



# STAR

a part of Etac

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Owner's Manual  
-For-  
Mattress Overlay

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Dynamic Air Flow

**Users: Read instructions before using product and  
save this manual for future reference**

## About this manual

This manual contains information on the operation and maintenance of your Star mattress. You must fully read these instructions before use. Star Cushion Products, Inc. is not responsible for any negative results if the instructions are not followed. If you have any additional questions within the USA, please contact Star Cushion. Internationally, please contact your national distributor.

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Products in this manual may be covered by one or more U.S. and foreign patents and trademarks. For further details, please refer to [www.starcushion.com](http://www.starcushion.com).

Star Cushion Products has a policy of continual product improvement, and thus may amend this document. For a current version of this document, please visit [www.starcushion.com](http://www.starcushion.com).

## Intended Use:








The StarMatt Mattress Overlay is a non-powered, adjustable, zoned, air-filled cellular design full support surface. The StarMatt Mattress Overlay utilizes dynamic air flow technology and is intended to conform to an individual's shape upon immersion to provide skin/soft tissue protection and an environment to facilitate wound healing of wounds up to Category IV. The StarMatt Mattress Overlay is designed to be used on top of a standard hospital, nursing home, long-term care facility, home care or consumer mattress. There is no weight limit to the StarMatt Mattress Overlay so long as the overlay is properly sized to the individual and the underlying mattress.











Star Cushion Products, Inc. recommends evaluation by a clinician or healthcare professional as a part of an overall care program based on the individual's medical and therapeutic needs.

## Customer Responsibilities:

- Carefully read and follow all the instructions provided in this manual
- Follow a regular routine in examining and adjusting the mattress for proper inflation and immersion, recommended at least daily.
- If you are unable to perform any of the tasks described in this manual, seek assistance
- If you need further assistance with understanding the tasks described in this manual, seek assistance from a clinician or healthcare professional with experience using a variety of support surfaces.

## Cautions:

-  **Check in lation:** At least once per day, per section, of the mattress overlay.
-  **Check Skin:** Check skin frequently, at least once per day. Skin and soft tissue breakdown can occur due to many reasons, which may vary by individual. Redness, bruising, or discolored skin may indicate the beginning of soft tissue or skin breakdown. If this occurs, consult with a clinician immediately.
-  **Turning & Repositioning:** The support surfaces should not be a substitute for the individual's care regimen, but instead should supplement existing needs. Consult a clinician or healthcare professional with regards to the frequency and need to turn and reposition the individual.
-  **Snap:** Make sure the sections of the product are snapped together before and during use.
-  **Product Orientation:** The product must be used with the air cells facing upwards. If the air cells are not facing up, it may reduce or eliminate the support surface's benefits and could increase risk to the skin and other soft tissue.
-  **Overlay and Mattress Orientation:** The overlay should be correctly sized to the bed mattress and to the individual using it. If not, it may reduce or eliminate the support surface's benefits and could increase risk to the skin and other soft tissue.
-  **Set Up:** The product should be set up by knowledgeable caregivers who are properly trained in the use of the product.

-  **Underinflation: DO NOT USE an under-inflated product.** Insufficient inflation or loss of mattress air may cause lack of body support. It is important that you are immersed into the mattress, but not resting on the base or bottom of the mattress, as it can result in peak pressure areas. Prolonged exposure to peak pressures could increase risk of breakdown to the skin and other soft tissue.
-  **Over-inflation: DO NOT USE an over-inflated product.** If the support surface remains over-inflated for daily use, the body will not immerse into the cells, which may reduce or eliminate the product's benefits, and increase risk of breakdown to the skin and other soft tissue.
-  **Climate:** If the product has been in temperatures less than 32°F / 0°C and exhibits unusual stiffness, allow the product to warm to room temperature. Then, knead the air cells with your hands, or roll up the product and then unroll it (with the valve open until the neoprene is soft and pliable again. Repeat proper adjustment instructions before using. Avoid extreme heat and keep away from heat sources, hot ashes, or open flames.
-  **Pressure:** Changes in altitude may require you to readjust your product for proper inflation. Check inflation each time you change altitude.
-  **Puncture:** In order to prevent your product from being punctured, keep it away from sharp objects.
-  **Handling:** DO NOT attempt to carry your product by the valve(s) or pull the product by the valve(s). Lift underneath the base of the support surface section to carry.
-  **Obstructions:** DO NOT place any unneeded obstructions between the user and the support surface, and use as few linens as necessary, as this may reduce or eliminate the product's benefits and increase the risk of skin or soft tissue breakdown.
-  **Instability/Fall Hazard:** DO NOT use your product in conjunction with, or place on top of any other products or materials, except as listed in the Intended Use section. This may result in instability and/or falls.
-  **Oil-Based Lotions:** Do not let oil-based lotions or lanolin come into contact with the product, as it may degrade the neoprene.
-  **Sunlight:** Prolonged exposure to sunlight or ozone can degrade the neoprene and may lessen the effectiveness of the product.



