



MANUAL - STRAPLESS 4

Product Manual

Version 30.05.2025



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1. THANK YOU FOR FLYING ADVANCE

Thank you for choosing an ADVANCE quality product with Swiss engineering.

User manual

This user manual is an important part of your product. You will find instructions for Putting into service and use in practice as well as important information on safety, care and maintenance. We encourage you to read this document carefully before your first flight. Video instructions can be accessed via QR codes if available. All information can be found on our website in the "Download" section.

Download section

Product Registration

Register your new ADVANCE product online in your MyADVANCE account no later than 10 days after purchase for a warranty extension or to be informed promptly by e-mail about updates and safety-relevant findings regarding your product

Product registration

Our story: Pioneering spirit and Swiss precision

Putting our ideas into the air. That's what we can do. For more than 30 years, ADVANCE have kept the needs and wishes of our pilots at the forefront. With Swiss precision we refine model after model. Highest quality and absolute reliability have our top priority, in the air and in our customer service. So from pioneers we have become perfectionists, and a leading worldwide comprehensive service provider.

Questions and support

You can always contact your ADVANCE dealer or our support team, we will be happy to help you. Send an email to support@advance.ch

We wish you many exciting and enjoyable hours in the air with your new product!

2. GENERAL SAFETY ADVICE

Flying a paraglider calls for appropriate training and a sound knowledge of the subject, as well as, of course, the necessary insurance cover and licence. A pilot must be able to correctly assess the weather conditions before taking off. His or her capabilities must be adequate for the actual paraglider. The paraglider pilot is also required bear a sense of responsibility towards the natural world, especially regarding the preservation of wildlife and landscape.

Warning Wearing an appropriate helmet, suitable footwear, and clothing, as well as carrying a rescue parachute (reserve), is strongly recommended. Before every flight, all equipment must be checked for damage and airworthiness. Additionally, a complete pre-flight check must be performed.

Warning Every pilot bears sole responsibility for all risks, including injury or death, when participating in the sport of paragliding. Neither the manufacturer nor the seller of a paraglider can guarantee or be held responsible for the pilot's safety.

3. LIMITATIONS

3.1. Range of use and load limits



Like all commercially available reserve parachutes, paraglider harnesses are never suitable for free fall parachuting because their design and construction details do not allow such a thing. Neither the reserve parachute nor its attachments to the harness can withstand the loadings involved in an abrupt opening.

All harness adjustments must be made before the harness is flown. Correct adjustment of the STRAPLESS 4 greatly contributes to safety, correct function and comfort in flight.

Warning No protector can offer complete protection against injury. The EN/LTF certified protector can only absorb some of the energy of impacts and therefore minimise injuries that might result from unlucky takeoffs and landings.

Warning The STRAPLESS 4 certification up to 120 kg is restricted exclusively to paraglider sport.

3.2. Overstress

When using the product there is always the risk of unpredictable overstress in flight, for example caused by flying conditions or a surprise bump in the air. In rare cases the product could suffer damage. This is especially disappointing in that, usually, neither the manufacturer nor the pilot can be held responsible. Light products tend to be more susceptible to damage due to overstress.

Info In the event of damage, please contact your dealer and they will contact us. We strive to be accommodating in such cases and work together to find the best possible solution. This is individual and depends on the assessment of each case.

3.3. Paraglider models of other brands

The harness can be flown with any paraglider. There are no restrictions.

3.4. Winching

Do not use this product for winching.

3.5. Acro

Do not use this lightweight product for SIV training, acro or extreme flight manoeuvres.

3.6. Tandem flying

The STRAPLESS 4 can be used for tandem flying for the passenger. As the STRAPLESS 4 does not have a device for a tandem reserve, it is not suitable for the pilot.

3.7. Use in the school environment

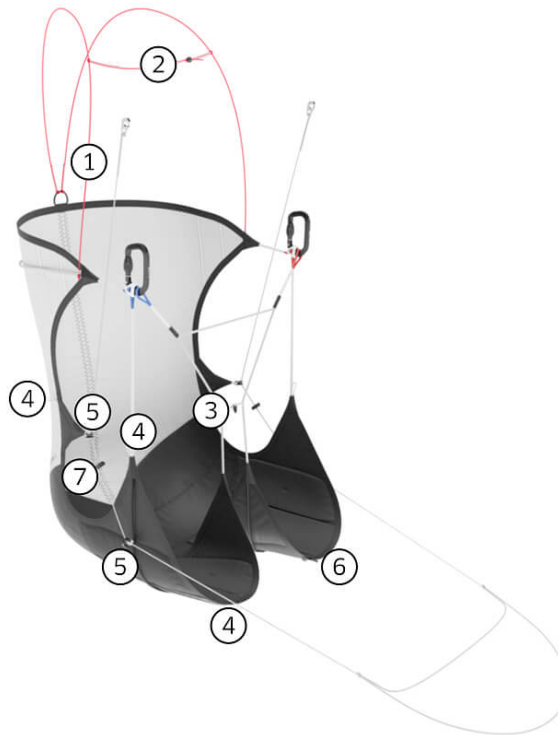
The STRAPLESS 4 is not suitable for beginners / students.

