When adjusting the height of the headrest, it is very important to first release the plastic locks located on each telescopic pole.

#### To adjust the height:



#### Adjusting the Tilt

The tilt adjustment offers the ability to tilt the **HEADALOFT 360** 90 degrees forward or 30 degrees backward, to provide a 120-degree range of flexibility. This means tha the **HEADALOFT 360** offers full flexibility, successfully ensuring that the user's head is secure and will not fall forward even while the user is physically leaning forward or even slightly backward. It is best to perform a preliminary adjustment before placing the user in the chair. But afterwards, the tilt should be adjusted to optimize the angle to maximize security and comfort. Adjusting the tilt angle may also improve the user's ability to interact with others in the area.

#### Note:

When adjusting the tilt, you will need to verify that the height is still adjusted properly. If the height needs to be adjusted, it is very important to first release upper plastic locks located on each Support Pole and then, as needed, release the lower one to further extent the Support Poles.

To adjust the tilt of the headrest:

1. Simultaneously press in and hold both blue buttons located on each of the connectors.	
2. While pressing the connector control buttons, use your thumbs to push the support poles forward. There are a wide variety of options allowing you to select how you want <b>HEADALOFT 360</b> to control and adjust the angle of the user's body and head.	
3. When you find the angle that suits the user, gently move the support poles forward or back in either direction until you hear the connectors click in place and then release the blue connector control buttons.	
4. Once you have adjusted the tilt, you will likely have to adjust the headrest piece as well. This is accomplished by pressing and holding the buttons below the two wedges located on either side of the headrest.	
5. Adjust the angle of the head piece until it has been optimized for the user. There are 10 different settings, offering an almost completely flexible option for everyone.	
6. Once the adjustments have been made, place the headband against the user's forehead and verify that this is the correct position.	

#### Adjusting for Asymmetrical Use

A "non-symmetrical" position is when the user's head is leaning to the left or right. Because someone may prefer to sit in a "non-symmetrical" position, the flexible HEADALOFT 360 offers the ability to adjust the position of the headrest in an asymmetrical position, such as closer to the left or right side of the wheelchair. In addition, this asymmetrical feature can also be combined with the Tilt adjustment, which is used when a user wants to lean forward. Both the tilt and the asymmetric adjustments may require you to verify and/or change the Height. It is important to remember to release the plastic locks (first the upper one and then the lower one) located on the Support Poles before making any adjustments.

# Note: All adjustments can be used individually, in any combination, or all at the same time, for example, tilted and leaning to the left, and at any height.

After adjusting for the symmetrical or asymmetrical position of the head, you should again check that the height adjustment is still optimized for the user's needs and make sure you lock the Support Poles securely.

#### To adjust for asymmetrical use

1. Press and hold the center of the blue control knob located on the back of the headrest.	
2. While pressing the button, gently move the headrest to the left or right, depending on where the user wishes to lean. Continue adjusting this until you have found the optimal position for the user.	↓ ↓
3. Release the inner button of the blue control knob. Make sure you hear a click, indicating that the headrest is locked in place.	
4. Place the headband over the user and verify that this is the correct position.	

#### **Adjusting Lateral Positioning**

To offer further flexibility to meet the needs of any individual, the side cushions can be adjusted in several ways to offer lateral support. Options include:

- Adjusting the left, right, or both sides of the headrest to a fixed position: This means that either or both sides are locked in the selected position and will firmly support the user's head.
- Allowing flexibility on the left, right, or both sides of the headrest: This means not locking either or both sides into a fixed position. While this does offer some support, either or both sides will move gently to allow the user's head to move more freely along a lateral alignment.

Both side cushions (left and right) can be adjusted independently as the user prefers or as the caregiver decides. These can also be changed easily and often, while the user is seated in the chair. The lateral positioning is controlled by the two blue buttons on top of the headrest.

#### To adjust the lateral positioning

• Lock one or both sides of the headrest to provide lateral headrest: Press and hold the lateral adjust button down. This loosens the side of the headrest enabling you to adjust the angle. When you have found the correct angle, release the button, and the position becomes fixed and will not move.







• Leaving the headrest lateral support flexible: Press the lateral adjust button down. This will loosen the side of the headrest. While continuing to press down, rotate the button in a clockwise direction. Release the button and the headrest side will remain flexible.



#### Adjusting the Cushions

**HEADALOFT 360** includes a modular arrangement of cushions that come attached to the headrest with Velcro. These can be removed and washed as often as needed and then easily returned. While there are recommended positions for the cushions, the fabric cover enables you to attach the cushions in whatever format best meets the needs of the individual.

For example, instead of the initial standard formation, you may choose to place two cushions on one side or remove cushions as needed. To disconnect a cushion, simply pull it away from the Velcro fabric covering the headrest. To reattach a cushion, simply press the back of the cushion firmly against the Velcro fabric cover.













