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# SKED®

THE COMPLETE RESCUE SYSTEM



SAVING LIVES SINCE 1981

**INSTRUCTIONS**  
**AND**  
**USER MANUAL**



# SKED® SAVES LIVES

Congratulations on your purchase of the Sked® Rescue System. You will find it a valuable tool that will enable rescues to be performed safer, faster, and easier. The Sked® Stretcher is an entirely different concept in stretcher design. Therefore, potential rescuers should practice and familiarize themselves with the Sked® prior to using it on an actual rescue.

The Sked® Stretcher provides excellent patient support and protection. However, it is NOT designed as a spinal immobilization device. If a spinal injury is suspected, secure the patient to an approved spinal immobilization device prior to placing him/her in the Sked®. The Sked® Stretcher will accommodate long and short backboards, scoop stretchers, Oregon Spine Splint II™ and most other immobilization equipment. A backboard must be used in conjunction with the Sked® Stretcher on patients who have sustained injuries to the shoulder area.

## **NEVER SUSPEND THE SKED® STRETCHER BY THE GROMMETS.**

Use the slings and webbing in the manner for which they are provided. The Sked® Stretcher should be stored in the cordura pack, as prolonged exposure to sunlight (UV rays) can damage all plastics.

Skedco manufactures several other components for the Sked®. Those components will enable you to use your Sked® for many different types of rescues. Confined space, high angle, rough terrain, military, and water rescues are some of the applications of the Sked®. See your Skedco catalog for the proper components for your Sked® application.

**ALWAYS** use a tag line when hoisting a Sked® or any other kind of stretcher by helicopter because without it all litters can spin.

Thank you for purchasing the Sked® Rescue System. Please contact us if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. We always appreciate input from our customers.

Sincerely,  
**SKEDCO, INC.**  
SKEDCO.COM  
1.800.770.SKED (7533)

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# TO UNROLL SKED® STRETCHER AND LAY FLAT



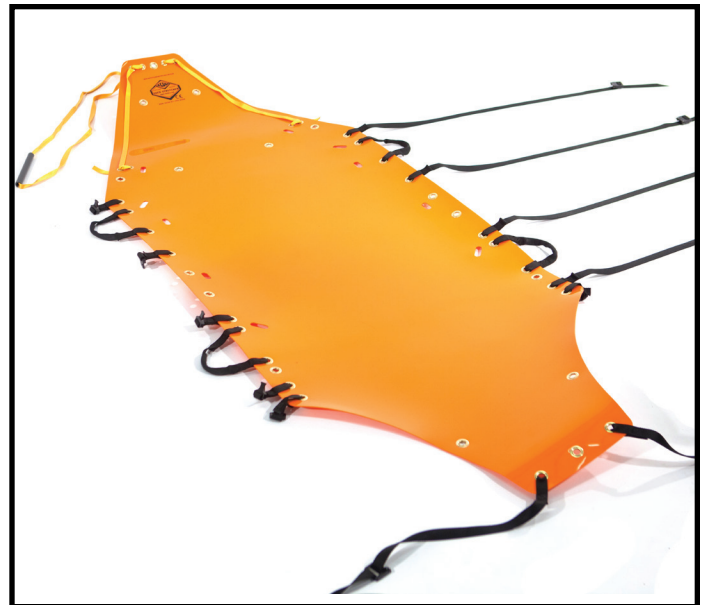
1, REMOVE SKED® FROM PACK AND PLACE ON GROUND.



2, UNFASTEN RETAINER STRAP. STEP ON FOOT END OF SKED® AND UNROLL COMPLETELY TO OPPOSITE END.



3, BEND THE SKED® OVER YOUR FOREARM AND BACK ROLL. REPEAT WITH OPPOSITE END OF STRETCHER. IN COLD WEATHER, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO REVERSE ROLL IT TWICE.



4, SKED® STRETCHER WILL NOW LAY FLAT.



# TO PLACE A PATIENT ON THE SKED®: PULL METHOD (FEET FIRST)



1, PRIOR TO DRAGGING A PATIENT ONTO THE SKED® "FEET FIRST". CURL THE HEAD END DOWNWARD TO FORM A RAMP AND TO PREVENT SNAGGING PATIENT'S CLOTHING.