4. FEATURES

4.1. Features



1. Adjustable shoulder straps
2. Chest strap closure system
3. Distance adjuster legpads
4. Protector attachment points
5. Low-friction rings for the accelerator
6. Accelerator holder
7. Accelerator stopper



5. PREPARING THE PRODUCT

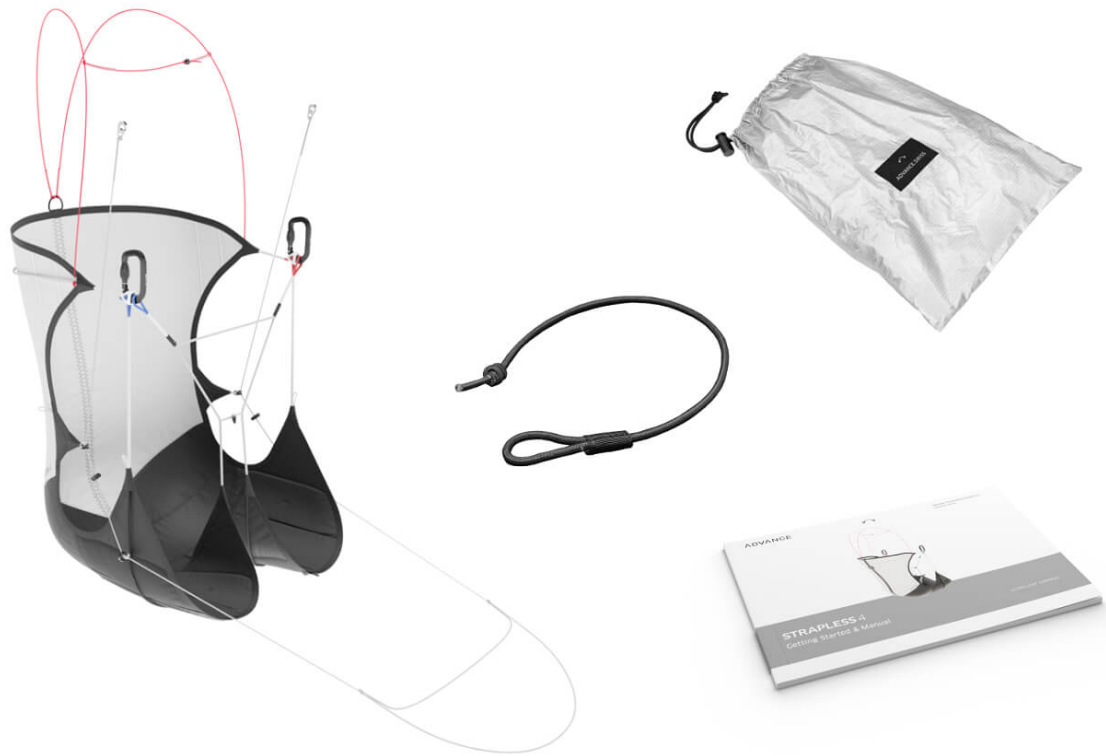
5.1. Delivery

Every ADVANCE harness must be checked by the authorized dealer before delivery to ensure that the scope of delivery is complete and that the basic settings are correct.

Register your new ADVANCE product in your MyADVANCE account no later than 10 days after purchase to benefit from the extended ADVANCE warranty. More information under Warranty.

5.1.1. Delivery includes

- Harness incl. carabiners
- Accelerator incl. Step-in-Aid
- Storage bag
- Getting Started Booklet



Options

- Inflatable protector incl. FLOWBAG
- ZIP Light front container



5.2. Adjusting the harness



Video Tutorial



YouTube video player: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/q5yxSpL0iOQ>

5.2.1. Basic settings

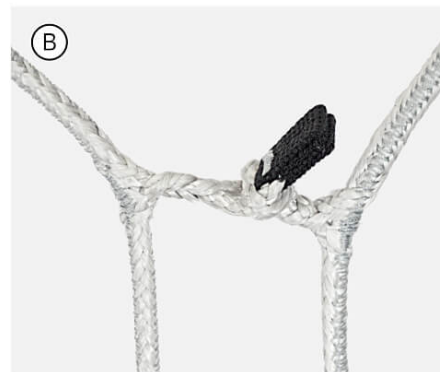
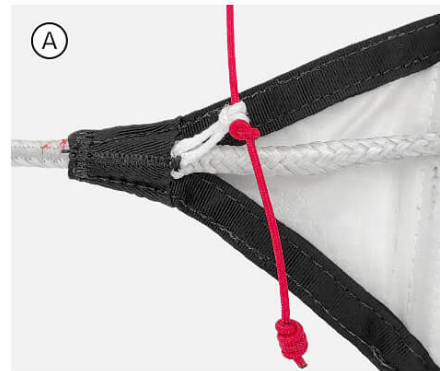
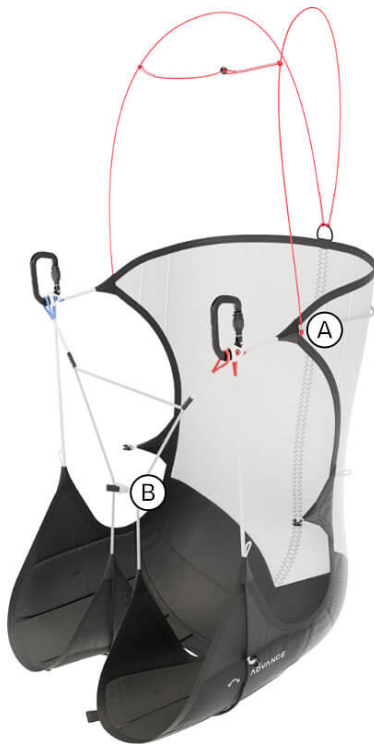
Adjusting the shoulder straps

