

Tamarack Flexure Joint® Fabrication/Installation Instructions

1. Use of molding dummies or a Tamarack® hand-molding tool (T-740-1 series) is necessary to generate a properly fitting cavity for the Tamarack Flexure Joints®.

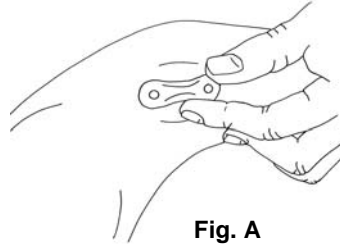


Fig. A

2. Position each molding dummy* so the midpoint is located on/near the axis of joint motion (Fig. A) and fix in place (Fig. B).

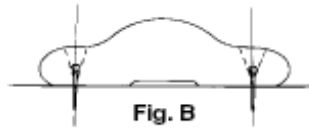


Fig. B

3. If a stockinette is pulled over the molding dummies before vacuum forming, it must be very thin/sheer. Any excess stockinette thickness will prevent a proper, snug fit of the cavity around the flexure.

4. Vacuum forming with your choice of thermoplastic material (or laminated resin) as desired.

5. After cooling (or thermosetting), remove the plastic shell from the model, and extract the molding dummies. Use a thin-bladed saw (a fine-toothed coping saw is best) to separate the two sections (Fig. C). Do not use a cast saw. (Too much material is lost along a ragged, wide cut line.) Sharp edges along the separation line should be beveled off with a hand deburring tool (Fig. D). Sanding or grinding will reduce flexure coverage and lessen the ability of the cavity to properly anchor and control the flexure.

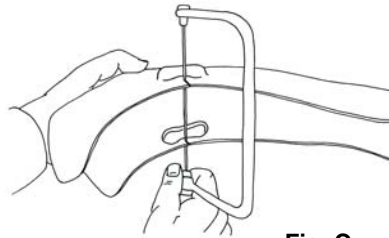


Fig. C

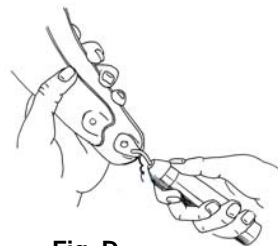


Fig. D

6. Free Motion (740 series) – To allow flexion in the posterior direction, grind a small "V" posterior to the midline of each cavity (Fig. E). Ensure that the "V" does not extend back past the center of the cavity. Remove material from the anterior side as needed to allow needed range of motion (Fig. F)

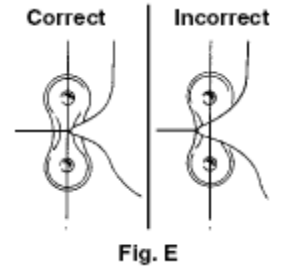


Fig. E

7. Use a Tamarack® hand punch tool (T-740-2 series) to precisely locate and punch holes for the flexure anchoring screws (Fig. G). Large and medium flexures require 4.5mm (3/16 inch) diameter screw clearance hole; the small size requires 4.0mm (5/32 inch) diameter.

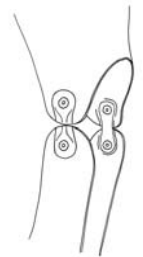


Fig. F

8. Insert the Tamarack Flexure Joints® and secure with the anchoring screws (Large and Medium, M4 x 9; Small, M3.5 x 7). Depending upon the thickness of the plastic shell, it may be necessary to adjust the length of the screws. The screw must not protrude inside the orthosis. Use a removable thread-locking compound on the screws. Longer screws are available on request.

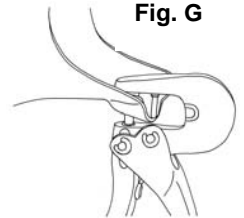


Fig. G

9. A properly installed free motion flexure will show no gapping along the separation cut at the center of the joint. There will be separation in the "V" shaped clearance area(s) where motion is desired. See Fig E.

**Molding dummies gradually "moosh" down with repeated use. They should be discarded after about ten moldings.*



Tamarack[®]
HABILITATION TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

FABRICATION NOTES:

Vacuum-forming over the Tamarack Flexure Joints[®] will not damage them, but this fabrication method will not provide the best performance. The specific configuration of the molding dummies* allows the vacuum-formed plastic to fit more completely and snugly around the actual flexure joints. This snug fit produces a more precise, controlled joint articulation.

*Molding dummies gradually “moosh” down with repeated use. They should be discarded after about ten moldings.

Our New Tamarack Flexure Joint[®] Product Guide
Featuring Step-by-Step Fabrication Instructions,
Installation Tips and More is Available at
www.tamarackhti.com

Tamarack Flexure Joints[®]

Free Motion Joints

For Veterinary Use Only

Quantity & Size Enclosed (Model Number)

Large (*Model VET-L-65*)

Medium (*Model VET-M-65*)

Small (*Model VET-S-65*)

Note: A set of molding dummies is enclosed with every five sets of veterinary Tamarack Flexure Joints[®] purchased

Veterinary Tamarack Flexure Joints[®]

are available exclusively from

Tamarack Habilitation Technologies

1-866-795-0057 *toll-free*

763-795-0057 *local area*

Or email info@tamarackhti.com

More information available at

www.animaloandp.com