

Care & Use Guide for Deluxe Pet Stairs

Congratulations on your purchase of the Solvit® Deluxe Pet Stairs! With proper care, these stairs should provide years of trouble-free assistance for your pets, as well as providing an attractive accessory to your home décor.

Your package should include:

- a) One lower, middle and upper step section (total 3 sections), which are (temporarily) fastened together
- b) One lower and one middle tread piece
- c) Eight 1” machine screws and four ½” wood screws (the machine screws are used to hold the three step sections together for shipping)
- d) One kit of three carpet pieces with six strips of double-sided carpet tape

Assembly Instructions (also available on our website, with color images)

- 1) Remove from the box the two wood tread pieces and the three step sections, which are fastened together. The screws, carpet and carpet tape are packed in the storage compartment of the top step section.
- 2) The eight 1” machine screws [(c) above] are actually used to hold the three step sections together during shipping, so be sure not to lose track of them when following these instructions. The screws are located just inside the opening on the back side of the three sections. First, remove the four screws holding the lower step section in place, then remove the four screws holding the middle step section in place. Separate all pieces on a flat surface, such as a carpeted floor or padded tabletop. Remove any protective wrapping from all wood surfaces.
- 3) Locate the lower step section and smaller tread piece. The step section is facing “up” when the “L” brackets (on the inside) are at the top. The “back” of the step section is the side that does not have a solid wood panel. Also notice a total of four screw inserts (2 on each side) at the “back” edge of the step section – these will be used in step 4 below.

Lay the tread piece upside down with the “notched” edge closest to you (this is the back edge). Now position the step section so the back is toward you and the “L” brackets on the inside are facing down. Align the holes in the “L” brackets with the pre-drilled holes on the underside of the tread piece. Using a Phillips screwdriver, insert ½” screws into these holes and tighten. Turn this sub-assembly right-side up and set aside. Be sure not to attach the tread piece on backward – the notch should be facing the rear. Repeat this procedure with the middle step section and remaining tread piece.

- 4) Position the two sub-assemblies created in step 3 together so the back edge of the lower section is aligned with the front edge of the middle section. Slide the sections together so that the lower subassembly slides approximately ½” into the middle subassembly and the tread piece on the lower subassembly contacts the middle subassembly. Reaching in from the back side, insert four of the 1” screws through the four pre-drilled holes along the back edge of the lower sub-assembly. Each screw should align with a threaded insert on the middle sub-assembly. Please note the screws might not align with the holes perfectly the first time and it might require some slight movement for the screws to “locate” the inserts. Attach the four screws but do not tighten fully! It is normal for a small gap to show between the sub-assembled sections. Do not try to eliminate this gap by overtightening the screws as this could damage the unit. Tighten until moderate resistance is felt, then stop.

WARNING! Take care not to scratch the exposed surface of the stairs while inserting the screws. If the subassemblies are aligned properly (see above) this should not be a problem.

- 5) Now that the lower and middle step sections are joined, repeat the above procedure to fasten these sections to the top step section. The wood sections are now fully assembled.
- 6) Locate the carpet pieces and the two sheets of carpet tape strips. Remove two strips of tape from the sheet and adhere them to the underside of one of the carpet pieces, trying to stay approximately 1/2" inside the edges. Before removing the adhesive backing from the tape, place the carpet piece on the wood tread to get an idea where you would like to place it. We suggest you locate the carpet near the front edge of each tread to protect the wood from pets' toenails. Now remove the adhesive backing from the tape and locate the carpet piece in place and press down firmly for several seconds. If attached properly, the tape should hold the carpet piece in place under normal use.
- 7) Repeat the above procedure for the other carpet pieces. Your stairs are now fully assembled! Place the unit next to a couch, bed, or other furniture and it is ready to use.

Custom Tread Covers

Check our website for alternate tread covers. Also, carpet binding companies (check your yellow pages) can make tread covers to match your home's carpet, or consider experimenting with alternative materials (bamboo, sisal, etc.) to achieve a custom look.

Care of your Deluxe Pet Stairs

The wood sections can be cleaned with ordinary wood polish. Due to potential scratching from pets' nails, it is not recommended to use the stairs without some type of tread covering. Scratches that do occur can be treated with a scratch remover available at your local grocery or hardware store (Old English® brand works well). It should not be necessary to remove the carpet pieces, as they can be vacuumed and lightly cleaned while in place. If they must be removed, simply peel them off the tread, leaving the carpet tape attached to the wood underneath. Do not let pets use the stairs when in this condition, as the exposed carpet tape will attract dirt and hair and may lose its adhesive strength.

Be careful not to place excessive force on the storage compartment lid when in the fully open position as this may cause damage to the hinge. Keep the top lid closed when not in use.

The Deluxe Pet Stairs are intended for pet use only. Please follow this guideline strictly!

If you have any problems with your stairs, please contact customer service by telephone or email below. Also, replacement carpet kits are available.

Thank you from all of us at Solvit Products - we hope you enjoy your purchase!

SOLVIT Products, LP ♦ 1201 Sturgeon Ct, Ste 109 ♦ Arlington, TX 76001
Tel: 866-6-SOLVIT (866-676-5848) ♦ Fax: (817) 466-2291
Email: customerservice@solvitproducts.com ♦ www.solvitproducts.com