Loosen the lark's head on the white loop (A) and knot the red line at the desired position. Finally, retighten the lark's head and ensure the setting is symmetrical.

Choose your leg position

You can choose between two positions: (B)

- Adjuster closed (basic setting): for a dampened, smoother flight feel and maximum comfort.
- Adjuster open: for more agility and freedom of movement.



Hint

ADVANCE recommend that you thoroughly familiarise yourself with these adjustments before your first flight in the harness. As well as that you should always make your first test flight with new equipment in quiet weather conditions.

5.2.2. Preparing the accelerator

General info

The speed system is already fitted and only needs to be adjusted for length.

- Make sure that the speed lines run freely through all their low-friction-rings on the harness.



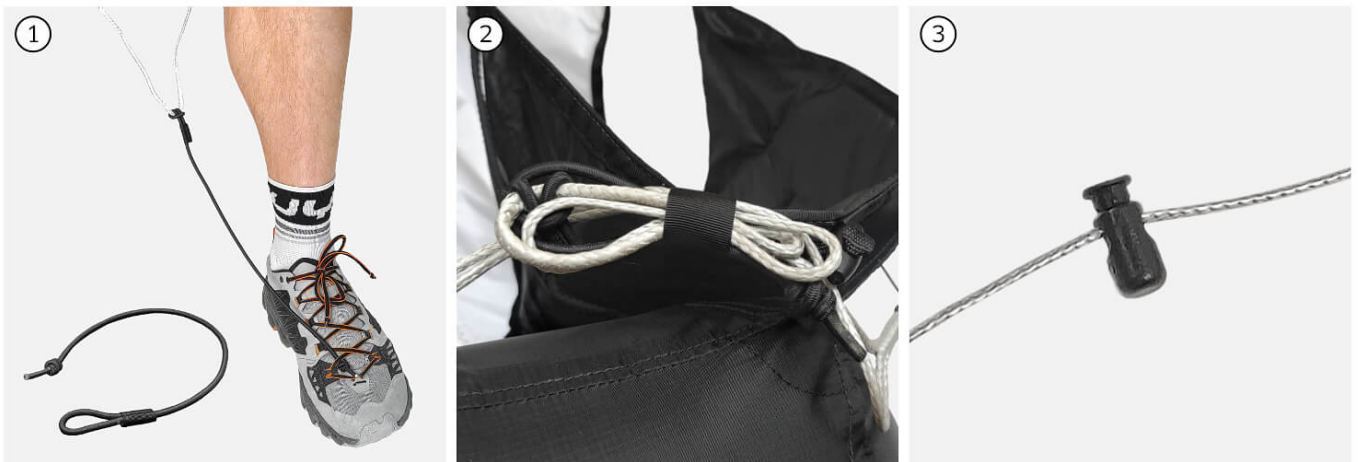
- Connect the speed lines to the risers by Brummel hooks or anchor hitches.
- Make sure that your final setting allows the full travel of the speed system to be used.

Position the accelerator

You can prepare the accelerator in two ways before take-off:

- With Step-In-Aid: Connect the speed bar to one of your shoes for easy access in flight. (1)
- Holder: Attach it to the harness so that it does not interfere with your take-off. (2)

The speed lines can be fixed with the stoppers so that they do not interfere with your take-off. (3)



Warning

Make sure that the speed lines are not so short that the wing would be permanently accelerated in flight.

