One of the major problems experienced in the use of medical stockings, and hence patient compliance, is getting them on and off. The stronger the stocking, the more difficult to manage. If you find it difficult to get stockings on and off, then the following hints may help.

Helpful Hints:
- Ensure that skin is dry. Using talc may help.
- Have a pair of rubber gloves handy (as used in the kitchen).
- Use a stocking application/removal aid.

Application and removal aids fall into two broad categories, frame type, and slide-on type:

‘Frame-type’ application aids
For use with both open and closed toe stockings - where the stocking is stretched over the appliance, and the foot slipped into the stocking.
- Some of the simple bendable plastic appliances with cords attached, are of limited use with strong medical stockings, and are more suitable for normal socks and stockings. These are detailed separately below.
- Other rigid appliances, made from metal or hard plastic are better, but the main problem with these, is the effort required in stretching the stocking over the frame. This can be very difficult for those with weak wrists, arthritis etc.

‘Slide-on’ application aids
This applicator fits over the foot, and the stocking slides over the applicator, which is then removed after stocking application.

The pick of slide-on products is the ‘Easy-Slide’ range as detailed below:
- These are available for open-toe stockings, where the applicator is pulled out from the toe-hole after application, and also for closed-toe stockings, where the applicator is removed from the top of the stocking after application.
- All slide-type applicators should be used with rubber gloves (as used in the kitchen). The applicator is put on the foot, and the top of the stocking is pulled over the slide-applicator onto the foot, just over the heel. Then, using the rubber gloves which cling to the stocking, simply feed the stocking bit by bit onto the foot, until the heel is in the correct position. You then gently remove the application aid from under the stocking.
- Many brands of open-toe medical stockings include a very simple slide-on aid with the stockings. These are usually made of a cloth fabric, and while helpful (with rubber gloves), they can be a little difficult to pull out through the toe-hole, and may rip or tear after continued usage.
- The main limitation of this type of stocking applicators, is for those who are obese or lack spinal flexibility, and have problems reaching their feet with their hands.
- However, Easy-Slides are very helpful for those putting stockings on another person. The trick is to sit beside the person, prop their leg over your knee, so you are pulling the stocking towards you, not pushing... as if you were putting the stocking on your own leg! With this technique, and using the Easy-Slide and rubber gloves as described above, the task is so much easier for both parties.

‘SLIDE-TYPE’ APPLICATION & REMOVAL AIDS (suitable for medical compression garments)

Easy-Slide products provide an effective solution for donning and removing medical stockings.
- Easy-Slide products are constructed of an innovative, smooth and light material.
- Completely portable, and easy to carry from place to place.
- Reduction of physical strain for both caregiver and the stocking wearer.
- Increase the independence of the stocking wearer, and in therapy compliance.
- Stockings retain their therapeutic compression longer.

‘EASY-SLIDE’ Applicator for open-toe stockings
- Application aid for open-toe stockings.
- Also suitable for hospital stockings with inspection hole.
- Slide stocking over, and then simply remove through the open toe.
- Use in conjunction with rubber gloves.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Shoe Size</th>
<th>Suit Foot</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Child / woman’s small</td>
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<td>42-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>ES 40</td>
<td>X large</td>
<td>46+</td>
<td>Men’s large</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Easy-Slide 'Caran' applicator for closed-toe stockings

- Application aid for closed-toe stockings, using Velcro closure.
- Put the Caran over the foot and slide the stocking over the top.
- Pull one tag to release the Velcro fastener, then pull the other tag to remove the Caran from the top of stocking.
- Use in conjunction with rubber gloves.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Shoe Size</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ES 95</td>
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<td>ES 100</td>
<td>Medium / Lge</td>
<td>Over 38</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Easy-Slide 'Magnide' applicator for closed-toe stockings *NEW

