

Urinary leg bags

All SAUER leg bags are manufactured in our factory on a high-frequency welding machine. They are made of PVC which is still the only material which allows the manufacture of bags of such high quality for the medical field. However we are constantly looking for alternative “greener” materials that are kinder to the environment.

Bendi bags

These leg bags with the leg hugging shape have been developed specifically for wheelchair users or people who spend most of their time in a sitting position. They are specially adapted for those in the sitting position. They are very comfortable to wear, as well as flexible and secure. All of our leg bags can be tailored to individual requirements such as inlet tube length and type of outlet tap.

- **High capacity.** Holding up to 1.3 litres (1300 mL), these give you more independence on long journeys and at work without the worry of having to find accessible toilets. It halves the number of times the wheelchair user or their carer has to empty their leg bag. There is also a 0.7 litre (700 mL) bag for wheelchair users who do not require the extra capacity or are of smaller build. Bendi Bags can be worn comfortably on the inside or outside of either leg. Inlet tubes can be adjusted to individual specific requirements. The bags are inconspicuous, securely fastened above the knee with an extra wide soft woven strap with silicone non-slip backing. A choice of outlet sliding or lever action outlet makes for easy drainage.
- **Comfortable to wear.** This is due to the textured PVC which allows the skin to breathe and does not stick or cause sweating. For increased comfort, use a SAUER washable cotton cover is available.
- Every bag is **individually tested** for leaks and functionality.

Choosing the right leg bag

In our catalogue, we described the features of the different types of leg bags in detail and we also help you to choose the best leg bag for your needs. We suggest you also talk to our continence systems adviser who can give you valuable advice.

The Bendi Bag features

❶ Inlet connection

Option of a smooth or stepped universal adapter. We advise smooth adapters for connection to urinary sheaths and stepped adapters for connection to urethral and suprapubic catheters.

❷ Inlet tube

Is very soft and flexible to avoid dragging on sheaths or catheters, but will not kink. There is a short (12 cm) and long (20 cm) standard inlet tube length. However should these sizes not be suitable, we can customise inlet tube to your specific requirements as part of the prescription service in the UK to suit all body sizes.

❸ 4 way welded inlet into bag

Allows for a smooth flow of urine, even with leg bags which do not lie flat.

❹ Reflux valve

Prevents the return of urine, for instance during physiotherapy sessions.

❺ Strap Eyelets

Allow the straps to be fastened according to individual need, thus giving a more secure fitting.

❻ Outlet Tap

This enables you to empty the leg bag with a swing tap or a sliding tap, without any mess:

- the swing tap is good for people with limited hand movement and can even be modified to close itself with a security band that also helps prevent accidental opening.
- the sliding tap is particularly secure to prevent accidental opening although there is some evidence to suggest that this type of tap increases the risk of transmitting infection.