6. PREPARATION FOR FLIGHT

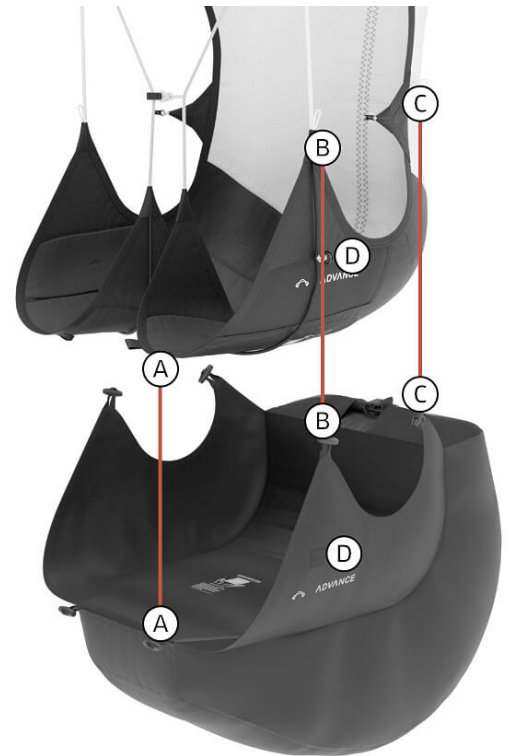
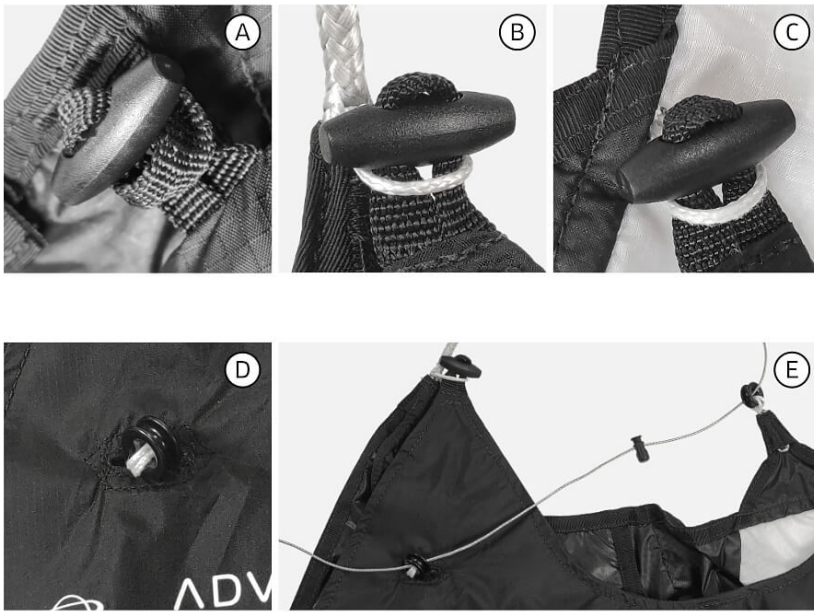
6.1. Installing the protector

Easy attachment

First, the accelerator must be completely removed, then the protector is attached to the STRAPLESS 4 by six connection points:

- (A) Bullet-Toggles at the legpads (left & right)
- (B) Bullet-Toggles in the thigh area (left & right)
- (C) Bullet-Toggles in the lower back area (left & right)

Guide the low-friction rings in the thigh area through the slots provided in the protector (D), before rethreading the accelerator. This is the only way to ensure that the accelerator runs correctly along the outside of the protector. (E)