2, TUCK THE DRAG WEBBING UNDER THE SKED®. GRASP PATIENT'S LEGS AND DRAG PATIENT WHILE KEEPING LEGS LOW.



3, CONTINUE DRAGGING UNTIL HIS UPPER CHEST IS EVEN WITH THE UPPER CROSS STRAP.



4, SECURE ALL BUCKLES AND ADJUST ALL STRAPS IN PREPARATION FOR TRANSPORT.

# TO PLACE A PATIENT ON THE SKED®: PULL METHOD (HEAD FIRST)



1, CURL FOOT END OF SKED® DOWNWARD TO FORM A RAMP AND PULL FOOT END STRAPS TO THE SIDE.



2, USING YOUR FOREARMS TO PREVENT LATERAL MOVEMENT OF PATIENT'S HEAD, GRASP THE UNDERARMS AND DRAG IN-LINE WITH THE SPINE ONTO THE SKED®.



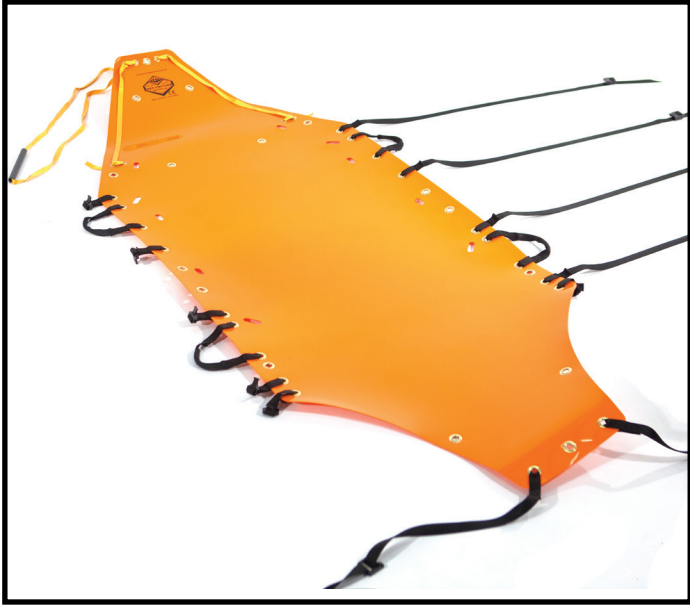
3, CONTINUE DRAGGING UNTIL HIS UPPER CHEST IS EVEN WITH THE UPPER CROSS STRAP.



4, SECURE ALL BUCKLES AND ADJUST ALL STRAPS IN PREPARATION FOR TRANSPORT.



# FASTEN THE STRAPS: COBRA QUICK RELEASE BUCKLES



1, PRIOR TO LOADING THE SKED®  
RELEASE ALL COBRA BUCKLES AND PULL  
STRAPS TO ONE SIDE.



2, LIFT SIDES OF SKED® AND FASTEN  
THE FOUR CROSS STRAPS TO BUCKLES  
DIRECTLY OPPOSITE TO THE STRAPS AND  
PULL THEM TIGHT.



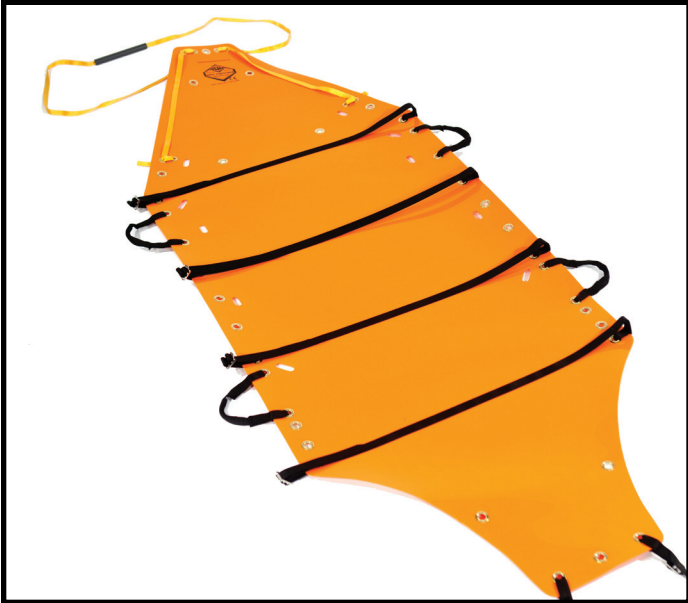
3, FASTEN FOOT END COBRA BUCKLES  
AND ADJUST STRAPS.



