

Townsend Design's SoftForce Reliever is designed to comfortably apply opposing forces and compression to the leg. This enhances stabilization and promotes normal leg alignment. The brace also helps to reduce load and slow down the continued degeneration of the compromised side (compartment) of the knee.

Unlike rigid shell OA knee braces that can be bulkier and heavier, this brace is designed with a soft shell that utilizes a combination of materials to make the brace comfortable and easy to put on.

Brace Components

- Quality non-neoprene latex-free breathable sleeve with a combination pull-on (lower) and anterior closure (upper) to optimize the fit and to make the brace easy to pull on
- Townsend's patented **TM6** Hinge and aircraft aluminum bar that is pre-contoured to provide corrective force to the limb
- A set of condylar pads that can be individually affixed inside of the sleeve (between the hinge and leg) to optimize corrective force and comfort
- Elastic Lycra material behind the knee for added comfort and easier fitting
- Rigid straps and Velcro closures designed for exceptional holding strength and long life
- Silicone gel applied to the inside of the sleeve to enhance suspension
- Sleeve pocket to house the hinge/bar assembly (no exposed metal)
- Removable, adjustable patella buttress pad that can be attached inside the sleeve for stabilization and/or snug up the fit of the brace around the knee cap
- Finger loops at the top end of the brace to help pull on/up the brace

PRODUCT CARE

Before rising, remove the hinge and Velcro closures. Hand wash and air dry **DO NOT PLACE IN THE DRYER** a mild anti-bacterial soap can be used to clean the sleeve. Make sure all soap residue is removed before wearing.

FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

The medical professional who fits your brace will make decisions about the initial setup of the brace; will make adjustments to the brace (if needed); will show you how to apply and take off the brace and may also assist you in shortening the straps (if needed). The following instructions are provided as a step-by-step guide to putting on the brace, and tightening the thigh closure and straps.



1. Unfasten the four straps (the front two and back two) and open up the top section of the sleeve so the sides flaps are not attached to the center panel of the thigh section.



2. Holding onto the sides of the thigh section, insert your foot through the lower half of the sleeve. You can use the finger loops to pull the brace up until your knee cap is underneath the center hole (patella cut out).



3

3. Insert your finger through the center finger loop that is attached to the inside of the center panel. While pulling up the center panel, use your other hand to pull the side flaps over and onto the

center panel. The center panel has brush loop (black fibers) that the Velcro hook on the side flaps will adhere to. The side flaps should overlap and attach to the center panel so that the thigh section fits snugly on the leg (you should feel compression from the sleeve).



4

4. Next, tighten the two straps that are on the posterior (back) of the sleeve. It does not matter if you start with the bottom strap or the top strap (these two straps do not feed through a chafe, they Velcro directly to the sleeve. Next, tighten the two anterior (front) straps, which insert through the two black plastic chafes. All four straps should be

tightened enough so you feel compression and counter force pressure on the side of the leg. If any strap is too long, you can remove the Velcro closures from the end of the strap, cut the strap, and then reattach the closure. Ideally, you want the straps to be the length that makes it easiest for you to tighten and lock down the straps.

NOTE: It may be possible for you to leave the two posterior straps (that are on the back side of your leg) permanently closed. You only need to release/open these posterior straps if it is difficult for you to put on and/or take off the brace with these two straps fastened.



5

5. The sleeve and straps should be snug, but not so tight that your circulation is restricted. If you feel any tingling sensation, or experience any discomfort from wearing the brace, discontinue using the brace until you speak with the medical professional who fit your brace.

GENERAL DISCLOSURE & INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THIS MEDICAL DEVICE

Townsend Design's SoftForce Reliever knee brace is a medical device prescribed by a physician. Your use of this product, including how to put it on, when to wear it, and what physical activities are appropriate, should be defined by your doctor and other medical professionals involved in your care. Because Townsend is the product manufacturer, not a licensed medical provider, we have no specific knowledge about your physical condition and medical history. As such, our company cannot and does not define the physical activities that may be inappropriate for you or other users of this product. Also, it is important to disclose that no knee brace can cure OA or eliminate existing damage to the knee joint. This product is designed to minimize existing symptoms by applying compression and opposing forces to the leg. While this type of OA brace is routinely effective in decreasing pain and improving physical mobility, our company cannot guarantee every patient will experience a substantial reduction in pain. Further, we cannot guarantee this brace will prevent further injury to the knee. Results vary based on patient age, weight, activity level, and compliance with user instructions and the specific directives of a physician.

If you experience any issues with the fit, durability or quality of this product, please contact the medical professional who provided your brace for warranty information and assistance.