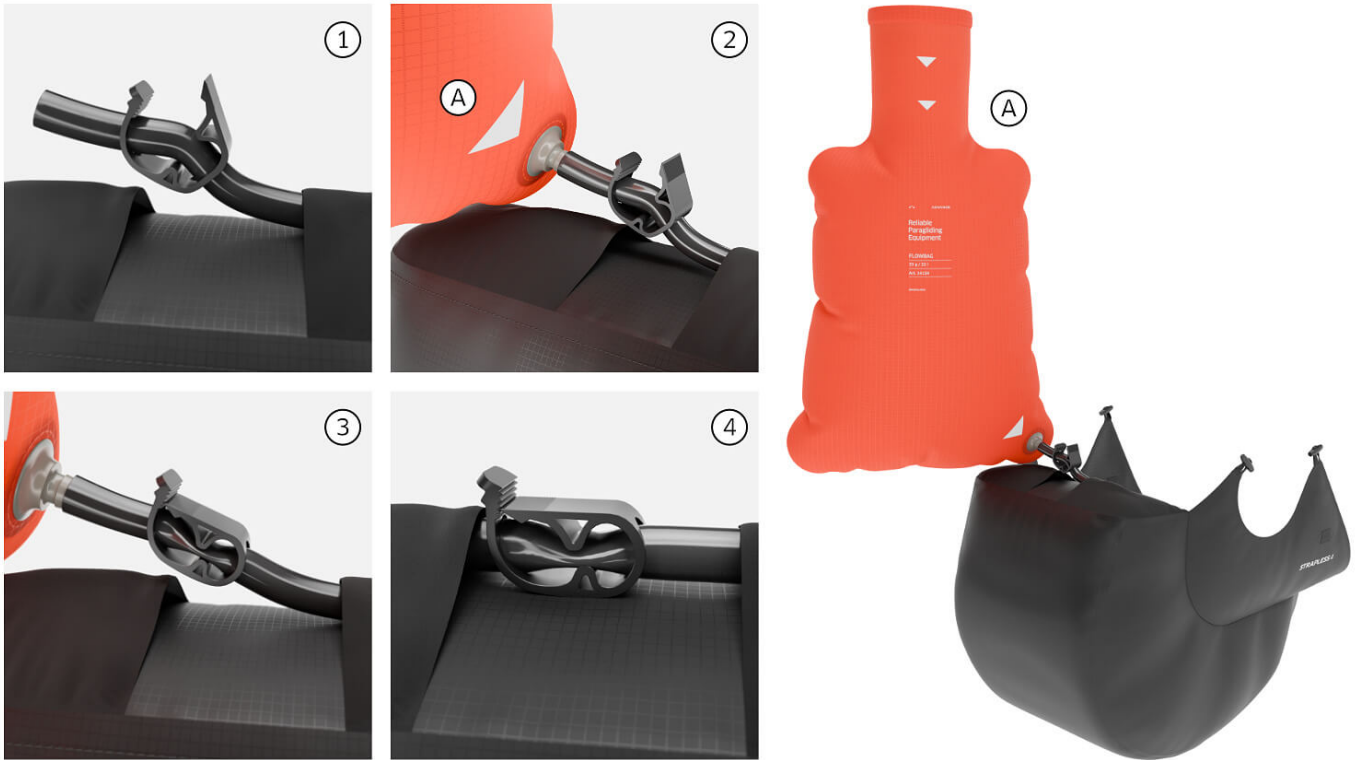
Video Tutorial attaching the protector



YouTube video player: <https://www.youtube.com/embed//aAECaZQa6Q4>

Connect and fill

- Open the protector's clamping valve. (1)
- Connect the FLOWBAG (A) to the tube. (2)
- Use your mouth to blow air into the FLOWBAG from a distance of about 20 cm until it is full. Close the opening and press the air into the protector. Repeat this process two to three times. When the protector is inflated properly, you will clearly feel the increase in pressure and resistance.
- Close the clamping valve and disconnect the FLOWBAG. (3)
- Stow the tube away. (4)



Video Tutorial inflating the protector



YouTube video player: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/-JsVGSIXEcE>

Info

We recommend using the FLOWBAG supplied to inflate the protector. Alternatively, you can also inflate the protector by mouth. However, breathing air contains moisture and can promote mold growth.

Warning

Make sure that the protector is sufficiently inflated before launching. You will clearly feel the increase in pressure and resistance when the protector is correctly inflated.

Warning

Sharp objects such as walking poles etc. can damage the protector.

Warning

Do not sit on the protector before the launch.

Achtung

The protector is approved, and full protection achieved, only if one of the above requirements is fulfilled.

6.2. Putting on & closing

Closing the harness

Put on the harness and hook the blue and red loops of the front strap into the main carabiners. Also fasten the mini chest



strap.

Warning Always check that the carabiners and the harness loops are not twisted.

Getting into the harness with a paraglider attached

If you store your harness connected to the paraglider, step into the harness from above through the closed locking system.

Warning Take care not to damage the harness with your shoes (e.g. with crampons).



6.3. Mounting a front reserve

The STRAPLESS 4 can be used with a front container (e.g. the ZIP Light).

Before attaching the paraglider to the carabiners, hang the ends of the reserve connection in the carabiners, then fasten the container as recommended by the manufacturer.

Warning Important advice for using a front container. The carabiner gates must face rearwards. This is essential so that when the reserve is thrown the reserve connections run upwards unimpeded. In addition the reserve must be hung in the carabiners before hooking up the paraglider risers.



6.4. Clipping in the paraglider

The EASY CONNECT SYSTEM with its coloured markings on the STRAPLESS 4 main support loops makes clipping in an ADVANCE wing especially straightforward. The pilot only has to check that the red and blue lines on the glider risers match the same colours on the STRAPLESS 4 support points. The EASY CONNECT SYSTEM improves safety before takeoff.

Info

Also connect the speed lines to the risers by Brummel hooks.

Warning

Make sure that the Edelrid Aura carabiners are always correctly closed and secured and that they are only -loaded in their lengthwise direction.



6.5. Takeoff preparation and checks

Before every takeoff carry out the following pre-takeoff checks:

1. Harness and helmet buckled, reserve OK?
2. Lines free?
3. Canopy open?
4. Wind direction and strength assessed?
5. Airspace and field-of-view clear?

Hint

To get the wing in the right shape for takeoff do the following: pull the brake lines in while you are sorting the lines until the canopy arrives at the perfect banana shape.

Warning

Before each flight, check that the reserve handle is in the intended position and that the yellow locking cables of the reserve handle are correctly stowed.

7. USE IN PRACTICE

The STRAPLESS 4 should principally be flown sitting in a upright position. This gives the best view in the air.

7.1. Using the speedbar

The STRAPLESS 4 has a speed system already fitted.

Warning

Make sure the speed system is always connected to the wing in flight, even when you do not intend to use it. A loose speed line could prevent a successful reserve deployment.



