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› Harmar Mobility AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift User Manual

Harmar AL500

Harmar Mobility AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift User Manual

Model: AL500 | Brand: Harmar

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, installation, and maintenance of your Harmar Mobility AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift. The AL500 is designed to transport virtually all power chairs, offering a reliable and convenient solution for mobility. It features self-tensioning Q'Straint retractors for secure attachment and automatically folds when empty. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the lift to ensure proper understanding and safe operation.



Figure 1: The Harmar AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift in its unfolded, ready-to-use position. The platform features a perforated design for drainage and grip, with a vertical mast supporting the control unit.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including lead and lead components, which is [are] known to the State of California to cause cancer or birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to <http://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/>.

- Always ensure the lift is properly installed and secured to your vehicle before use.
- Do not exceed the weight capacity of the lift or your vehicle's hitch.

- Ensure the power chair is correctly positioned and secured with all Q'Straint retractors before transport.
- Keep hands and clothing clear of moving parts during operation.
- Do not operate the lift if any components are damaged or malfunctioning.
- Regularly inspect the lift for wear, damage, or loose fasteners.
- Consult a qualified technician for any repairs or complex installations.

3. VEHICLE COMPATIBILITY & PRE-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

Before installation, it is crucial to verify your vehicle's compatibility with the Harmar AL500 lift. Failure to do so may result in compatibility issues, potential damage, and return shipping/restocking fees if a return is necessary.

Pre-Installation Checklist:

1. **Vehicle Information:** Note the Year, Make, and Model of your vehicle.
2. **Mobility Device Information:** Note the Make and Model of your power chair.
3. **Hitch Class:** Identify the class of hitch installed on your vehicle. The AL500 typically ships with a Class III (2" x 2") receiver. Verify if your vehicle has a Standard Class III (2" x 2") or Class II (1.25" x 1.25") hitch.
4. **Hitch Height:** Measure the height from the ground/floor to the bottom of your installed hitch.
 - Minimum requirement for a lift **with** a Swing-Away option: 16 inches.
 - Minimum requirement for a lift **without** a Swing-Away option: 18 inches.

If the hitch height is higher than 16 inches, a Harmar Class III Hitch Post 5" Drop Adapter (Part# AL1235U) may be required. This adapter is available separately.

Important: The seller is not responsible for verifying vehicle compatibility. Orders found to be incompatible with manufacturer specifications may be subject to cancellation.

4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The Harmar AL500 lift is designed for straightforward installation into a compatible vehicle hitch receiver. While general steps are provided, professional installation by a certified technician is highly recommended to ensure safety and proper function.

General Installation Steps:

1. **Prepare Vehicle:** Ensure your vehicle is parked on a level surface with the parking brake engaged.
2. **Insert Hitch Post:** Slide the lift's hitch post into your vehicle's hitch receiver.
3. **Secure with Pin:** Align the hitch pin holes and insert the hitch pin, securing it with the cotter pin or clip.
4. **Electrical Connection:** Connect the lift's electrical harness to your vehicle's power source according to the specific wiring instructions provided with your lift model. This typically involves connecting to the vehicle's battery or a dedicated power outlet.
5. **Test Operation:** Before loading a power chair, perform a functional test of the lift to ensure all movements (up, down, fold) operate smoothly.



Figure 2: The Harmar AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift shown attached to the rear of an SUV, in its folded-up, stowed position. The lift is compact when not in use.



Figure 3: A closer view of the Harmar AL500 lift in its folded configuration, demonstrating its compact storage when not in use.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps for safe and efficient operation of your Harmar AL500 lift.

5.1. Unfolding the Lift Platform:

1. Ensure the area around the lift is clear of obstructions.
2. Using the control unit, activate the lift to lower the platform from its folded position until it is fully extended and level with the ground.

5.2. Loading a Power Chair:

1. Carefully drive or maneuver your power chair onto the center of the lift platform. Ensure the power chair is positioned squarely and evenly.
2. Engage the brakes on your power chair.
3. Attach the four self-tensioning Q'Straint retractors to the designated securement points on your power chair

and the lift platform. Ensure all retractors are taut and securely fastened.