❼ Textured PVC material

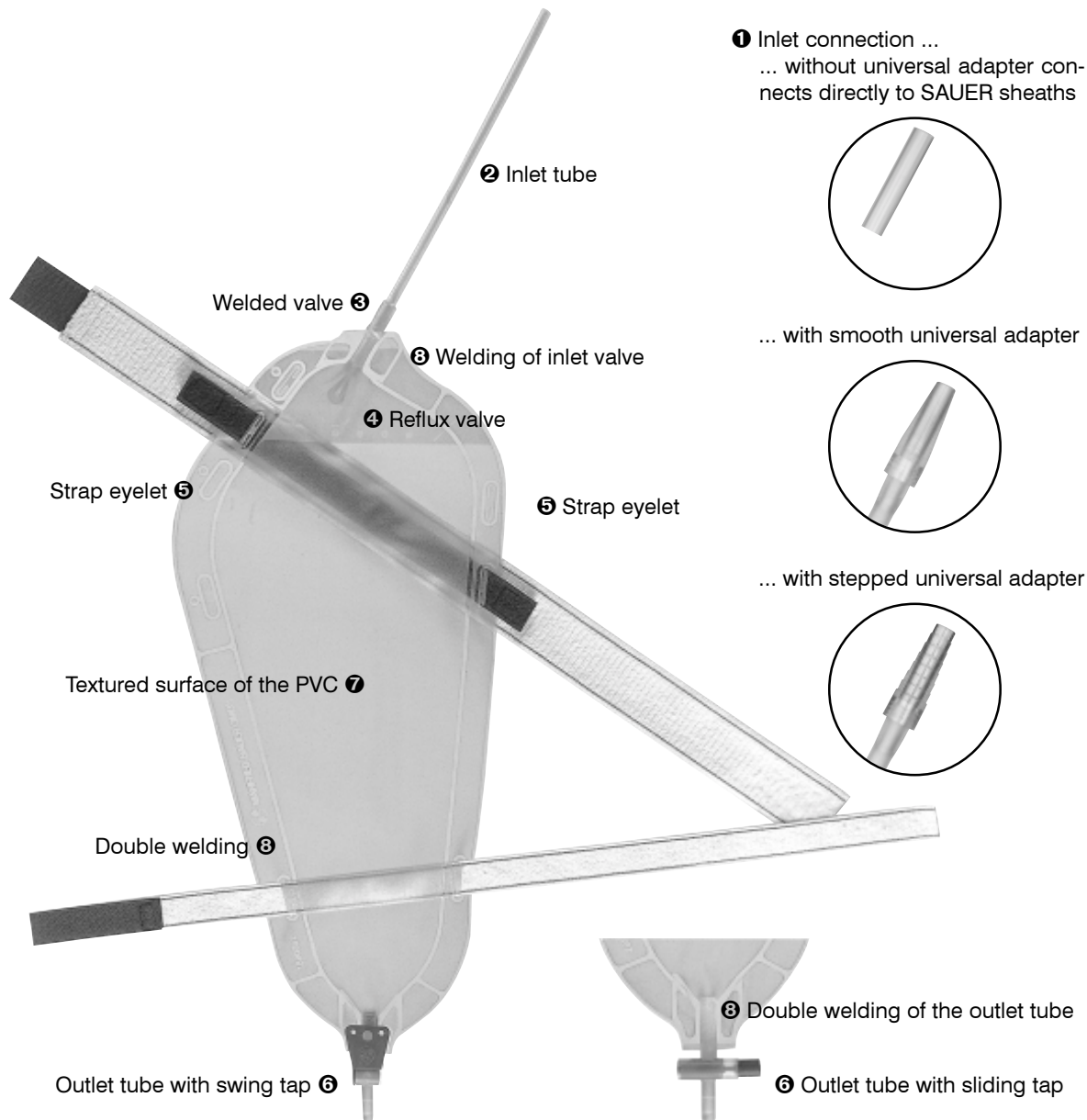
This is very strong and has a textured surface to avoid sweating or sticking to the skin.

❽ Welding

The inlet into the bag, the reflux valve and the outlet tap are welded to the PVC. Double welding makes it the most secure bag on the market.

These features apply to all SAUER leg bags.

Straps: An extra wide 38 mm (1½") soft woven elasticated top leg strap is available on all prescription SAUER leg bags for extra comfort and security with a non slip silicone backing.

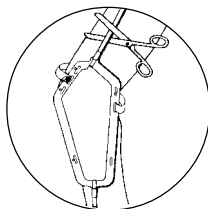


Putting on the Bendi leg bag

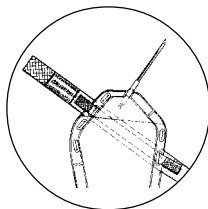
Decide whether the leg bag is to be worn on the left or the right leg. Please take note of the directions for use supplied with the Bendi Bags for details of attaching the leg bag to the strap.

Place the leg bag on the leg and if the inlet tube is too long, its length can be adjusted. Pull the leg strap through one of the higher punched holes (eyelets) in the leg bag. The bag has several holes for the leg straps, enabling the position of the leg bag to be adapted to individual leg shape (e.g. sitting position).

We have designed the leg bag so that the top leg strap is placed above the knee. This eliminates any risk of cutting off the circulation because you don't have to fasten the strap as tightly as a calf bag strap. It also means that the leg bag does not slip down when full.

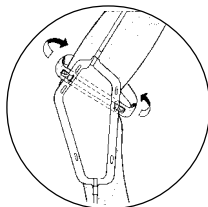


Ensure the elastic of the undergarment you wear does not restrict the flow of urine. Men who wear "Y" fronts can pass the urinary sheath or catheter through the slit in their underpants to enable free drainage.



Only after attaching the leg bag to your leg and fitting the catheter or urinary sheath should the two be connected. This avoids any coiling of the leg bag's inlet tube from when it was packaged, twisting the sheath or catheter.

To ease making the connection between the leg bag and the catheter or urinary sheath tube, wet the connector tube of the leg bag slightly or spray with a disinfectant. When attaching the catheter or urinary sheath, please ensure that twisting does not occur.



Check the position of the tubing several times during the day to ensure that the drainage path is clear, especially after physiotherapy or after changing position (e.g. getting into a car or transferring from bed to wheelchair, etc.).