7.2. Emergencies

7.2.1. Reserve

Throwing the reserve

Use the correct technique to release and throw the reserve. This is a pull then throw to the side. Do not pull straight up. Throw the reserve inner container as far away as possible in the transverse direction so that the lines are quickly extended and tensioned.

Hint We recommend that you make a brief tactile check on your reserve handle during every flight. This will program the subconscious as to where it is. We advise that you also mentally rehearse the throwing technique.

In strong rotational flight such as a spiral dive, very high G-loading can occur. This can make reserve throwing much more difficult.

Hint Take your harness along to a G-Force Trainer and practise releasing your reserve under high G-loading.

Landing under the reserve

Immediately after the reserve deployment, try to collapse the canopy if possible, or separate from it with a Hook Knife or Quick Out carabiner to avoid a shear position. Due to the shoulder attachment you should land with your legs on the ground first. Try to absorb the energy with a landing roll.

Reserve landing in strong wind

In a strong surface wind there's a risk that the pilot, attached at the shoulders, will be dragged over the ground by the reserve and paraglider. Options for dealing with this are distinctly limited.

Warning In the event of very strong winds on the ground, consider also cutting the paraglider risers or lines on at least one side with the hook knife before touchdown.

Warning The front buckle will not open under tension. Immediately after touchdown, open it as soon as it unloads. If this is not possible, use the hook knife here as well and cut the strap.

7.2.2. Water landing

In general, caution is advised when flying over water, whether it be crossing a lake during a cross country, or during SIV safety training. In particular a pilot can land in the water during SIV, intentionally or otherwise.

Warning Water landings are dangerous and should be avoided at all costs. Landing in flowing water or in coastal surf is often fatal (drowning). ADVANCE recommends that you always carry a hook knife.

Warning After a water landing, separate yourself from your harness as quickly as possible and get clear of your equipment so that you do not get caught up in the reserve or paraglider lines.

Warning You should be aware that the foam protector in any harness will try to float. This can automatically tip the pilot head down in the water. Wearing a lifejacket is essential during SIV training.

Involuntary reserve descent into water



Especially in this case it is very important, if possible, to get out of the speedbag before splashdown, and open all buckles except the front belt or use the hook knife. Immediately after entering the water the front belt must be opened or cut. Get away from the harness and all your equipment as quickly as possible.

Landing in water with a lifejacket

Even when landing in the water during SIV, with a lifejacket, it is recommended that the STRAPLESS 4 buckles are unfastened and the harness taken off before getting into the boat. When full of water the harness gets very heavy and makes it very difficult for the pilot to board the rescue boat.

Warning The front strap will not open under load.

Water landing without reserve

Everything described so far applies. Depending on the situation and danger (current, waves) it may be useful to cut straps with the hook knife before touching down, as the front strap cannot be opened under tension, or even to cut all straps and jump or slide out of the harness into the water.

Warning If a buckle or speedbag will not open, cut it with the hook knife before landing in the water. You can mount a hook knife on the shoulder strap and secure it with a long line.

Maintenance and care of the harness after a water landing

After contact with water, all protectors and the comfort foam should be removed from the STRAPLESS 4. See chapter "Installing/removing components". Everything should then be allowed to dry in a shaded place outside, or carefully laid out in a dry room - or the harness could be hung by its carabiners and gently wafted to and fro. The reserve must be taken out and dried separately. Obviously it should then be repacked.

Info The protectors may take several days to dry

7.2.3. Tree landing

In the event of a tree landing, with or without a reserve parachute, there is a risk of a possible fall.

Warning The most dangerous part of a tree landing is climbing down. Always wait for a rescue party to get you out of the tree.

Info We recommend that you keep a rope sling with a carabiner in the harness so that you can secure your harness to a branch and relax while you wait.

8. MAINTENANCE & CARE

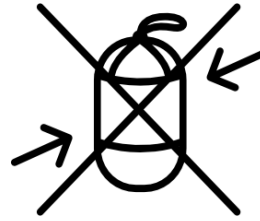
8.1. Storage



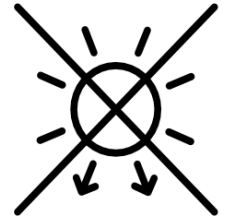
**DON'T STORE
WET**



**AIR PERIODICALLY
OR STORE OPEN**



**DON'T STORE
COMPRESSED**



**DON'T LEAVE IT
UNNECESSARILY
IN THE SUN**

Ultraviolet light, heat, humidity, sea water, aggressive cleaning agents, unsuitable storing and physical abuse (dragging across the ground) speed up the ageing process.

Hint Always store your harness uncompressed in a dry and dark place.

Hint Allow a wet or damp harness to dry by leaving it completely unpacked at room temperature, or outside in the shade.

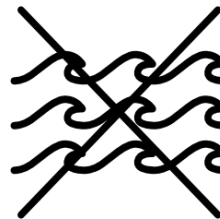
Hint Allow a wet or damp reserve to dry by leaving it completely unpacked at room temperature, or outside in the shade, then always repack it.