4, DO NOT CRISS-CROSS STRAPS ON THE  
SKED®. IT WILL CAUSE THE SKED® TO  
BEND IN THE MIDDLE.



# FASTEN THE STRAPS: STEEL BUCKLES



1, PRIOR TO LOADING THE SKED® RELEASE ALL STEEL BUCKLES AND PULL STRAPS TO ONE SIDE. TO RELEASE, LIFT THE LEADING END OF THE BUCKLE TO LOOSEN WEBBING. PULL THE WEBBING OUT OF THE BUCKLE.



2. FASTEN THE FOUR CROSS STRAPS TO BUCKLES DIRECTLY OPPOSITE TO THE STRAPS. TO CONNECT, SEE STEP #3 TO LACE BUCKLES, THEN TIGHTEN STRAPS.

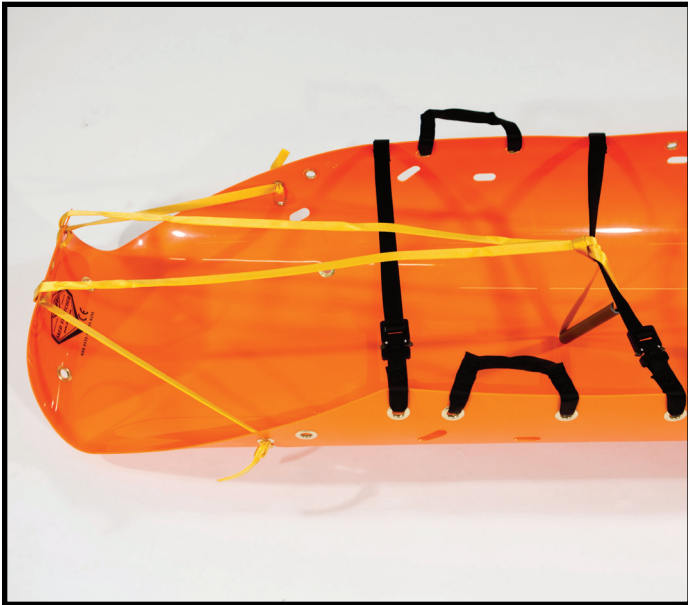


3. FEED THE STRAPS THROUGH UNUSED GROMMETS AT FOOT END OF SKED AND FASTEN TO BUCKLES THEN ADJUST STRAPS.

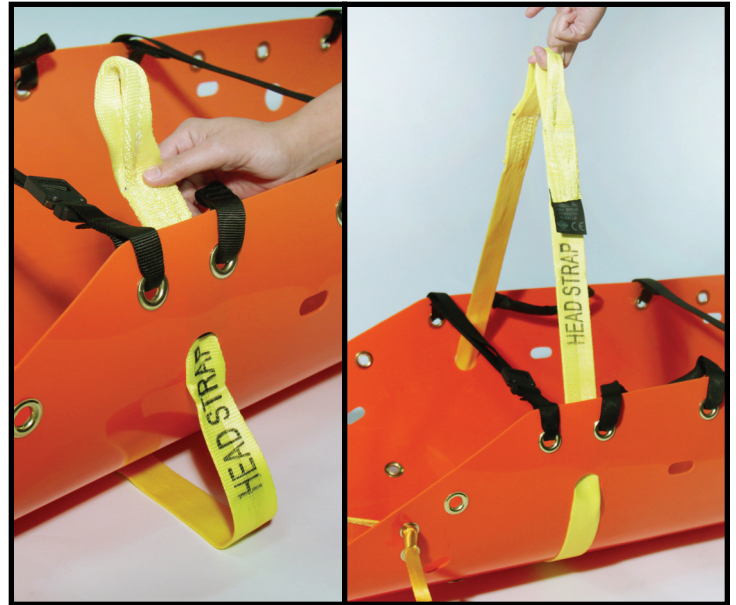


4, DO NOT CRISS-CROSS STRAPS ON THE SKED®. IT WILL CAUSE THE SKED® TO BEND IN THE MIDDLE.

