

English User Manual – Akva Care Cushion©

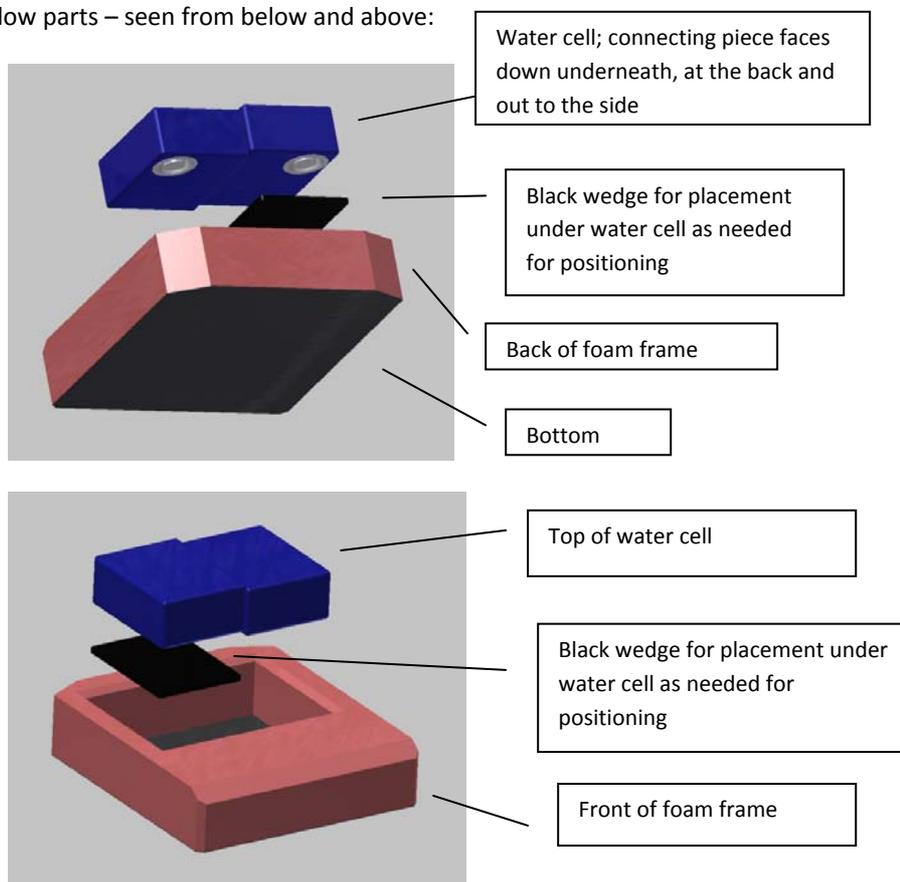
About the User Manual

Thank you for choosing a pressure-relief pillow from Akva Waterbeds. The user manual contains information about the proper use and adaptation of your new pillow. Before using your Akva Care Cushion©, carefully read the following simple but important instructions for use and care, in order to get the most out of your pillow. Only through proper use can you ensure that the pillow will promote healing and protect your skin.

About Akva Care Cushion©

Akva Care Cushion© from Akva Waterbeds is a pressure-sore prevention pillow made of the best materials and of high-quality Danish design. The pillow is ergonomically correct for an optimal sitting position and consists of two quality foams combined with 2 incorporated water cells with foam inside that ensure both high comfort and optimal pressure-relief.

Overview of pillow parts – seen from below and above:



The water cells are filled with a very precise amount of water. This ensures optimal sitting comfort and pressure relief without compromising stability.

Accompanying the pillow are positioning wedges, which can be placed under the water cells to allow quick and easy adjustment of the pillow as needed for positioning for shorter or longer periods of time. The pillow is furthermore fitted with a hygienically correct zipper opening, which allows you to easily insert and remove the accompanying wedges to correct the sitting position. *NOTE: A label and washing instructions are sewn within the cushion cover*

Inspection of Pillow and Wheelchair

When you sit for longer periods of time, the pressure is highest on your sit bones. It is there that you run the greatest risk of developing pressure sores. Therefore, the pillow consists of a fitted foam base with a hole in the back in which the water cells can be placed at the spot where the sit bones sink down. This distributes pressure across the entire sitting surface, and the water cells are also designed to offset the pressure as much as possible. It is important, therefore, that the pillow size is correct and that it fits the wheelchair. For that reason, you should check that the pillow has the proper size and that it fits the wheelchair. The pillow is available in the following sizes (cm):

Width	Length
40	40
40	45
40	50
45	40
45	45
45	50
50	40
50	45
50	50

Max. user weight: 120 kg. For special sizes, contact Akva Waterbeds A/S at tel. +45 8689 3400.