8.2. Maintenance

8.2.1. Cleaning



**DO NOT USE
SOLVENTS FOR
CLEANING**



**AVOID
SEAWATER**

All rubbing and sliding action speeds up the harness fabric ageing process.

If your harness gets heavily soiled with dirt, grass stains, grease, cow dung, mold, resin or other dirt, just clean the fabric with a soft, damp cloth. Then allow the harness to dry thoroughly before packing it away.



It is best to use baby powder gently on adhesive residues.

- Hint** Clean the harness only with fresh water. Do not use solvents under any circumstances.
- Hint** If the harness gets wet with salt (sea) water rinse it thoroughly with fresh water.
- Hint** If the rescue gets wet with salt (sea) water rinse it thoroughly with fresh water. Always repack it.

8.2.2. Visual Inspection

Like any flying device, every harness should be routinely inspected by its pilot so that any damage to seams, straps etc. can be quickly detected and repaired. Especially after a tree landing or a hard emergency landing on the protector, the harness must be visually inspected in detail for damage, before it flies again..

- Warning** Do not make any modifications to your harness and never fly with a harness whose straps are damaged in any way.
- Warning** If the harness was used as part of a rescue emergency opening, the harness must then be inspected by the manufacturer or an authorized service center.
- Hint** Check the harness regularly for damaged seams and straps. In particular, check the reserve connection / main connection straps and the seams on the main carabiners loops.

8.2.3. Packing the reserve parachute

Most reserve parachute manufacturers recommend maintenance or repacking of the reserve parachute every 6 months to ensure reliable and quick opening at all times. If the reserve gets wet, damp or overheated, it must be definitely repacked. We strongly recommend that you let a qualified person pack your reserve. ADVANCE also strongly recommends that you regularly check the yellow locking cables in the locking loops of your harness. It is sufficient to move the cables slightly.

8.2.4. Carabiner service life

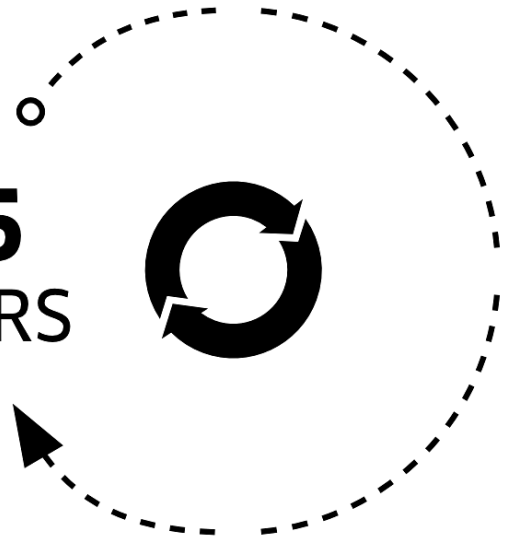
EDELRID AURA

Maximum 5 years

The main support carabiners are high quality EDELRID Aura Alu Carabiners. Aluminium carabiners must be regularly visually inspected for metal discolourations, dents, obvious scratches or cracks. In addition you must be careful that a carabiner is always loaded vertically - along its major axis. If a carabiner shows any of the above visually evident conditions or has been incorrectly loaded, both carabiners must be replaced immediately. In any case the carabiners must be replaced no later than 5 years after being put into service or first flight (if unknown, 5 years after production date), and may not be used again. The production date is printed on the carabiner.



5
YEARS

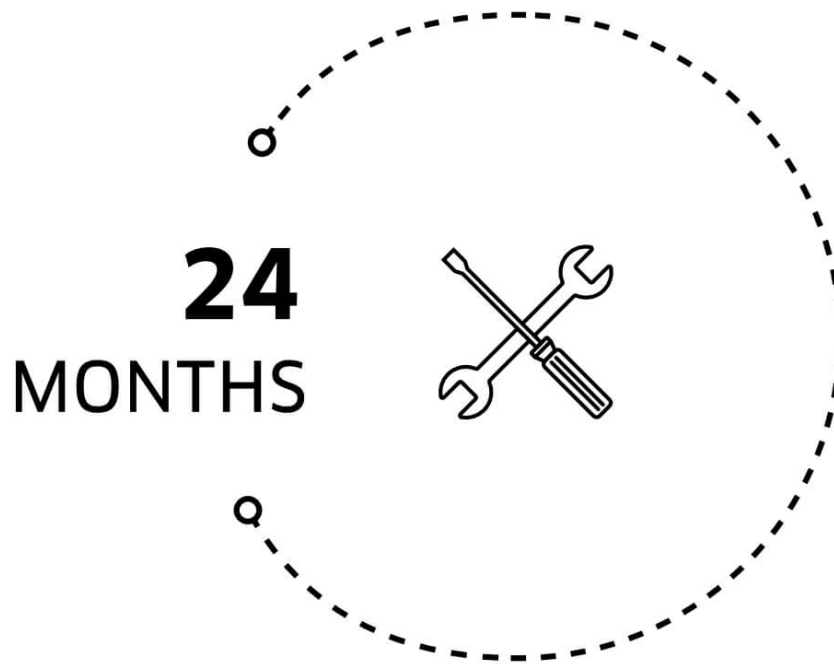


8.2.5. Air-Foam Hybrid

The foam protector does not require any special care, but it should definitely be inspected for possible damage after an impact. In case of damage to the outer shell, the protector must be replaced. If you are flying with the Permanent Protector system, also check the sleeve of the protector element.

