

# How to Install a Sling in a Woodard Chair

## 1. Remove the old sling.

- Remove the sling rail caps and cut the sling down the middle.
- Stand to the side of the chair, and hold the back of the sling with one hand and the seat of the sling with the other. Push down on the sling at the back, and pull the sling at the seat until it is removed from the sling rail.
- Remove any support bar that is wedged between the two sling rails. Not all models have support bars.

## 2. Install the sling in the sling rails.

- Install the sling spline (rod) into the sling pockets leaving an extra inch or two on both ends.
- Sling rails should be attached to the frame. Stand to the side of the chair to install one side of the sling. Start at the top and work the sling down one sling rail to the bottom. Support the top of the sling so it doesn't tear on the end of the sling rail while going through the sling rail.
- Remove wrinkles. Before the sling reaches the bottom, hold it tight against the sling rail at the top and pull on the bottom of the sling to pull out the wrinkles in the curve.
- Remove this sling rail before installing the sling on the other side.
- With the second sling rail still attached, stand to the side and repeat to install the second side of the sling. This sling rail should be attached so the chair can hold the sling rail as you work.

## 3. Re-attach the sling rail.

Now the sling is installed in both sling rails, and only one sling rail is attached.

- Using a blanket to protect the finish, lay the chair on its side so the sling rail is hanging.
- Place the bolts into the loose sling rail.

- Start with the back bolt, and using a drill with a bolt head attachment, press down on the bolt until it reaches the frame. The bolt should barely reach the frame.
- When the bolt reaches the frame, pull the drill's trigger. Only tighten the bolt half way. Depending on the fabric, it may be necessary to loosen the bolt on the opposite sling rail so the bolt can reach.
- Repeat with the remaining bolts and tighten all bolts completely.

## 4. Install the Woodard support bars.

Most Woodard models have support bars in both the seat and back to keep the sling rails straight. The installed sling is so tight that the sling rails will bend towards each other, and the support bar won't fit without manipulation.

- Most Woodard support bars are straight so you will need a device to stretch the sling rails apart. Then insert the support bars and release the sling rails. Some older models like Sea Island and Margarita have curved support bars.

**NOTE:** The Dual Stretcher Bar Tool is available for rent on [patiofurnituresupplies.com](http://patiofurnituresupplies.com) and comes with instructions and photos. Used with a socket and ratchet, this tool easily stretches or squeezes sling rails. Tool rental is \$25.00 plus \$75.00 deposit; deposit is refunded when tool is returned to Patio Furniture Supplies within 30 days of customer's receipt of tool.

## 5. Finish.

- Turn the chair upright and cut the excess sling spline.
- Replace the sling rail caps.