**Entrapment/Fall Risks:** The use of side rails on beds has been determined by governmental safety agencies as creating a risk of life-threatening entrapment which endangers the individual. The use of side rails is not a requirement for the proper use of a StarMatt Mattress Overlay. However, if clinically indicated after consultation with applicable health care laws and regulations, as well as a clinical assessment by a trained healthcare professional, then the health care professional must consider the risk of entrapment in using the StarMatt Mattress Overlay on a mattress with side rails present and take steps to minimize such a risk. In the event side rails are not present, the health care professional must consider the risks associated with the individual falling out of bed, and take steps to minimize such risks. For more information on the safety concerns involved with bed rails and risk of entrapment, please visit [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov).

## Product Specifications:

The products addressed in this manual are made of latex-free neoprene rubber with a urethane base and electroplated copper valves. These products, when used and maintained properly (including minor repairs), are expected to last 5 years.

Product	Dimensions (cm)	Dimensions (in)	Weight
Mattress Overlay (Single Section)	86 x 49 x 10	33.75 x 19.25 x 4	3,25 kg
Mattress Overlay (4 sections)	86 x 191 x 10	33.75 x 75 x 4	13 kg
Bariatric Overlay	To fit	To fit	Varies
Foam Replacement Insert Section	86 x 49 x 10	33.75 x 19.25 x 4	2,6 kg

## What is included:

A – Mattress overlay sections: Each mattress overlay section has dimensions 86x49x10 cm (33.75" x 19.25" x 4")

B – Complete mattress overlay: 4 air cell mattress overlay sections are included. Within each section, each air cell is connected to each other and allows the air within the cells to be distributed evenly across the whole section.

C – Snaps: Each mattress overlay section has snaps which allow the sections to be snapped together to form an entire mattress overlay

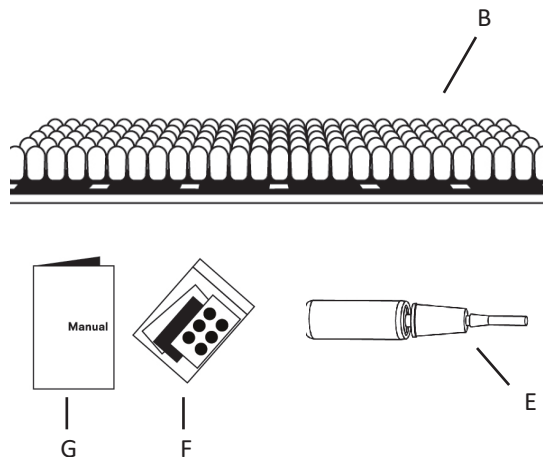
D – Inflation Valve(s): supports the flow of air into and out of the mattress section

E - Pump: dual action pump to inflate the air cells through the inflation valve

F - Repair Kit: Minor punctures to your cushion can be easily repaired with the repair kit. The repair kit contains 3 patches, sandpaper, 3 toothpicks, and an instruction card.