8.3. Inspection

Inspect your harness regularly for damage and have it thoroughly visually inspected by a professional every 24 months. The inspection includes a visual assessment of the fabric, straps and connections, major stitching and main carabiners. All parts are inspected for tears, kinks, pre-damaged seams, damage and severe wear. Detected damage requires the harness to be professionally repaired before the next flight.



You can find more information about the check in the "Service" chapter of this manual or at www.advance.swiss.

8.4. Repairs

You should never carry out harness repairs yourself. The various seams are prepared with the greatest precision. Only the manufacturer or an authorised Service Centre should carry out repairs with original materials.

8.5. Disposal

Environmental protection plays an important role in the selection of materials and the manufacture of an ADVANCE product. We use only non-toxic materials and fabrics that are subjected to continuous quality and environmental impact assessments. When your equipment reaches the end of its useful life, please remove all metal parts (recycling) and dispose of straps and material in the designated facilities.

9. SERVICE & WARRANTY

9.1. ADVANCE Service Center

ADVANCE operates two company-owned service centres that carry out checks and repairs of all types. The workshops based in Switzerland and France are official maintenance operations, which have many years' experience and in-depth product-specific expertise. The ADVANCE worldwide service network includes other authorised service centres that provide the same services. All service facilities use original ADVANCE materials exclusively. You can find all information on checks and repairs and the relevant addresses at www.advance.swiss.

9.2. Support (Website)

At www.advance.swiss you will find detailed information about ADVANCE and our products as well as contact details for any



questions you may have.

You also have the opportunity to register your product online up to 10 days after purchase in order to enjoy the full benefits of the ADVANCE warranty. You can also:

- Keep yourself updated about new safety-related findings about ADVANCE products.
- Download an application form for the check at ADVANCE as a PDF in order to be able to send in your product.
- To find an answer to a burning question under FAQ (frequently asked questions).
- Subscribe to the ADVANCE newsletter to receive regular e-mail updates about new products and services.

9.3. Online Account

Set up a MyADVANCE account at www.advance.swiss/warranty and register your product directly online after purchase.

In the MyADVANCE account you will find all documents for your product as PDF, e.g. the manual, security updates and much more. You can also view spare parts for your product and make support requests directly.

9.4. Warranty

As part of the ADVANCE warranty, we undertake to rectify any defects in our products that are attributable to manufacturing faults. In order for a warranty claim to be made, ADVANCE must be notified immediately on discovery of a defect, and the defective product sent in for inspection. The manufacturer will then decide how a possible manufacturing fault is to be rectified (□repair, replacement of parts or replacement of the product□). Basically, the legal warranty obligations of your country apply. If you register your product for free on our website within 10 days of purchase you receive an extended warranty of 12 months beyond the legal warranty period of your country!

Warranty and Service Intervals begin from the date of the glider's first flight, recorded on the identification plate. If no date is evident the applicable date is that on which the glider was transferred from ADVANCE to the ADVANCE dealer. The ADVANCE warranty does not cover any other claim. Claims in respect of damage resulting from careless or incorrect use of the product (□ e.g. inadequate maintenance, unsuitable storage, overloading, exposure to extreme temperatures, etc.□) are expressly excluded. The same applies to damage attributable to an accident or normal wear and tear.

10. TECHNICAL DATA

10.1. Data

STRAPLESS 4		M	L
Pilot height	cm	155-185	178-202
Chest strap width	cm	~39	~42
Harness weight	kg	0.235	0.255
Weight carabiners	kg	0.062	0.062
Weights speed system	kg	0.030	0.030
Protector weight	kg	0.220	0.220
Airbag certification		NfL 2024-2-785	NfL 2024-2-785
Harness certification		EN 1651:2018+A1:2020 / 120 kg	EN 1651:2018+A1:2020 / 120 kg

10.2. Materials



We continuously review and test the variety of materials on offer. Like all ADVANCE products, the STRAPLESS 4 has been designed and manufactured according to the latest findings and processes. We have chosen the materials very carefully and with the strictest quality requirements in mind.

Main straps	D-Pro, 4mm, 13kN
Leg straps	D-Pro, 4mm, 13kN
Outer covering	Skytex 38 universal
Seat area	Nylon 40 BE - DE R/S

10.3. Certification

The STRAPLESS 4 including protector is certified according to EN 1651:2018+A1:2020 & NfL 2024-2-785 up to 120 kg. The test reports can be downloaded from www.advance.swiss.