

# Appendix I: Instructions for Use

Please find below the prescribed steps for assembling the SafeSplash dual shower ramp. These instructions are tailored for secondary and tertiary caretakers at Misericordia, as well as the esteemed cleaning staff.

## Initial Set Up

1. To use SafeSplash, first set the ramp-holder on the shower ledge in approximately the center of the ledge.
2. The shorter edge of the ramp-holder should be facing the shower and the taller edge should face outside the shower.
3. Face the rubber end of the longer ramp farthest from the ramp holder, and place the hook at the opposite end of the rubber in the notch of the ramp holder.
4. Repeat the process from step 3 for the shorter ramp on the inside of the shower.
  - a. There should be very little wiggle room between the notches and the thick sections of the ramp.
5. Make sure that the rubber is not folded on itself, or the ramp may not be stable.
6. Test the ramp's stability and levelness by lightly applying weight at either end using one foot.
  - a. If you can stand on the ramp without any tilting, then the ramp is ready to use
  - b. If not, readjust the ramp in the notch so that the rubber secures the hook in place

## Using SafeSplash

*WARNING: Make sure that the ramps on both sides have minimal slop. Failure to do so may result in the ramp collapsing and causing serious injury to the caretaker and/or the residents using it.*

## Removal

After use, carefully remove the ramps by lifting them out of the notches in the ramp holder. Store the ramps and ramp holders in a designated area to keep them clean and accessible for future use.

## Sanitization:

Regularly sanitize the ramps and ramp-holder to maintain hygiene and safety. We find that a simple soap water solution with a cleaning rag is the best procedure to clean the ramp efficiently, but any method deemed adequate by the standard set by Misericordia may be employed. Make sure not to overdo cleaning by using rough cleaning surfaces or strong chemical agents, as this may lead the flex seal to deteriorate quickly, requiring frequent applications.

## Usage 1: Resident Directed (minimal assistance required)

If a resident does not require assistance to use the shower in normal conditions without a ramp, they can try to walk up and over the ramp into the shower under supervision. If both the caretaker and the resident in question are confident in the usage of the ramp by the resident without supervision, then they may allow the resident to do so. Otherwise, a single caretaker may be employed to gently guide the resident into the shower

**Usage 2: Caretaker Directed**

If a resident requires assistance with a wheelchair or shower chair, position the chair at the base of the ramp. With the assistance of a caretaker, guide the resident in the wheelchair or shower chair up the ramp and into the shower. Ensure the ramp remains stable and level throughout the process.

By adhering to these instructions, the SafeSplash dual shower ramp can be used safely and effectively, providing valuable assistance to residents and caretakers alike.