

Handyman Instructions

Affordable Wheelchair Lift

Model KCSPM3648

(757) 524-3420
Version 1.0.0

The purpose of this document is to help handymen and installers estimate the level of effort required to install an Affordable Wheelchair Lift. Feedback on its contents is welcome.





Excerpt from the Customer's Order Confirmation Email:

The customer understands that he/she is responsible for this wheelchair lift's proper and safe installation and operation. This includes but is not limited to:

- Making sure the lift is installed in a safe location by personnel adequate to the task.
- Making sure that the electrical power is adequate and supplied in a safe manner. Outdoor and garage lifts need to use a GFI circuit.
- **Making sure the lift and its installation complies with any applicable regulations** and that any lift operators are properly trained.
- Recognizing that Affordable Wheelchair Lifts' delivery technicians will deliver the lift and are not necessarily qualified or licensed to do related electrical, masonry, carpentry or other contractor type work.
- Addressing any applicable taxes.
- Inspecting the lift periodically to insure that it is safe to operate.

Regarding lift operators and users, the customer understands that:

- The customer is responsible for making sure that the person(s) operating the lift has/have been instructed in its use pursuant to the Owner's Manual and are mentally capable of safely operating the lift.
- This may mean restricting access to the lift controller(s) to prevent unqualified persons from operating the lift.
- **Persons with dementia or who are susceptible to mental confusion are not qualified to operate the lift**, though a qualified caregiver may operate it for them.
- **Persons incapable of recognizing that the lift has reached ground level are not qualified to operate the lift**, though a qualified caregiver may operate it for them.
- The manufacturer is not responsible for injuries or damages of any sort resulting from operator error.

Outdoor Lifts: All outdoor lifts should rest on a concrete pad, thick pavers or a significant solid surface to prevent settling or shifting. The lift must be level for it to operate safely and properly properly.

All concrete pads should be 3" concrete, preferably with rebar. The pad should be poured to create a level surface.

If the surface is not level, shims will be required to level the platform lift. Whether your lift has a standard base with a ramp or an arm-less base with ramp, the surface should measure 68" x 43" X 3" at a minimum. If you are not using a ramp, the pad should measure 52" x 43" x 3" at a minimum. If the size of the platform has been customized these measurements might vary.

Allow space for the gates to swing open and for lift riders and caregivers to move about safely.

Indoor Lifts: Similarly, all indoor lifts should rest on a significant solid surface. For the lift to operate properly, it must be level. If the floor is not level, shims will be required to level the platform lift. When installing a lift indoors, the pad measurements noted above can be used as an estimate of the "footprint" of your lift.

Lift Assembly and Installation – Your lift will weigh between 450 and 550 lbs. depending on your column height. While assembly is relatively simple and straight-forward, it is helpful to have two people working to assemble the unit. Basic tools are required, including various socket and/or wrench sizes, a screwdriver, a crowbar, some Vaseline jelly, etc.

Generally speaking, it should take two individuals about 2.5 hours to assemble a standard height lift (<= 48" station height) and about 3 – 3.5 hours to assemble a tall lift (> 72" station height) due to the top bracing and base securing required. These times may vary depending on the accessibility of the specific installation location. Tall lifts can be challenging because the hoist is mounted at the top of the column.

Any lift with an arm-less base must be firmly anchored to the surface on which it rests. Those lifts with a standard armed base and a station height over 72" should be anchored to the surface on which it rests. Anchor points are provided in both base types for this purpose.

Lifts with a station height of 48" to 72"

Any lift with a station height between 48" and 72" requires the use of a brace kit. You can purchase a brace kit from Affordable Wheelchair Lifts or you can make your own.

Here is a photo of the Brace Kit sold by Affordable Wheelchair Lifts:



This Brace Kit is extremely flexible. The unistrut attaches to a wall and the rods attach to bolts screwed through the Rain Shield into the Hoist Head at the top of the lift's column.

Lifts with a station height of > 72", and wall mounted Lifts:

Lifts of this nature require a Bracket Cap. Here are some photos of a Bracket Cap mounted on top of a lift, but not attached to any brackets:



A lift with a station height over 72" requires the use of a bracket cap and will require customer provided bracing that will connect the bracket cap (and column) to an adjacent support structure, ideally a strong wall. Care should be taken to assure that the bracing is securely attached to the wall and that the wall is strong enough to withstand the expected lateral forces.

The Bracket Cap is square and so can be mounted in any of four positions. See the PDF of the Bracket Cap engineering diagram and Bracket Cap Configurations here:

www.AffordableWheelchairLifts.com/ManualsAndGuides

Typical Usage:

It is critical and essential that the Bracket Cap be solidly connected to a solid supporting structure and that that connection not be susceptible to rot or sudden failure. Failure to do this can result in injury or death.

There will generally be material (wood, steel, etc) connecting the Bracket Cap to the supporting structure.

If the top of the column is within 6" or less of a solid wall, an appropriate thickness of treated wood or some other material is solidly attached to the supporting structure and the Bracket Cap is solidly bolted onto that material.

If the Bracket Cap will be more than 6" from the supporting structure then a steel beam can be solidly attached to the supporting structure and then bolted to both holes in one of the two vertical flanges of the Bracket Cap. This direct multi-point connection will keep the top of the column from moving parallel to the supporting structure or twisting around its vertical axis. We furthermore recommend that an additional beam extend from the supporting structure and be connected to one of the four bolts holding the Bracket Cap onto the Hoist Head. It is best if this beam forms a 45 to 90 degree angle with the first beam.

Both beams should be solidly connected to the supporting wall's masonry, studs or steel skeleton.

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