# HORIZONTAL LIFT/DESCENT



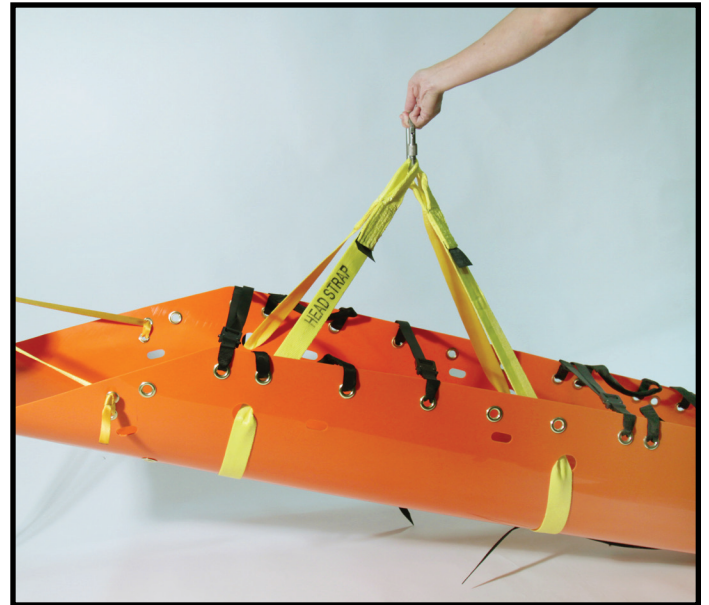
1. PRIOR TO HOISTING, THE HEAD END MUST BE CURLED OVER THE PATIENT'S HEAD AND THE DRAG HANDLE WEBBING TIED TO THE SECOND CROSS STRAP TO PREVENT PATIENT FROM SLIDING OUT OF THE SKED® IN THE EVENT THE SKED® IS SOMEHOW INVERTED TO A HEAD LOW POSITION DURING THE HOIST SEQUENCE.



2. INSERT ONE END OF HEAD STRAP THROUGH ROUND HOLE AT HEAD END OF SKED®. BRING STRAP UNDER SKED® AND THROUGH ROUND HOLE ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF SKED®.

