

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE



**BT**



**panthera**  
**panthera**

# Instruction for use BT panthera

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# Instruction for use BT panthera

## Intended use

Panthera BT is a wheelchair designed for those who do sports and need a chair that is flexible and easy to manoeuvre as well as comfortable and ergonomically correct. It is also designed to provide you with the best possible body balance. If you don't have good balance you simply can't play. With a Panthera BT it is easy to find the exact adaptation you need. Regardless of whether you are a beginner or an experienced player this is a chair you can develop in. As you progress to become a better player you can give your chair the properties you can handle. You get all this without having a heavy and unwieldy chair. The Panthera BT weighs only 9 kg.

**It is especially important that you read page 7 carefully because this concerns your safety.**

***Make sure you receive the chair you ordered:***

- Check the width of the chair. Measure the outer dimensions of the seat. These should be 33, 36, 39 or 42 cm according to your order.
- Check that you have received the accessories you ordered.

***Conduct a technical inspection of the chair:***

- The rear wheel axles should move smoothly in and out of the casing.
- The button at the centre of the hub should spring out when the rear wheels have been inserted.
- All four wheels should touch the ground.
- The caster fork can be easily rotated.

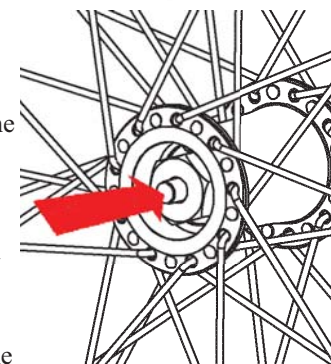
If any of the points above are not satisfactory please contact us at Panthera Production AB before proceeding to use the chair.

***Assembly and dismantling:***

When transporting the chair you could remove the rear wheels and fold down the backrest.

To **remove the rear wheels**, press in the button at the centre of the hub as in figure 1. Then pull the wheel straight out. To insert the wheels, press in the button and push the axle into the hole in the casing. Then push the wheel all the way in, release the button and pull out to check that the wheel is securely in place and the button springs back out.

The **backrest** can be folded forward by loosening the bolts for the back frame and then folding the back forwards and downwards.



**Figure 1.** Button for quick release hub.

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## Adaptation

When adapting the chair to suit your sitting position and provide the mobility you require, it is important that you make the following adjustments in the correct order. First, adjust the sitting position and after that adjust the balance of the chair according to your mobility requirements. This sequence is important since when you change your sitting position in the chair you also change the balance of the chair.

**You should make the following adjustments in this order:**

- 1) Seat height
- 2) Seat angle
- 3) Tension of the seat upholstery
- 4) Position of the footrest
- 5) Angle of the backrest
- 6) Tension of the backrest upholstery
- 7) Balancing of the wheelchair
- 8) Wheel base

### 1) Seat height

You can adjust the height of the seat on the wheelchair. Do this by loosening the bolts (1) attaching the back of the chair to the frame of the chassis as shown in figure 2. You should also loosen the clamps slightly (2) which fasten the seat section to the frame of the chair as shown in figure 4. You will now be able to pull the seat up and down until you find a suitable seat height. Tighten the bolts.



**Figure 2.** Adjusting the seat height.

### 2) Seat angle

You can change the angle of the seat for your comfort. Do this by loosening the bolts (3) slightly as shown in figure 3. Then loosen the clamps attaching the seat section to the frame of the chair (2) as shown in figure 4. You will now be able to twist the seat section to adjust the angle. Tighten all the bolts.



**Figure 3.** Adjusting the seat angle.

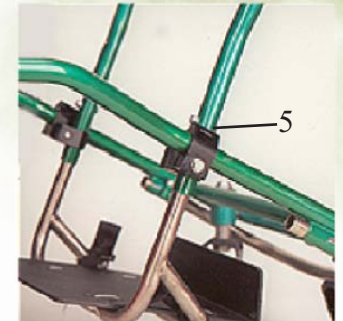
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### 3) Tension of the seat upholstery

The rear section of the seat upholstery can be made tighter or looser by adjusting the Velcro band underneath the seat. This allows you to vary your sitting height by about 2 cm up or down.

### 4) Position of the footrest

The footrest can be adjusted up or down. Remove the two screws (5) on the front of the frame attaching the footrest, unscrew these using a 3 mm socket head key as shown in figure 4. You will then be able to move the footrest up or down to fit into one of the five alternative height positions. You can also turn the footrest round if this is more comfortable. You should adjust the footrest at a height where your thighs are supported by the seat at the same time as your feet are supported by the footrest.



**Figure 4.** Footrest.

### 5) Angle of the backrest

1. Adjust the angle of the backrest by first loosening the bolts which are secured to the back tubing and the seat section (4) as shown in figure 3.
2. When these bolts have been loosened on both sides you will be able to move the backrest backwards and forwards.
3. Test different positions until you find a suitable backrest angle, then adjust the adjustment screws and tighten the bolts through the back tubing and the seat section. Do this on both sides.
4. Make sure the backrest is straight when the bolts have been tightened.

### 6) Tension of the back upholstery

The back upholstery can be tightened or loosened by adjusting the Velcro band at the back.

