CMPROSTHETICS
Custom Made

Customed Designed Finger Prosthesis

You have been supplied with a custom designed, silicone prosthesis. By following the instructions in this leaflet, your prosthesis should give good service.

Placing the Prosthesis
Your prosthesis is held in position by the creaiton of a passive vacuum. It is important that you create this vacuum correcrtly.

Place a small amount of water inside the prosthesis and allow it to drain out.

Carefully slide the prosthesis into position, taking care to allow the thin edges to position correctly. **DO NOT** pull on these edges - they will tear.

Once in position, push the prosthesis on to the finger remnant and squeeze any remaining air from beneath the silicone. You should now have good retention.

Finally, take a cotton bud and apply a small amount of Vaseline beneath the rthin silicone edge. This will create an airtight seal that will enable the edges to blend in to your skin.

Removing the Prosthesis
To remove, simply twist the prosthesis to break the vacuum and carefully pull it away from you skin. **DO NOT** pull on the fine edges - they will tear.

Cleaning the Prosthesis
Clean the prosthesis with a dilute soapy solution, such as shampoo. Rinse well and pat dry with tissue.

Nail varnish may be used and should be removed carefully. Extra care should be taken to ensure that no varnish remover comes in to contact with the silicone, this is best achieved with a cotton bud.

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Finally
Great care and attention has been applied to the construction of your prosthesis, in order to make it look as realistic as possible. It is now your responsibility to look after it carefully to preserve its appearance and function. Treat your prosthesis with respect, in the same way you would treat an expensive piece of jewellery. The more care you give your prosthesis, the longer it will last.

Surface detail colour has been applied to your prosthesis and sealed with several layers of silicone paint. Try not to rub the surface of the prosthesis as this may cause de-lamination of the surface seal. Any frictional force will, eventually, cause de-lamination (peeling). Apply a thin smear of Vaseline to the sides to reduce friction against the adjacent fingers.

Although your prosthesis may look very realistic, it is not natural tissue and cannot be expected to perform in the same way. You will discover what you can and cannot do with your prosthesis in terms of it remaining in position during certain activities.

Prostheses are generally designed for aesthetics only and are not intended for function. Any function gained from the restoration of finger length is a bonus, but should not be taken as license for manual work practices.

Pressure on the soft tissue of the residual stump of the finger, arising from constant use, may reshape the soft tissue. This results in the stump becoming narrower and, over time, may make the prosthesis feel loose and not retain as well as it originally did at the time of fitting. This degree of reshaping is normal, varies from patient to patient and, unfortunately, cannot be predicted. Should such reshaping occur, the mould cannot be modified to deal with the change, therefore the only alternative is for a complete remake of the prosthesis, which will involve taking new impressions. This, unfortunately, is a compromise of the prosthesis which cannot be avoided.