If necessary, you can secure the inlet tube to the leg by using a second leg strap (see picture on page 41).

SAUER Comfort leg bags

These new 600mL capacity rectangular leg bags have the same quality features as the Bendi Bags, leg hugging leg bags (strong and textured PVC, welding, reflux valves, outlet tap, etc.).

Because of their shape, they can be used by able-bodied people as well as wheelchair users and children, and they can be worn either on the left or right leg.

The main characteristics are:

- **Capacity.** Available in 0,6 l. They are intended for people who do not usually have problems finding accessible toilets to empty the bag. They are squarer than the majority of similar capacity leg bags, making them particularly suitable for people of smaller build.
- **The long inlet tube** can be customised to fit all body sizes. This means you can wear the leg bag either on the thigh or on the lower leg. The bags come in 3 standard inlet tube sizes. Direct inlet, 15 cm inlet and 45 cm inlet. Any other length can be made for you on request.
- **They are available** on prescription in the UK, sterile or non-sterile, each with a glued universal adapter. For the 15 cm and 45 cm inlets, we also supply a loose adapter to allow the inlet to be shortened to individual requirements. Longer inlet tube lengths are available on request. We offer smooth or stepped push-on adapters. This allows a perfect fit to all urinary sheaths or catheters currently available in the UK.
- **The backing** of the leg bag is a natural cotton fleece, which is velvety smooth for extra comfort against the skin. The leg bag is coated on one side only and remains transparent on the other side.



*Universal adapter:
smooth or stepped*

Features to note when putting on Comfort leg bags

You can wear the Comfort leg bags either on the thigh (direct or short inlet tube version) or on the lower leg (longer inlet tube). When worn on the thigh, they can also be worn on the outside.

We cannot give a general description on how the leg bag should be worn, so we recommend you try the different options to find out the best solution for you.

Our extra wide 38mm (1½") non-slip top strap secures the Comfort leg bag into position. Each prescription pack has one wide top strap, one narrow bottom strap, 10 leg bags and a connector to attach a night drainage bag to the outlet of the leg bag. To find out more about other ways of securing the leg bags, please ask your continence systems adviser.

Discreet Thigh Bag

These unique leg bags have a capacity of 0.45 litre (450mL). They are available with direct inlet tubes in the centre of the bag or in the opposite corner to the outlet tap (ideal for suprapubic catheter users). You can wear them easily on the thigh under short clothing, shorts or swimming costumes. You can also wear them when dealing with partial incontinence (see page 49).

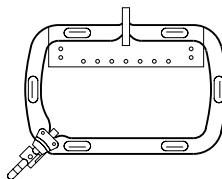
The Discreet Thigh Bag can be worn in different ways:

- Strapped on the outside – or the inside – of the thigh using our narrow straps threaded through the eyelets on the top or bottom of the bag for wheelchair users. The eyelets on the side of the bag are generally for use by ambulant people using our wide leg bag strap.
- Place the bag in our 100 % washable cotton cover and secure it on the inner or outer thigh with our 38mm wide Velcro strap.
- Simply tucked into the wearer’s underclothes or swimming costume, or laid across the top of the thigh (and kept in place by clothing).

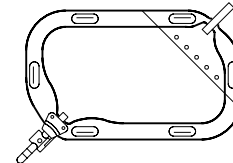


Variations

inlet tube	straight	diagonal	
adapter	smooth	stepped	without
outlet	swing tap	sliding tap	



straight inlet tube



diagonal inlet tube

Leg Bag drainage problems

If the leg bag is not put on properly, drainage problems can occur – the urine does not flow directly from the urinary sheath or catheter into the leg bag.

Possible reasons may be:

- the urinary sheath or catheter is trapped beneath the elasticated leg of the under garment
- clothing is too tight
- the tube is too long or kinked
- the leg bag is not secured properly
- the leg bag is not positioned correctly
- the leg bag contains air

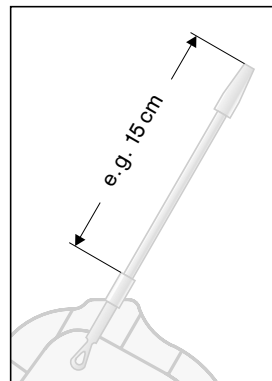
Special orders of the SAUER leg bags

We have designed our range of products for bladder incontinence care to cover every need. We are always looking for a better solution or trying to develop something for any person not covered by current range of products.

Therefore, if you have any problems or questions regarding our standard range of products, please *call* us. We can advise you fully and try to find the best solution for your specific requirement. If we do not have a product that suits your specific requirements, we are always happy to recommend other products available on the market that may suit you.