- Application aid for closed-toe garments with magnet closure.
- Put the Magnide over the foot and slide stocking over the top.
- Pull the tag to release the magnet closure, and continue pulling to remove from the top of stocking.
- Use in conjunction with rubber gloves.
- Note: The Magnide contains magnets, so should be kept at least 30cm away from pacemakers and defibrillators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Shoe Size</th>
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<td>ES 160</td>
<td>Large / X Lge</td>
<td>Over 40</td>
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Easy 'Sim-Slide' on/off aid for open-toe stockings *NEW

- Easy-Slide’s 'Sim-Slide' is the ‘2 in 1’ solution for putting on or taking off open toe stockings.
- Putting on: works just the same as the Easy-Slide
- Taking off: simply tighten the elastic cord, roll the stocking down, and off the leg.
- The Sim-Slide can also be used in the removal of closed stockings.
- Valuable not only for the wearer, but also for carers.
- Use in conjunction with rubber gloves

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Shoe Size</th>
<th>Suit Foot</th>
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'Easy-off' stocking removal aid

- Removal aid for medical stockings
- Stocking slides off easily.
- Sizing: Universal Size

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'EASY-ARM' arm sleeve applicator

- Application aid for lymphoedema arm sleeves.
- Sizing: Medium or large
- Suggestion to remove: attach loop over a door-handle, and slowly pull arm away.
COMPRESSION APPLICATION AIDS

‘EUREKA-ON’ plastic fabric slide
- A compression stocking applicator for the leg or arm.
- Consists of a triangular shaped durable paper-like slippery material with a central extended pull tab and eyelet holes on the sides for threading a thin tubular plastic lacing pin.

MEDI ‘2 in 1’ stocking aid
- Simple to use.
- Lay the Medi 2in1 on the floor, place bare foot on donning aid and push fabric between two toes.
- Pull the stocking on your foot and up your leg, then simply pull the 2in1 out from the top.
- To remove stockings, slip foot into nylon sleeve, fold over top of stocking and slide off foot.
- Clear illustrated instructions included.
- Works with open and closed toe stockings.

FRAME-TYPE APPLICATION & REMOVAL AIDS (suitable for medical compression garments)

‘EASY-AS’ stocking applicator
- A lightweight, rigid, plastic structure designed to assist with fitting closed and open pressure garments to upper and lower limbs.
- Available in small, medium and large sizes.
- Places less stress and pain on the injury.
- Handle Accessory: Designed to fit any size applicator in the Ezy-As™ range.

JOBST wire frame with handles
- A plastic coated metal stocking applicator to assist in putting on compression or surgical stockings.
- The frame will hold the stocking/sock sufficiently open to allow the foot to be inserted.
- This product is ideal for patients with arthritis and limited bending motion.
- The stocking still needs to be fed over the frame using the hands, but may eliminate prolonged bending to reach the feet.
- Use with closed as well as open toe stockings
- For calves 45cm or less.

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DVA RAP code AU 13
COMPRESSION APPLICATION AIDS

**Medi-Butler**

- The Medi “Short” Butler is an arm sleeve application aid.
- The regular Medi-Butler is used for applying compression knee highs and thigh highs.
- The Medi Wide Butler has a larger diameter frame - suitable where calf size exceeds 45cm.

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<td>MV900-0</td>
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DVA RAP code AU 13

**Medi-Butler - Variable handles**

- Adjustable handle length (approx. 26cm to 59cm)
- Ideal for those with arthritis or limited bending motion.
- Can be used with open or closed toe compression stockings
- Designed for stocking wearers with considerably restricted movement.

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DVA RAP code AU 13

**DORKING – Wire frame with handles**

- Extendable handles enable easy application of stockings and socks for those with limited reach.
- The hold-down handles rotate 90°, creating a more comfortable position for the user whilst applying the stockings.
- The central column, that holds the stocking, has a small ridge that prevents movement during application.
- The column also widens at the top, allowing room for the larger calf.
- Column width 12.5cm (5”), depth 8.5cm. Height with handles extended 56cm.