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## 7) *Balancing the wheelchair*

The balance of the wheelchair can be adjusted by moving the rear wheels back or forwards. The further forward you have the rear wheels the more 'rear balance' you will have. This makes the chair lighter at the front and you have more weight on the rear wheels.

It is important that you take time trying out a balance that suits your body and driving techniques so that you adapt the chair to be as easy to drive as possible without increasing the risk of tipping backwards. You should always have someone standing behind you when you try out the chair after adjusting the balance. Anti-tips eliminate the danger of tipping backwards. See the assembly instructions for 'Anti-tips basket'.

## 8) *Wheel base*

This is a special adaptation. Generally you want the chair as long as possible but if you wish to shorten your chair you can do as follows. The wheel base of the wheelchair can be adjusted on an ungraded scale which means you can change the distance between the casters and the rear wheels (to sit more compactly) by loosening the clamps attaching the seat section to the chassis as shown in figure 2. You should also loosen the clamps at the front by the footbar as shown in figure 4. You can then push the seat forward or backwards to the desired position. Once you have found a suitable position tighten the bolts. If you have shortened/lengthened your chair by pushing the seat section back or forward, the balance of the chair will be affected. You should therefore move the rear wheels to the same extent as you have moved the seat to achieve the same balance as before.

### **You move the rear wheels as follows:**

1. Remove the rear wheels.
2. Loosen the bolts on both sides of the chair that attach the clamps around the chassis tubing.
3. You will now be able to push the camber axle forward or back along the horizontal frame tubing. It is important that you have the clamps in the same forward position on both sides of the chair. You can check this by measuring the distance between the horizontal tubing at the rear and the back of the clamps, making sure that the distance is the same on both sides.
4. Tighten the clamps around the camber axle. When you tighten the clamps you should make sure that the axle protrudes to the same extent on both sides of the chair.

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## Maintenance

Your Panthera is constructed to be virtually maintenance free. A few parts do require regular checking however.

### *Once a month you should:*

- Check the wheels and tighten the spokes.
- Wipe the chair chassis over with car shampoo or washing-up liquid and a damp cloth. If very dirty you can use a degreasing agent. Lubricate all moveable parts with a universal lubricant (5-56, WD-40) after cleaning.
- Clean the caster fork casing (between the wheel and the fork). Hair and dust collect here which can damage the bearing. Loosen the nut using key no. 10 while holding the bolt with key no. 10. Remove the bolt and then the wheel. Clean the washers between the wheel and the fork and wipe the outside of the wheel bearing with a cloth. Drop some oil into each bearing. Reassemble the parts.
- Lubricate the rear wheel axles. Remove the wheel and distribute some drops of oil over the axle.
- Pump up the tyres. The tyres can be pumped by screwing the top off the valve and filling with air using an appropriate valve adapter. The tyre can take 8 kg of pressure.
- Check that all the screws and nuts are securely fastened.
- Check that the chair has not been damaged. If damage has occurred, contact us immediately at Panthera Production AB.

### *Twice a year you should:*

- Lubricate the ball bearings for the brakes with some drops of oil.
- Lubricate the bearings in the joints of the backrest. Remove the nut using cap key no.10 and hold the bolt still with key no. 10. Lubricate the bearings with some drops of oil.
- Wash the seat upholstery, the back upholstery and the cushion cover in 40 degrees machine wash when necessary.

### *Guarantee and lifetime*

The life of a Panthera depends on how much wear and tear it is exposed to and how thorough you are with maintenance.

Guarantee: We offer a one year factory guarantee on the chassis.

Maximum weight: 33, 36, 39 and 42 cm 100 kilos.



# Safety

A Panthera wheelchair is designed to be as easy to drive as possible and because of this it reacts quickly to the actions you perform. If you perform the wrong actions the chair can tip backwards, for example, if you don't have anti-tips. The chair can potentially tip up and it is not possible to issue a warning regarding all the circumstances in which that might occur. The most important safety measures you can take include ensuring that you have tested the chair thoroughly and spend time practicing your wheelchair technique.

If you have any questions about wheelchair technique you should contact the person who prescribed the chair/your therapist. If they are unable to help you, please do not hesitate to contact us at Panthera Production AB. We have a total of over 100 years' experience of daily use of wheelchairs. We would like to include some points here that may be helpful for your safety.

## *Balance and tipping capacity*

- The position of the rear wheels, the angle and the adjustment of the backrest upholstery are the most significant factors affecting the wheelchair's tendency to tip. After adapting your chair you should check that you feel safe with the balance of the chair. If you feel unsure, you should use anti-tips or move the rear wheels further back.
- The tipping capacity of the chair is also affected by: hanging a bag on the backrest, leaning/stretching backwards, worn tyres, poorly pumped tyres and unforeseen changes in the surface you are driving on.

### *Warning!*

*The chair can tip up on inclined surfaces when adapted in certain ways so use anti-tips or move the rear wheels further back if you feel unsure of the chair's stability.*

## *Sitting posture*

- The wrong sitting posture can cause pressure sores. If you are unsure you should contact your prescriber straight away.
- Check that the side guards do not exert too much pressure on your thighs since this can cause pressure sores. If the side guards exert too much pressure the chair is either too narrow or the side guards need to be adjusted.
- The seat is designed to be used with a cushion.

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