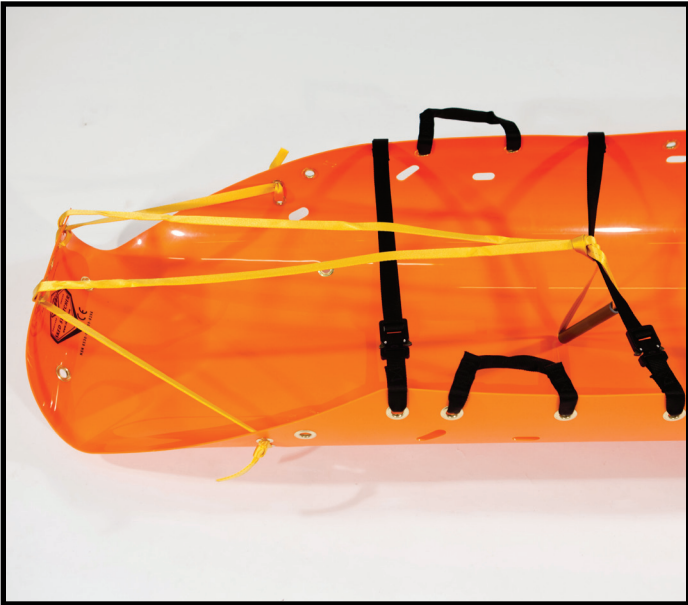


3. EQUALIZE STRAP. REPEAT PROCEDURE WITH OTHER STRAP AT FOOT END OF SKED®.



4. EQUALIZE ALL FOUR STRAPS AND SECURE ENDS WITH LARGE STEEL LOCKING CARABINER.

# VERTICAL LIFT/DESCENT



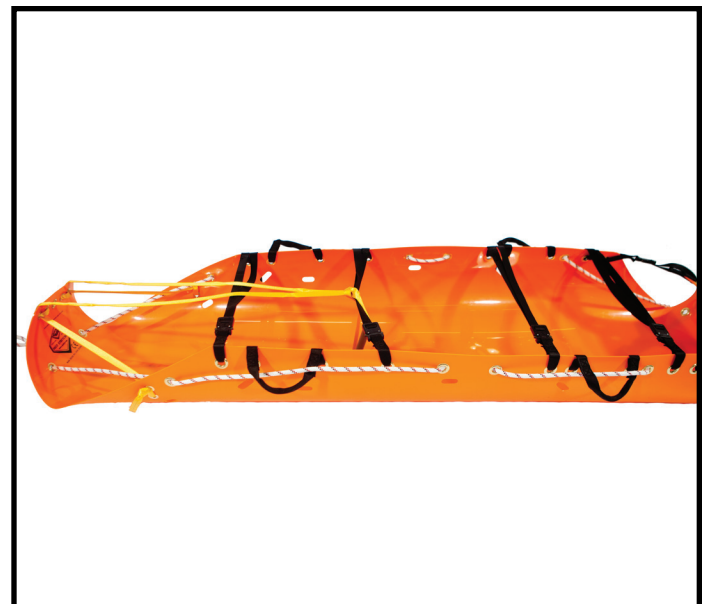
1. PRIOR TO HOISTING, THE HEAD END MUST BE CURLED OVER THE PATIENT'S HEAD AND THE DRAG HANDLE WEBBING TIED TO THE SECOND CROSS STRAP TO PROTECT PATIENT'S HEAD FROM FALLING OBJECTS.



2. INSERT VERTICAL LIFT SLING ROPE THROUGH THE GROMMETS ABOVE PATIENT'S HEAD.



3. FOR EXTREMELY SMALL OPENINGS, LEAVE THE HEAD END EXTENDED. START THREADING THE ROPE THROUGH THE GROMMETS BY THE PATIENT'S SHOULDERS.



4. CONTINUE THREADING THE ROPE ON EACH SIDE OF THE SKED® AS SHOWN IN PICTURE ABOVE.



# VERTICAL LIFT/DESCENT



5. THREAD THE ROPE THROUGH THE BOTTOM GROMMETS FROM THE INSIDE-OUT AS SHOWN ABOVE.



6. TIE THE ROPE IN A SQUARE KNOT AT THE LOWER END OF THE SKED®.



7. PASS THE ENDS OF THE ROPE THROUGH THE LOWER CARRY HANDLES FROM THE OUTSIDE-IN AND TIE ANOTHER SQUARE KNOT.



8. TIE AN OVERHAND KNOT ON EACH SIDE OF THE SQUARE KNOT FOR SAFETY.

# BACKPACK/TOWING HARNESS



1. ATTACH ONE END OF THE TOW STRAP TO THE BACKPACK. BACKPACK IS USED AS TOWING HARNESS.



2. ATTACH THE OTHER END OF THE TOW STRAP TO SKED® DRAG WEBBING. THIS ALLOWS "HANDS FREE" DRAGGING OF THE SKED®.

## OTHER ACCESSORIES TOW STRAPS/REMOVABLE WEBBING HANDLES



3. TOW STRAP IS ATTACHED TO CARRY HANDLES ENABLING 3 OR 4 RESCUERS TO DRAG THE SKED®.

P.9



1. SET OF 4 REMOVABLE WEBBING HANDLES ENABLES UP TO 8 RESCUERS TO CARRY SKED®. INSERT THRU UNUSED GROMMETS ON SIDES OF SKED®.



# ROLLING UP THE SKED® STRETCHER



1. LAY STRETCHER OUT FLAT WITH ALL CROSS STRAPS CONNECTED.

\*\*STEEL DOUBLE BAR BUCKLES: PLACE RETAINER STRAP WITH INSIDE OF BUCKLE FACING UP UNDER FOOT END OF SKED®. (SEE PHOTO IN STEP 4)



2. STARTING AT THE HEAD END, ROLL THE SKED® UP AS TIGHT AS POSSIBLE. CONTINUE TO ROLL THE SKED® USING KNEE TO KEEP THE ROLLED STRETCHER SMALL.



3. WHILE HOLDING YOUR KNEE ON THE ROLLED SKED®, FASTEN THE COBRA BUCKLES OF THE FOOT END STRAPS TO HOLD THE SKED® IN A TIGHT ROLL.



4. WHEN USING THE SKED® WITH STEEL DOUBLE BAR BUCKLES, FASTEN THE PRE-PLACED RETAINER STRAP TO BUCKLE AND PLACE SKED® STRETCHER IN BACKPACK.