The pillow must be placed correctly in the chair. The wheelchair's foot supports and armrests are adjusted if necessary, such that the user's legs are resting on the front edge of the pillow. This distributes the pressure to the entire pillow, thus reducing the pressure on the sit bones.

Furthermore, you should always ensure that the pillow is properly placed in the wheelchair. The pillow is placed on the wheelchair's seat with the water cells facing up and back and with the foam base facing forward.

NOTE: Remember to adjust the wheelchair after switching to the new pillow!

Pillow Cover

The pillow is available with either a standard case or an incontinence cover. Both pillow covers have a base consisting of a slip-proof material and both are multi-stretch.

Remember to make sure the cover is properly fitted on the pillow according to the instructions found on the cover.

Always make sure that the pillow is facing correctly in relation to the indication sticker on the cover. Place the cover on the pillow so the slip-proof material is on the bottom facing the wheelchair and that the zipper opening is facing backwards.

Note: Use the cover together with the pillow. For optimal function, the pillow should always be fitted with an outer pillow cover. With normal use, we recommend you replace the outer pillow cover once a year. Intensive or incorrect use may significantly shorten the service life of the pillow cover.

Cleaning Instructions

Never wash the foam base in the washing machine. Do not autoclave the pillow. Do not expose the pillow to extreme cold, heat or pressure.

We recommend to machine-wash the cover inside out.

The incontinence cover is machine-washable at 90 °C and can be tumble dried on low temperature. The standard cover is machine-washable at 65 °C and can be tumble dried on low temperature.

Safety Precautions

The pillow satisfies current standards regarding fire safety. However, the pillow should never be left close to an open fire, hot ashes or intense heat.

Never use sharp objects or electric blankets on or under the pillow.

Only use the original pillow cover, water cell, foam and insert/wedge parts accompanying the pillow from Akva Waterbeds, and use them as instructed. There is no guarantee the product will work correctly if an incorrect combination of pillow, cover and accessories are used or if other types of pillow cover, other type of covers, sliding pieces, anti-slip material or the like are used.

Store the pillow indoors at room temperature (approx. 20° C). If the pillow is exposed to extreme cold (under 0° C), we recommend waiting until it has reached room temperature before using the pillow.

Do not open the valves or change the amount of water in the water cells, as it is carefully measured and should only be changed by specially trained staff.

Do not use the pillow if it is damaged. If, for some reason, the pillow becomes damaged, contact your therapist or dealer for further information.

Regular Maintenance

When starting with a new pillow, it is important to keep a close eye on the user's skin the first couple of days. If redness develops in the skin, the user should stop using the pillow and contact a therapist or dealer for further instructions and help.

The pillow should be checked regularly for damage to the case and the content of the pillow. It should especially be checked if it has been dropped, as the pillow may have been damaged or the water cells may have been displaced. If the pillow has been dropped, check the position of the water cells. Also check that the individual water cells are not deformed or displaced. If all parts are intact, put them back in place and make sure the surface of the water cells is flat.

If a leak in a water cell is suspected, check it. If you cannot find one, you can weight it against the specification – see the chart below:

Pillow, cm	40x40	40x45	40x50	45x40	45x45	45x50	50x45	50x50
Weight/cell, kg	0.90	1.20	1.20	1.00	1.35	1.35	1.58	1.58

If necessary, have the water cell refilled and emptied of air by a specially trained therapist/staff member.

In case of doubt, contact the dealer for further help.

In case of leakage, where liquid is leaking from the water cell and the water comes in contact with the user's skin, wash the user, change their clothes and watch for any skin irritation. Parts from the pillow must be washed and dried before they are used again.

The water cells should be inspected at least twice a year to ensure that the water volume in the water cells is intact, as defective water cells may reduce the pressure relief.

Warranty

Akva Waterbeds A/S offers a 2-year warranty against defective materials and workmanship from the original date of purchase, providing the product is used as intended.

In case of damage occurring due to abnormal use, such as improper handling, inappropriate cleaning or negligence, the warranty will become null and void.

If a defect in material or workmanship should arise within two years from the original date of purchase, Akva Waterbeds A/S will either repair or replace the product, as it chooses, at no extra charge. The warranty does not cover punctures, cracks or burn marks. The pillow cover is not covered by the warranty, but new cover may be purchased separately.