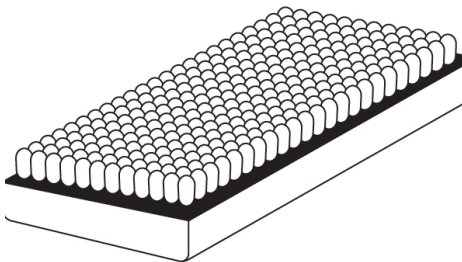
G – Owner's Manual

H – OPTIONAL: Foam replacement insert section, incontinence cover



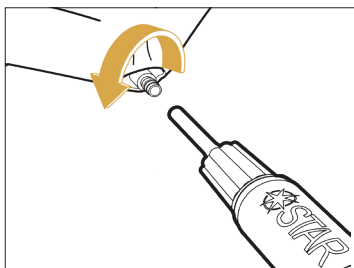
## Instructions for Use:

Please read the instructions carefully and follow guidelines to properly adjust your Star Mattress Overlay. Failure to comply with the instructions may cause improper inflation of this dynamic airflow product, resulting in a loss of therapeutic value.



### **Inflating the Mattress:**

1. Remove all bed linens except the support mattress pad or sheet from existing bed mattress. Place the Mattress Overlay sections with the air cells facing up, on the top of the bed mattress. Align the sections and snap them together.
2. Turn the silver tip valve counterclockwise to open. Only open one valve per section, keep the other valve closed. Do not apply pressure when opening and closing valve. The valve maintains a tight seal with little effort.

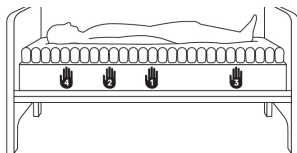


3. Attach the rubber hose end of the black hand pump to the open valve. Be sure the pump hose is placed tightly over the valve.
4. With the pump attached, pump to moderate inflation.  
*Note: Moderate inflation is achieved when the center of the mattress section begins to arch.*
5. Turn the valve clockwise to close. Remove the pump. Repeat steps 2-4 for remaining mattress sections.



## Personalizing the Inflation of Your Mattress:

6. Reapply bed linens (Maximum one sheet, one draw sheet, or one incontinent pad). Place the individual on the Mattress Overlay in their normal ly-ing position. NOTE: If the individual will be lying in the side position at any time while on the mattress, Star recommends that the inflation adjustment be performed while the user is in the side position, as this position typically has a greater immersion need.
7. To adjust for the proper immersion level of each mattress overlay section, slide your hand between the product surface and the individual's lowest bony prominence. Turn the valve counterclockwise to open, and release air until the area of high risk is  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. to 1 in. (2-3 cm) from the base of the mattress section. Turn the valve clockwise to close. Repeat step 7 for the remaining mattress overlay sections.

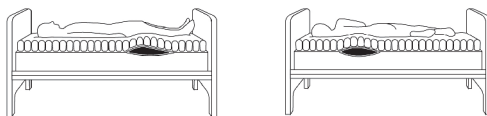


### Linens:

Too many linens between the product and the individual will compromise skin protection performance, prevent the individual from sinking in, and reduce pressure distribution.

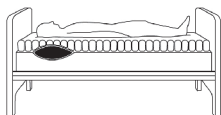
It is recommended that a maximum of:

- One flat or contoured sheet, arranged loosely over the Mattress Overlay.
- If needed, a draw sheet for moving and transferring can be used.
- If needed, one incontinent pad can be used.



### Positioning:

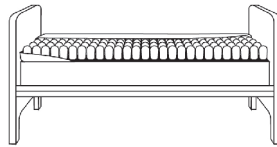
Special Positioning: For an individual with special positioning needs while lying on their side or back, a pillow or other positioning device can be placed beneath the Mattress Overlay. Before placing any pillows, you must consult with your clinician or healthcare provider.



### Pillows:

NOTE: If the individual desires to use a head pillow, Star recommends placing the pillow underneath the head section of the mattress instead of on top of the mattress section, as this has been shown to better reduce peak pressure points.