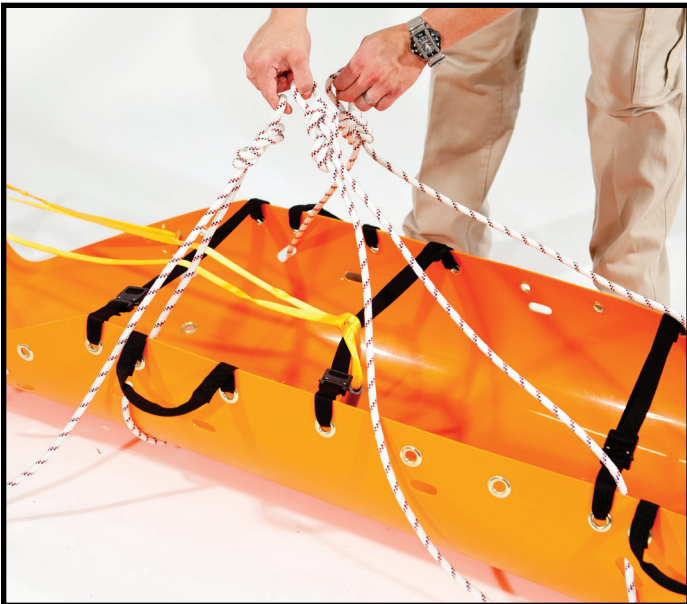
# HORIZONTAL LIFT WITH VERTICAL LIFT SLING



1. HOLD THE PRE-TIED FIGURE 8 KNOT IN THE CENTER OF THE ROPE AND PASS THE ENDS OF THE ROPE THROUGH THE ANGLED LIFT SLING SLOTS FROM THE INSIDE-OUT.



2. PASS THE ENDS OF THE ROPE UNDER THE SKED® AND THROUGH THE ANGLED LIFT SLING SLOTS ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE FROM THE OUTSIDE-IN.



3. TIE FIGURE 8 KNOTS IN BOTH ENDS OF THE ROPE LEAVING ABOUT 2.5 FEET EXTENDING UP FROM THE FOOT END SLOTS AND SHORTER AT THE HEAD END. (SEE PHOTO IN STEP 4)



4. THE ROPE AT THE HEAD END MUST BE A BIT SHORTER THAN THE FOOT END TO PROVIDE A SLIGHTLY "HEAD UP" ATTITUDE FOR PATIENT'S SAFETY AND COMFORT.

# SKED® FAQs

## What does “SKED” stand for?

Though we spell it with capital letters, SKED® is not an acronym. It came from fusing two words: “Sled” and “Skid.” The early idea behind the product was that it was a SLED that SKIDDED across all types of terrain. Initially, the SKED® was used as a game carrier to tote wild game back to a hunter’s camp. It has since morphed into the life-saving device that’s used today, worldwide. Like many iconic products that are the first of its kind in the market, the brand has come to epitomize the product itself.

## When does the SKED stretcher need to be replaced?

We have no time limit on when the SKED® needs to be replaced because different rescue professionals use it in different ways for different lengths of time. If there is any damage to your stretcher, please reevaluate if you should be using it. If you have questions, please call us at 800-770-SKED (7533).

## What should I do if my SKED® is missing a grommet?

SKEDCO uses two grommet sizes that can be found at most local hardware stores. There are two different sizes: the smaller grommet is a size #3, and the larger is a size #5.

## What should I do if the straps on my SKED® are starting to fray?

We have replaceable straps – the SK-208C. The SKED-EVAC® Aluminum Side Release Buckle Conversion Kit features Austrian-made Skedco/Cobra side release buckles. These buckles are dependable and strong enough to meet the needs of securing a patient into a SKED® stretcher without the danger of breaking the buckle or accidental release. Please go to the SKED-EVAC® Aluminum Side Release Buckle Conversion Kit product description page for more information. NOTE: We do not sell the steel buckles that came with your SKED® originally because they need to be sewn onto the unit.

## What is the SKED’s maximum weight allowance?

The heaviest weight ever put in the SKED® is 1347lb. Please read the entire story on our website (skedco.com) under “Heavy Duty Story.”

## What are the measurements of the SKED®?

Rolled into a Cordura back pack: 9 inch diameter x 36 inch length  
Laid out flat: 3 feet x 8 feet

## What is the temperature range?

The SKED® plastic is safe at temperatures far above the patient survivable range. It is also unbreakable beyond -120 °F without becoming brittle.