Inlet tube lengths and outlet taps

All our leg bags can be produced with any inlet tube length. To adjust the inlet tube length yourself, simply cut the inlet tube to the required length and use one of our push-on smooth or stepped connectors (available from our helpline). For people who find our standard inlet tube lengths unsuitable or are unable to adjust the inlet themselves, we offer a free inlet tube cutting service. Once you have determined the inlet tube length, notify our customer helpline and we will cut and glue the inlet tube for you at the factory giving you a “wash and go” solution out of the box. Customers who use a catheter and need non standard inlet tube lengths require a customised sterile bag which takes about 12 weeks to get through the sterilisation process. However, once we know your requirements, we will keep enough of your required size in stock to ensure you never run out. Alternatively, individually sterilised connectors are available on request for catheter users who wish to shorten the inlet tubes themselves – care must be taken to ensure as clean a technique as possible to avoid introducing infection into the system.



How to measure the length of the inlet tube

We can customise your leg bag in the following ways:

- shorten or lengthen inlet tubes (see picture on the right)
- fit different adapters – stepped, smooth, urine sample ports
- fit outlet tubes instead of a swing or sliding taps.

Sterile Leg bags

All of our leg bags are available sterile or non sterile. For a sheath user with no history of infections living in the community, a non sterile leg bag is perfectly adequate and also saves the NHS a considerable amount of money (it costs the manufacturer over 40p to pack each leg bag in a special gas permeable pouch and sterilise it – a waste of money and resources for the majority of sheath users). Anyone with a permanent indwelling or suprapubic catheter should use a sterile leg bag as a matter of routine as the catheter is a way into the body for bacteria and every possible effort should be made to ensure infection risk is kept to a minimum. Catheter users are also recommended to attach a night bag to the bottom of the leg bag with the supplied connecting tube rather than disconnecting the leg bag from the catheter every night. Your specialist continence healthcare professional is the best person to advise on the regime that best suits your clinical situation.

Delivery time: Please note that there is a delivery time of approx. 14 days for any special non sterile orders and up to 3 months for sterile ones. A minimum quantity of 6 boxes must be placed for non standard sterile inlet tube lengths. The alternative is to order an the adjustable inlet tube version of the leg bag that comes with separate sterile connectors so the inlet tube can be shortened as required.

Cotton cover

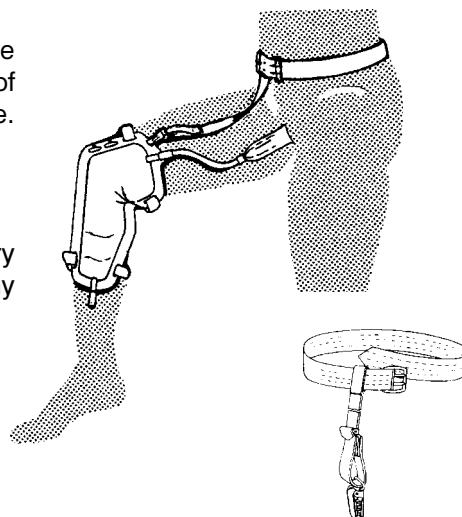
Some users find the direct contact of the leg bag against the skin uncomfortable. We offer a cotton cover. This is made of skin-friendly cotton, can be used frequently and is washable.

Waist belts for ambulant people or children

The waist belt ensures that the distance between the urinary sheath and the leg bag remains the same and prevents any pulling on the urinary sheath and the adhesive area.

It is recommended particularly for

- ambulant people
- small adhesive surfaces
- use in small urinary sheath sizes or by children

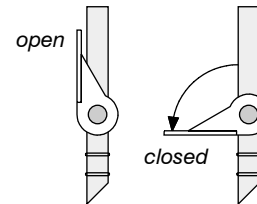


Outlet taps

Swing tap

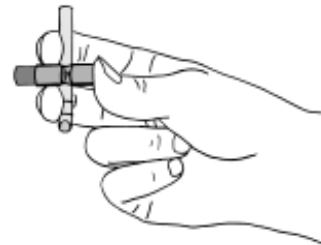
The benefits of the swing tap are:

- Easy operation, even with restricted finger movement
- A positive action that moves through 90 degrees and makes it easy to determine whether it is “open” or “closed”
- Security band to help prevent accidental opening and aid closing



Sliding tap

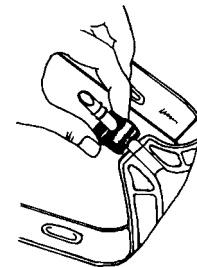
- easy operation by pushing back and forth
- greater security against unintentional opening
- the open or closed position is easy to feel just by touching the slight bump on the side