<table>
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<th>Code</th>
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DVA RAP code AU 13

**Wire frame stocking applicator**

- A white powder coated, rigid metal frame designed to assist with putting on elastic compression stockings.
- Available in two sizes – standard and wide top.

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<td>VENSAFWT</td>
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DVA RAP code AU 13

**Medi-Butler – Hospital**

The Mediven hospital butler allows patients and care staff to put on anti-embolism stockings and tubular wound dressing aids easily.

<table>
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DVA RAP code AU 13
**COMPRESSION APPLICATION AIDS**

**ROLYAN Compression stocking aid**

- A stocking aid which will apply support hosiery quickly and evenly.
- Grooves catch the compression stocking and prevent it from popping off.
- Works like a traditional sock aid - just pull the stocking over the shell, insert the foot and pull the cord to bring the hose up onto the leg.
- Suitable for Class 1 and 2 stockings.
- Recommended for below knee stockings but may still be suitable for some above knee models.

**BREVETTI - Collar & shoehorn type**

- Designed to help those with restricted mobility, enabling the user to successfully apply socks.
- The Brevetti is also very effective used with stockings.
- It consists of a plastic collar or gutter for holding the garment at one end, and a plastic shoehorn with a notch for easy sock removal at the other.
- A coated steel tube connects the two.
- Length 73.7cm.

**Medi-Butler off**

- This long handled device assists with the removal of compression stockings, socks and normal pantyhose.
- It is lightweight and features a T shaped thick grip handle, metal shaft and a curved tongue-like base with a hook.
- It can also double as a shoehorn.

**SOCK & STOCKING APPLICATION AIDS** (suitable for non-compression garments)

**ROLYAN Sock aid**

- Easy to use, simply pull the sock over the aid, insert the foot and pull the straps to bring the sock up over the foot.
- The cord style helps apply shorter socks whilst the wide style helps apply socks for people with larger feet.
- The wide style also features a flat design, preventing the sock aid rolling whilst the sock is being applied.

**ROLYAN Sock notch aid**

- Ideal for those who have the use of only one hand or with decreased strength or coordination.
- The notch in the side of the aid helps to hold the sock or stocking in place while it is applied to the aid.
- The cord style helps apply longer stockings that go over the calf.
- The garter style also features a handle that is ideal for those with limited grasp.
- A wide version is also available for those with larger feet.
**ROLYAN Terry cloth sock aid**

- Sock application is made easy with this flexible, plastic sock aid.
- Slits in the plastic core allow it to bend around the heel.
- The inside is lined with nylon to reduce friction.
- The outside is lined with terry cloth to hold the sock firmly until it is on the foot.
- Two pulling tabs with loop handles permit one-handed application.
- Hand wash only

**Code** | **Size**
--- | ---
A7273 | Universal

**ROLYAN Socky stocking aid**

- Designed for those with reduced movement in the back, hip or knee joints.
- The stocking or sock is placed over the fabric sock aid and via the use of ties the stocking is pulled up the leg.
- The sleeve is small and light so can be easily transported.

**Code** | **Size**
--- | ---
AA4656 | Universal

**DORKING Plastic stocking aid**

- A simple, inexpensive device to assist with putting on a stocking or sock especially if bending and reaching to the foot is difficult.
- It consists of a strong, shaped, flexible plastic gutter with long cotton tapes attached to the top.
- The stocking or sock is fed on to the plastic and held in place with the side notches. The foot is put in the open end of the stocking, which is then pulled over the foot and up the leg using the tapes.

**Code** | **Style**
--- | ---
AA4650Y | Standard style
AA4652Y | Side-slot style

**DORKING - Double gutter for pantyhose**

- This works on the same principle as the single stocking aid (model AA4650Y and AA 4652Y), but has a double gutter to enable it to be used for tights.

**Code** | **Style**
--- | ---
AA4654Y | Cord Style