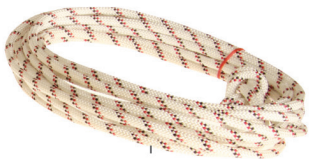
# SKED® FACT SHEET

Drag handle is at the head for patient safety.

Four sewn-on carrying handles attached by grommets ensure a secure, safe lift. Four additional handles can be used to carry obese patients.

Flexible, medium-density polyethylene plastic. Easy to roll and unroll, and durable. Does not absorb chemicals, making it easily decontaminable.

Weighs 11 lbs. and 17 lbs. with all accessories inside the pack.



Nylon static kernmantle rescue rope, rated to 6,000 lbs. The rope is UL certified to NFPA and is the same type of rope used by firefighters.



A pair of horizontal lift slings, rated to 18,000 lbs each in basket configuration.



Tow strap with integrated handles.



Steel carabiner rated at 9,000 pounds.

Cobra side-release buckles are the strongest and safest in the industry, rated to 3,000 lbs.

Tested by the U.S. Military for over two years before being deployed. Airworthy Release issued.

No assembly required for normal use.

**SIZE: ROLLED IN CORDURA PACK – 9 INCH DIAMETER X 36 INCH LENGTH  
LAID OUT FLAT – 3 FEET X 8 FEET**

**WEIGHT: 11 LBS (STRETCHER BODY)  
17 LBS (WITH ALL ACCESSORIES)  
18 LBS (SHIPPING WEIGHT)**

**TEMPERATURE RANGE: UNBREAKABLE TO -120 °F WITHOUT BECOMING BRITTLE.**



# SKED® FACT SHEET

## SAFEST, MOST ADAPTABLE DESIGN

As found in the Federal Supply Catalog

### COMPACT

The Sked® rolls to 6 in. x 36 in. and can be rapidly deployed by one person. At 9 in. and 17 lbs. inside the pack, it's easy to get it into and out of the tightest spaces. It'll fit behind a seat in vehicles, and is easily stored in small work areas.

### VERSATILE

We have Skeds specifically designed for all types of rescue: ground, air, water, confined space and Hazmat.

### ADAPTABLE

Our variety of accessories allows you to use your Sked® for many specific purposes. The Sked itself is virtually indestructible, but if buckles, rope or webbing get damaged, contaminated or worn out, replacements can be purchased separately.

### READY TO DEPLOY

The Sked is ready to use right out of the backpack. Made of medium-density polyethylene plastic, the Sked® is flexible and easy to store, handle and lay flat. It withstands temperatures as low as 120 degrees fahrenheit below zero.

### STRONG

Our vertical lift sling is made of static nylon kernmantle rescue rope, rated to 6,000 lbs., is more durable than webbing. This rope is UL certified to NFPA and is the same type of rope firefighters use.

### WATER RESCUE

When equipped with the Sked® Flotation System, a patient can be packaged directly from the water in 30 seconds or less. Self-righting, the inflatable flotation system keeps the patient's head completely out of water, even in rough seas. It self-rights if capsized. Foam floats are available for training.

### PROVEN DESIGN

We invented the rolled rescue stretcher over 30 years ago and have perfected the design over those years. We know how to make the best stretcher possible and understand every detail of its design and use.

### BEWARE OF CHEAP KNOCK-OFFS

Beware of straps that run through the inside, potentially further harming the patient—especially those with spinal injuries or severe burns.



The SK-200 Sked® Basic Rescue System comes with:

- ☑ SK-201C-OR The Sked® Stretcher with Cobra Buckles
- ☑ SK-202-OR Cordura backpack
- ☑ SK-203-OR Horizontal Lift Slings (pair)
- ☑ SK-204-OR Sked® Tow Strap
- ☑ SK-205-OR Removable Webbing Handles
- ☑ SK-206-OR Steel Locking 'D' Carabiner
- ☑ SK-207-OR Sked® Vertical Lift Sling

# SKED® STRETCHER LINE UP



## 1. SKED® STRETCHER (International Orange)

#SK-200C-OR

NSN: 6530-01-575-4004 (Cobra Buckles)

#SK200-OR

NSN: 6530-01-620-2575 (Steel Buckles)