## Cover Use and Removal:



### **Overlay Cover Attachment:**

1. Remove all bed linens, except the support mattress pad or sheet, from the existing bed mattress.
2. Referring to the directional labels, place the cover on top of the bed mattress, unzip one side fully, and fold the cover top to one side.
3. Place the mattress overlay with the air cells facing upwards inside the cover. Align the mattress overlay sections and snap them together.
4. Follow the inflation steps in the Instructions for Use (Steps 1-5) of these instructions to inflate the mattress overlay.
5. Re-fold the cover top.
6. Reapply the bed linens, if needed (maximum one sheet, one draw sheet, or one incontinent pad).
7. Place the individual on the mattress overlay in their normal lying position.
8. Follow the immersion steps in the Instructions for Use (Steps 6-7) to properly immerse the individual.
9. One the proper immersion is achieved, zip the cover closed.

### **Overlay Cover Removal:**

#### **To Remove the Mattress Overlay and Overlay Cover TOGETHER:**

1. Transfer the individual to a difference surface.
2. Unbuckle and remove the cover from the bed with the mattress overlay still enclosed.

NOTE: If placing the individual back on the mattress overlay, unzip the cover ensure the sections are still snapped together and lying flat. Then ensure proper inflation.

#### **To Remove the Mattress Overlay and Overlay Enclosure Cover SEPERATELY:**

1. Transfer the individual to a different surface
2. Unzip one side of the cover
3. Unsnap and remove the mattress overlay sections from the cover.
4. Unbuckle the cover from the bed mattress and remove the cover from the bed mattress.

## Cover Cleaning and Disinfecting Instructions:

**To Clean the Cover:** Remove the cover. Machine wash, gentle cycle, in warm water (max 140°F or 60°C) with a mild detergent, with like colors. No Bleach. Rinse in cold water and machine dry on low temperature or line dry.

**To Disinfect the Cover:** The cover can be machine washed in hot water (60°C) to disinfect. Tumble dry low. Quaternary-type disinfectants may also be used in concentrations recommended by the manufacturer. Rinse thoroughly.

*Star Cushion Products, Inc. is not responsible for any damage that may occur from your washing machine or dryer.*

## Mattress Cleaning and Disinfecting Instructions:

Before cleaning/disinfecting, remove the cover and wash separately.

Cleaning is the removal of soil, dirt and organic matter from the product.

Disinfecting is the elimination of pathogenic microorganisms.

Cleaning must precede disinfection.

**To Clean the Air Cells:** Close the mattress overlay section's valve(s). Using a washcloth, sponge, and/or soft bristle brush, hand wash the air cells in lukewarm water with a liquid dish washing detergent, laundry detergent, soap, or general purpose housekeeping cleaning products. (DO NOT USE automatic dishwasher detergents which are too caustic for personal safety) If necessary, dilute following the product label directions for surface cleaning. Make sure to thoroughly scrub all of the air cells and spaces between. Rinse completely with fresh water. Allow the cushion to dry for approximately 15 minutes. If not completely dry, use a towel to spot dry your cushion. DO NOT PLACE YOUR STAR CUSHION IN A CLOTHES WASHER OR DRYER, OR HEAT ABOVE 100\* FARENHEIT (37°C).



**To Disinfect the Air Cells:** Periodic cleaning is all that is recommended unless there is a known infection or an open wound. If disinfection is desired, follow the above cleaning instructions using a solution of 1 part household liquid chlorine bleach to 9 parts warm water. Soak the product for 10 minutes in the solution, rinse completely, and dry thoroughly. **Do Not Use Undiluted Bleach!**

Note: Most germicidal disinfectants are safe if used following the disinfectant manufacturer's dilution directions.

**DO NOT:**

- machine wash or machine dry the mattress.
- use abrasives such as steel wool or scouring pads.
- use cleaning products containing petroleum or organic solvents.
- allow water or cleaning solution to enter the product (make sure the valve(s) are closed tightly before starting).
- expose the product to ultraviolet light or ozone gas cleaning methods.
- use oil-based lotions, lanolin, or phenolic-based disinfectants on your product, as they may compromise the integrity of the material.

