

REFUND/RETURN POLICY

Due to the inherent costs associated with custom fabrication, there can be no refund for a custom fabricated orthosis (including custom molded shoes and foot orthotics) unless the item is proven to be inappropriate at the time of fitting or substandard (less than full quality), in which case the manufacturer's warranty will be observed.

YANKE BIONICS'

Philosophy is that life should be lived to the fullest extent.

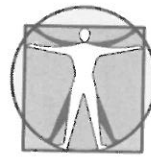
It's all about spirit.

It's about winning in life.

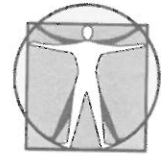
Its about Accepting No Limitations!

If you have any questions or concerns, please call your local office.

If it is after normal business hours, please call 330-762-6411 and follow the prompts. The On-Call clinician will assist you.



YANKE BIONICS
PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC PATIENT CARE



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**Advanced
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Care**

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THORACO
LUMBO
SACRAL
ORTHOSIS
(TLSO)**

www.yankebionics.com

Tel: 330-762-6411
Fax: 330-762-4110

MATERIALS

Your custom fabricated Thoraco-Lumbo-Sacral Orthoses (T.L.S.O.) is fabricated from a thermoplastic called modified polyethylene-based foam. Once these materials have been thermoformed, they will not change their shape unless they are heated to a temperature over 275 degrees F. These materials are very resilient and won't break under normal use, including opening the T.L.S.O. all the way when donning it.

PROPER DONNING

Depending on your condition, your T.L.S.O. can be applied in a number of ways. Your physician or orthotist can advise you as to whether the T.L.S.O. should be applied while lying, sitting or standing.

In **ALL** cases, an undergarment is to be worn between your skin and the T.L.S.O. The undergarment serves 2 functions. First, it will keep your skin from sticking to the foam liner. Second, it will serve to wick perspiration away from your skin. Preferably, an undershirt made from cotton should be utilized. A white undershirt is desirable because some colored shirts can "bleed" their dyes onto your skin. In warmer weather or if you perspire heavily, the undergarment should be changed a number of times during the day. Powder or corn starch can be applied to the skin if desired.

Your T.L.S.O. has indentations in the sides which correspond to your waist, the area between your hips and lower rib cage. These waist grooves must be positioned on your waist to insure the T.L.S.O. is located properly. Also, make sure that any wrinkles in your undergarment are smoothed out. The straps should always be fastened securely. The support provided by the T.L.S.O. is reduced significantly if the straps are not tightened enough. The T.L.S.O. will also tend to shift on you if it is loose.

Your physician may want your T.L.S.O. to be donned while lying in bed. If your T.L.S.O. has a front, back, or side opening you should roll on your side so you are almost face down.

An assistant should open the T.L.S.O. and slide it under you as far as possible. You should then roll on to your back and possibly over to your other side so the T.L.S.O. is positioned with the opening centered down the front. Using this method, you may not get the T.L.S.O. positioned exactly, but it will be close. Fasten the straps securely. Once you stand, loosen the straps, reposition the T.L.S.O. to the proper location and re-secure the straps.

If your T.L.S.O. is a Bi-valve design (2 piece) and it is to be applied while lying, you should roll to your side. An assistant should slide the back half of the T.L.S.O. to its proper position. Roll on your back and insure you are centered. Center or position the front of the T.L.S.O. so there is equal spacing on either side. The plastic should not come together. Fasten the straps securely. **NOTE: The straps should be criss-crossed.** To make future donning easier leave one side of the T.L.S.O. fastened. Periodically check to make sure the openings on both sides remain equal.

Another method of donning the T.L.S.O. is to do so while sitting on the edge of the bed. Open the T.L.S.O. and wrap it around you with the opening in front. Fasten the straps as securely as possible. Stand, loosen the straps and properly position the T.L.S.O. and re-secure the straps.

The easiest way to don the T.L.S.O. is while standing. Open the T.L.S.O. and wrap it around you with the opening centered in front. Squeeze the T.L.S.O. closed and push it downward so the waist grooves rest on top of the hips. Fasten the straps securely.

Throughout the day, your T.L.S.O. may need to be repositioned. When sitting, there is a tendency for the T.L.S.O. to shift upward. This is because the hips splay out but the shape of the T.L.S.O. does not change. Sitting on soft furniture can also cause the T.L.S.O. to shift upwards. Simply loosen the straps, reposition the T.L.S.O. and secure the straps.

USE

Your physician will instruct you as to the number of hours a day you need to wear your T.L.S.O. as well as the duration of use.

It is important that you work with your T.L.S.O. and don't try to move in ways that make

the T.L.S.O. uncomfortable, such as excessive bending to the sides or front. The T.L.S.O. is designed to support the thoracic and lumbar spine. In order to do so, it must restrict motion. Mechanically, the T.L.S.O. must hold the pelvis and rib cage to reduce spinal motion. Spinal support also comes from squeezing the stomach which adds a great deal of support.

CARE

The foam lining of your T.L.S.O. is "closed cell", which means it will not absorb perspiration or water. Each time you remove the T.L.S.O., you should immediately wipe it out with a damp washcloth. Do not allow the perspiration to dry on the T.L.S.O. Once a week you should clean your T.L.S.O. with an antibacterial soap and water. Make sure that you rinse all soap residue from your T.L.S.O. with running water so you don't develop a skin dermatitis. Dry the T.L.S.O. thoroughly with a towel. **DO NOT RE-DON THE T.L.S.O. IF IT IS DAMP.** If you need to speed up the drying process after towel drying, place the T.L.S.O. in front of a fan or use a hair dryer on the **COOL** setting only. The foam is much more heat sensitive than the plastic and can become brittle if direct heat is used.

FOLLOW-UP

If you experience any problems with your T.L.S.O. you should notify Yanke Bionics immediately. Some common problems can arise if you experience weight change during your treatment period. Your orthotist may need to re-adjust the straps or trim the plastic to accommodate your weight change. It is possible that a strap, loop or rivet could break. If this happens, the T.L.S.O. can be secured with duct tape or a belt until arrangements are made to repair your T.L.S.O. You should contact Yanke Bionics if you have any concerns about the fit, function or condition of your T.L.S.O. If your condition warrants extended use of the T.L.S.O., you should have it evaluated every 6 months.