4. Once the power chair is secured, use the control unit to raise the lift platform until it is fully elevated and locked into the transport position.
5. Verify that the power chair is stable and secure before driving.



Figure 4: An individual carefully maneuvering a powerchair onto the Harmar AL500 lift, which is attached to the rear of a Jeep. This illustrates the loading process.



Figure 5: A user seated on a powerchair positioned near the Harmar AL500 lift, which is attached to a vehicle, demonstrating the accessibility and ease of use.

5.3. Unloading a Power Chair:

1. Park your vehicle on a level surface and engage the parking brake.
2. Using the control unit, lower the lift platform until it is fully extended and level with the ground.
3. Release all four Q'Straint retractors from the power chair and the lift platform.
4. Carefully drive or maneuver your power chair off the platform.

5.4. Folding the Lift Platform (When Empty):

The AL500 lift is designed to fold automatically when empty. After unloading your power chair, the lift will retract to its compact, vertical position, ready for travel.

- Ensure the platform is completely empty.
- Activate the lift to raise the platform. It will automatically fold into its stowed position.
- Verify that the lift is securely locked in the folded position before driving.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Harmar AL500 lift.

- **Routine Inspection:** Before each use, visually inspect the lift for any signs of damage, wear, loose bolts, or frayed cables.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the lift platform and components clean. Use a mild soap and water solution to remove dirt and debris. Avoid harsh chemicals that could damage finishes.
- **Lubrication:** Periodically lubricate moving parts as recommended in the full product manual (refer to Harmar's official documentation for specific points and lubricants).
- **Electrical Connections:** Check electrical connections for corrosion or looseness.
- **Professional Servicing:** It is recommended to have the lift professionally inspected and serviced annually by a Harmar-authorized technician.



Figure 6: A black protective cover, often used to shield powerchairs or scooters from the elements during transport or storage. This accessory can help protect your mobility device.



Figure 7: An individual holding the black protective cover, demonstrating its size and portability. This cover is a useful accessory for protecting mobility devices.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your AL500 lift. For problems not listed here, or if solutions do not resolve the issue, contact Harmar Mobility customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Lift does not operate.	No power; loose electrical connection; blown fuse; control unit malfunction.	Check vehicle's power supply; ensure all electrical connections are secure; inspect fuses; contact support if control unit is suspected.
Lift operates slowly or erratically.	Low battery voltage; hydraulic fluid low (if applicable); motor issue.	Check vehicle battery charge; consult full manual for fluid levels; contact support for motor issues.
Power chair not secure on platform.	Q'Straint retractors not properly engaged or damaged.	Ensure all four Q'Straint retractors are correctly attached and taut; inspect retractors for damage and replace if necessary.
Lift does not fold automatically.	Obstruction; sensor issue; mechanical fault.	Ensure platform is completely empty and clear; contact support for sensor or mechanical issues.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** AL500 Universal Powerchair Lift
- **Manufacturer:** Harmar Mobility
- **Compatibility:** Carries virtually all power chairs

- **Securement:** 4 Self-tensioning Q'Straint retractors
- **Folding:** Folds automatically when empty
- **Modifications:** No power chair modifications required
- **Backup:** Manual back-up feature
- **Additional Features:** License plate mount, Swing-Away option available (AL105 Swing Away Joint is OPTIONAL and Not Included)
- **Hitch Receiver:** Ships with a Class III Hitch receiver (2"x2") unless otherwise noted.
- **Origin:** Made in the USA
- **ASIN:** B010CCVSSI
- **First Available:** June 24, 2015

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Harmar Mobility products are built to last and are backed by a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty details, including coverage periods and terms, please refer to the official warranty documentation provided with your product or visit the Harmar Mobility website.

Customer Support:

For technical assistance, troubleshooting beyond this manual, parts inquiries, or warranty claims, please contact Harmar Mobility directly:

- **Harmar Official Website:** www.harmar.com
- **Phone:** Refer to the Harmar website or product packaging for the most current contact numbers.
- **Online Resources:** Check the Harmar website for FAQs, additional manuals, and video tutorials.

Please have your product model (AL500) and serial number ready when contacting support.

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ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

Name

Anonymous

Email

you@example.com

After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question