## **Disconnecting HEADALOFT 360**

To disconnect **HEADALOFT 360** from the wheelchair, simply unlock the Support Poles and remove the headrest. If you are doing this to transport the wheelchair to another location, which requires folding the wheelchair, you only need to disconnect the headrest. If you wish to completely remove **HEADALOFT 360**, for example, if you wish to attach it to a different wheelchair, you will need to remove both the headrest and the connectors.

#### Partially Disconnect HEADALOFT 360

To store or transport a wheelchair with **HEADALOFT 360** attached, simply remove the headrest. There is no reason to remove the connectors of the Support Poles, as these will easily fold into the wheelchair as it is collapsed for transport or storage.

#### To disconnect HEADALOFT 360 for storage or to be transported:

- 1. Release the Connector locks on both sides and pull the headrest up, out of the connectors.
- 2. After removing the headrest, make sure you close the connectors to ensure that they aren't damaged during transport.

For storage or transport, the wheelchair can now be folded according to the manufacturer's instructions.











#### **Completely Disconnect HEADALOFT 360**

If you wish to move HEADALOFT 360 to another wheelchair or any other mobility device (walker, stander, etc.), you will need to completely uninstall it, as detailed in the following steps.

#### To completely remove HEADALOFT 360 from a wheelchair:

- 1. Remove the headrest as detailed in the previous section.
- 2. Open the bridge connection on the Connector and, using the Allen key provided with **HEADALOFT 360**, loosen the screw.
- 3. Remove the Connector from the push handle of the wheelchair.
- 4. Collect the Adapters and place them in a container (or plastic bag) so that they can be used again in the future when the headrest is reconnected.
- 5. Repeat this with the second Connector.

#### **Washing Instructions**

You can remove the support cushions and launder them with the following restrictions:

- Water temperature should not be higher than 30° C/ 86° F on Gentle Cycle
- Do not machine dry.
- Do not spin in washing machine.
- Do not squeeze dry.

Though it is rarely necessary, you can remove and launder the fabric cover under the same conditions detailed above.

# Appendix: Calculating what Adapters to Use

Each set of Diameter Adapters contains the following:

- Base Adapter
- 1 mm Adapter
- 2 mm Adapter
- 3 mm Adapter
- 4 mm Adapter
- 5 mm Adapter

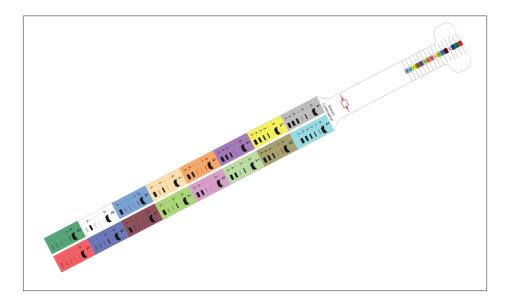
Nearly every wheelchair in the world has a diameter of 17 to 32 millimeters (0.660 to 1.259 inches). Following are tables to help you calculate which Adapters you'll need to use.

Note that different combinations can be made. Included in the **HEADALOFT 360** packaging is a measuring tape with the recommended Adapter combinations.

The base Adapter is displayed as 0, as it is always inserted into the Connectors, even if you don't need to use any other Adapter.

#### **Calculation in Centimeters**

In the following table, the recommended Adapter combinations are displayed along with the corresponding Tape Letter that appears on the Adapter Combinations tape that is included with the **HEADALOFT 360**.



The following table gives an example of how the adapters can be combined to ensure a secure fit between the connectors and the push handles.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

# Both connectors should be checked carefully to make sure they are securely fastened to the handle

Diameter (mm.)	Tape Letter	Base	1 mm.	2 mm.	3 mm.	4 mm.	5 mm.
17	А	Х		Х		Х	X.X
18	В	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
19	С	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х
20	D	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х
21	E	Х			Х	Х	Х
22	F	Х		Х		Х	Х
23	G	Х	Х			Х	Х
24	Н	Х				Х	Х
25	I	Х			Х		Х
26	J	Х		Х			Х
27	К	Х	Х				Х
28	L	Х					Х
29	М	Х				Х	
30	N	Х		Х			
31	0	Х	Х				
32	р	Х					



## About the Company

Headovations was founded in 2014 by Ben Cohen Gazit. Dedicated to providing innovative headrest systems, the company's flagship product was designed to protect sleeping children whose heads are most vulnerable during car rides. The idea of protecting people's heads quickly morphed into a mission to provide better headrests for all who need it. **HEADALOFT 360** is designed to provide an optimal, flexible solution for anyone who uses a wheelchair regardless of age, size, or head positioning requirements.





In Partnership with:





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