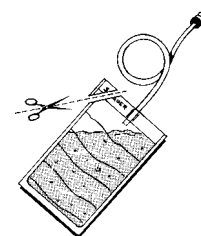
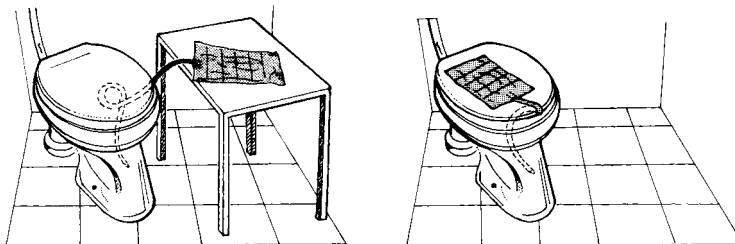
Emptying urine drainage bags

- **Leg bag:** Never allow air to enter your leg bag through the outlet tap. Always leave a small amount of urine in the bottom of the bag. This increases the suction in the system (creating a partial vacuum) which helps drainage and prevents a build up of urine in the buffer zone of the urinary sheath. It also minimises airborne contamination in the bag, which is particularly important for catheter users.

It is also possible to empty the bag without getting fingers or clothes wet. After emptying, push the tap upwards to allow the urine in the tap outlet to flow back into the bag. This, however, does carry the risk of introducing airborne contamination into the bag.



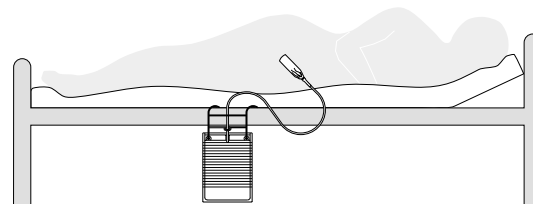
- **Bed bags:** Non drainable (without a tap). Empty the urine through the inlet tube into the toilet if the bag has no non-return valve.



If you are in a hurry, cut the corner off to enable quick drainage.

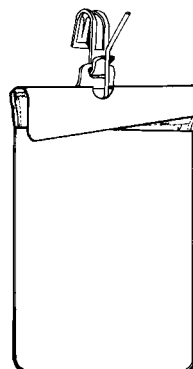
Connecting Bed bags

For urinary sheath users the sheath is not removed but the leg bag is replaced by a bed bag. Catheter users should attach the bed bag to the bottom of the leg bag with the supplied connecting tube rather than disconnecting the leg bag from the catheter every night. This prevents the introduction of bacteria into the closed drainage system of catheter and leg bag.



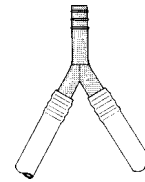
*Important:
The bed bag must hang below the person!*

Bed bags are mass produced and often seem to leak. Using our waterproof “night bag cover” (Order no. 70.52) can solve this problem as well as disguise the contents of the bag from visitors. Alternatively, many people rest the nightbag and its stand in a bowl just in case it does leak.



Night bag cover

For people that pass over 2.0l of urine overnight. To save changing bed bags during the night, it is possible to connect 2 cheap disposable 2.0l night bags to a sheath or catheter at the same time by using a “Y” connector (Order no. 62.10) thus making it unnecessary to change the bags at night.

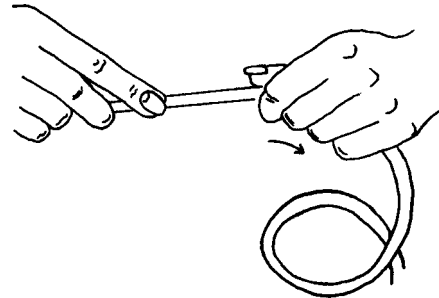


Y piece

You can also leave the leg bag connected and add a bed bag to it. To do this, you need a short coupling tube (Order no. 55.38 included in every UK Drug Tariff Pack). Attach the coupling tube to the adapter of the bed bag and the outlet tap of the leg bag (wet the coupling tube to ease the connection). The outlet tap of the leg bag remains open so the urine can flow through the leg bag.

Please note:

- The bed bags, which generally have a long inlet tube (100 cm) which is coiled for storage. The tubes therefore have to be stretched slightly by pulling them between your index finger and thumb while applying slight pressure. This relieves the tension and reduces the risk of the urinary sheath twisting or the catheter pulling.
- When changing position in bed, check position of the urinary sheath and inlet tube, to prevent twisting and avoid outflow problems.



“stretch” the tube