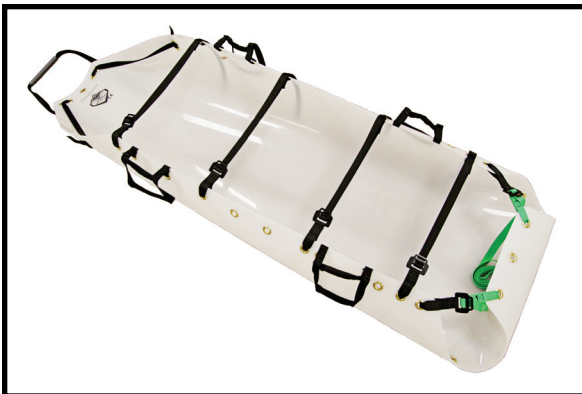
The original and still the best solution for confined space, high angle or technical rescue and traditional land based applications, the Sked® stretcher is a revolutionary design which provides outstanding patient protection and security. Available in International Orange and OD Green.

## 2. HMM SKED®

#SK-250

NSN: 6530-01-522-7855

The HAZMAT Hospital Sked® is designed for use in mass casualty incidents where terrorists use Weapons of Mass destruction. It is perfect for mass casualty evacuation from hospitals or other buildings. It is also the ideal hospital litter for moving patients down stairways.



## 3. BARIATRIC SKED®

#SK-260

The Bariatric Sked® Stretcher is designed to move obese patients through difficult areas with less risk of back injury. It is 4 feet wide, a full 12 inches wider than the standard Sked®. It is a full 8 feet long. It is made of a very tough non absorbing polyethylene plastic.

## 4. HALF SKED®

#SK-220

The Half-Sked is made of the same durable material as the Sked® stretcher, but is only half as long. The patient is secured in the Half-Sked® with sewn-in two inch webbing straps with FASTEX style double adjustable buckles. Patients can be extricated from the tightest of confined spaces.



# SKED® STRETCHER LINE UP (MILITARY APPLICATION)



## 5. SKED® STRETCHER (OD Green)

#SK-200C-GR      NSN: 6530-01-575-4004 (Cobra Buckles)  
#SK-200-GR        NSN: 6530-01-620-2575 (Steel Buckles)

The original and still the best solution for confined space, high angle or technical rescue, and traditional land based applications, the Sked® stretcher is a revolutionary design which provides outstanding patient protection and security. Available in International Orange and OD Green.

## 6. RANGER SKED®

#SK-240C

The Ranger Sked®, designed by the Army Rangers and SKEDCO, is used as a patient or equipment drag. It is tough, durable, lightweight and extremely versatile. It measures 22.5 inches x 8 ft x .100 inch thickness and rolls up into a compact 7 inch diameter and 22.5 inch length. It is not designed for hoisting by helicopter. It is either carried by the six sewn-on webbing handles or dragged using the tow webbing.



## 7. TACTICAL SKED®

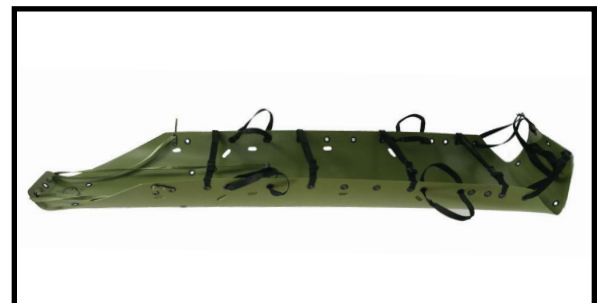
#SK-245C

The Tactical Sked® weighs just seven pounds and with all accessories 9 pounds. When laid out, the Tactical Sked measures in 6 ft. 7 inches long X 22.5 inches wide X 1/10 inch thick. It comes in Coyote Brown and has Cobra buckles throughout. Lightweight and trimmed down for battlefield requirements.

## 8. PJ SKED®

#SK215

The PJ Sked® is designed to do everything a standard Sked® SK-200 will do. The only difference between the two is the standard Sked® is 36 inches wide and the PJ Sked is 28 inches wide. This allows for an 8 inch shorter pack and it makes it much easier to go through a door with it across your ruck.







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# SKED<sup>®</sup>

## THE COMPLETE RESCUE SYSTEM

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EMAIL: SKEDCO@SKEDCO.COM



[WWW.SKEDCO.COM](http://WWW.SKEDCO.COM)

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