**To Sterilize the Mattress:** Follow Cleaning and Disinfection guidelines above. Star Cushion's products are not packaged in a sterile condition nor are they intended or required to be sterilized prior to usage. High temperatures can accelerate aging of the product and may cause damage or failure. If institution protocol demands sterilization, open the valve(s) and use the lowest temperature possible for the shortest time possible. Neither are recommended, but gas sterilization is preferable to steam autoclave. In any process using pressure, ensure all valves are open to prevent damage to the product. Star Cushion Products, Inc. highly discourages sterilization methods using temperatures greater than 180° F (82° C) for air-adjust-able products.



**Deodorizing:** To deodorize products mix one tablespoon of baking soda per quart of water (25 gm/l) in 10 parts water. Soak for several hours, rinse and let dry. This may need to be repeated several times. Clean product frequently or use an incontinent covering to avoid strong odors and staining.

## Warranty:

### **Limited Two Year Warranty on Mattress Limited Thirty Day Warranty on Mattress Cover**

Star Cushion warrants your mattress overlay sections for a period of two years from the date of purchase, and the exterior cover for thirty days from the date of purchase to be free of defects in material and/or workmanship.

#### **What is NOT covered by the warranty:**

1. Necessary replacement or repair that has been caused by improper usage, abuse, negligence, or punctures from outside objects.
2. Daily wear and tear, or damage that is a result of disregarding the specific directions contained in this instruction manual.

Warrantor is **not** responsible for consequential damages or incidental damages.

Star Cushion requires proof of original purchase date, such as your original sales slip to establish warranty period.

Warranty service is available by returning the mattress overlay sections and/or cover, at your expense to:

Star Cushion Products, Inc.  
Attn: Repairs  
5 Commerce Drive  
Freeburg, IL 62243

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you. All implied warranties with respect to this product are limited to two years from the date of purchase for the mattress overlay section and thirty (30) days for the cover.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that may vary from state to state.

**International Warranty:** Please contact your local distributor. A list of distributors can be found at [www.starcushion.com](http://www.starcushion.com) or if you cannot find a distributor contact Star Cushion (see Contact Information).

## Returns:

All products returned must be new and unused, require prior authorization from Star Cushion Products, Inc. and are subject to a restocking charge. Before returning your product in the U.S.A., contact our Warranty Service Department.

## Troubleshooting:

### **Not Holding Air:**

1. Open valve(s) by turning counter clockwise and add air to the mattress using your black hand pump.
2. Close valve(s) tightly by turning valves clockwise.

If still not holding air:

3. Visibly check to see if there are any holes. If no holes are visible, immerse mattress section (with the valves tightly closed) in sink or tub of water and look for air bubbles.
  - If pin-hole sized holes are found, use the repair kit that came with your product and follow the repair kit instructions.
  - If large holes or other leaks are found, see Warranty Section.

### **Uncomfortable/Unstable:**

- Make sure mattress section is not over-inflated. (see Instructions for Use).
- Make sure the air cells and the cover are facing "UP."

Allow the user to lie on the product for a minimum of one hour to get use to the texture of the product's surface and immersion into the air cells.

### Disposal:

There are no known environmental hazards associated with the components of the products in this manual when properly used and disposed. Dispose of the product and/or components in accordance with the applicable regulations in your jurisdiction. DO NOT INCINERATE.

## Contact Information:

In the U.S.A:

Star Cushion Products, Inc. Customer Care and Warranty Service:

Phone: 888-277-7827

Fax: 618-539-7073

[www.starcushion.com](http://www.starcushion.com)

Customer Care/Warranty Service: [CS@StarCushion.com](mailto:CS@StarCushion.com)

Note: If directed to return any items, please send to:

Star Cushion Products, Inc.

5 Commerce Drive

Freeburg, IL 62243

Outside the U.S.A.:

Star Cushion International: [intl@starcushion.com](mailto:intl@starcushion.com)

Or visit [www.starcushion.com](http://www.starcushion.com) or [www.etac.com](http://www.etac.com) for a list of Star Cushion International distributors.

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The Quality Management System  
of Star Cushion Products, Inc. is certified to  
ISO 13485:2003



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