

# Inspection of Slings and Belts

We recommend that slings and belts be in service for no longer than two years from the date of purchase. This is simply a guideline and slings and belts may need to be removed prior to this time, depending on wear and tear like: loose stitching, fraying, discoloration, etc. A sling in good condition promotes safe lifting and reduces the risk of injury to the patient and the caregiver.

## ***Sling/Belt Inspection Checklist***

*What to look for when determining if a sling should be replaced:*



### **Discoloration**

*Sling straps or fabric may be discolored and lightened due to bleach and laundry detergents which weaken fabric.*



### **Fraying**

*Any fraying of the material on the sling or belt is a clear indication that the fabric is in a weakened condition. Slings and belts with fraying should be removed from service immediately.*



### **Loose Stitching**

*Any loose stitching on the sling, even if it is only supportive stitching, weakens that area and puts more strain on other areas of the sling.*

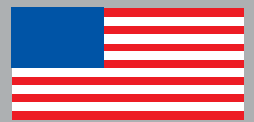


### **Punch Tag**

*Look at the date punched on the tag, and if the sling/belt has been in service for more than two years, we recommend replacement. If the numbers are faded or the tag is worn off or shredded, then replace the sling/belt.*



“Slings and belts should be checked before every use for wear and tear. The life of a sling or belt will depend on how often it is used and laundered.”



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