Sample page of Low Tech Assistive Devices: A Handbook for the School Setting(SKU PP1506)
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CHIN SWITCH HARNESS

DESCRIPTION: A thermoplastic chin switch holder worn on the chest. The switch is held on to the harness with Velcro and can be easily removed.

PURPOSE:
To stabilize a switch for chin activation.

MATERIALS:
1. Low temperature thermoplastic material, - 18" x 18" sheet
2. Pressure-sensitive Velcro hook, 1" x 16"
3. Pressure-sensitive Velcro loop material, 1" x 6"
4. Two 12" lengths of Beta pile or Velcro loop tape (non-adhesive), 1" wide

☞ Some types of low temperature thermoplastic materials require special solvent or light abrasion before bonding can occur. Please follow manufacturer's directions.

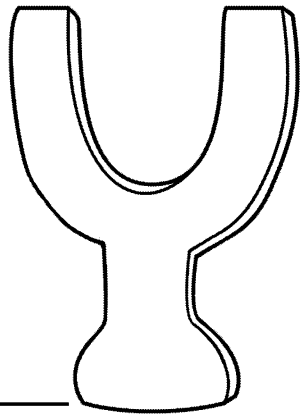
TOOLS: Splinting pan and water, heat gun, heavy duty scissors

MEASUREMENTS:
The butterfly-shaped chest mount tapers toward midline from the shoulders until it is only about 4" wide at the midchest, and then extends laterally a couple of inches on each side. The top shoulder extensions should be long enough to completely curve over the top of the shoulders.

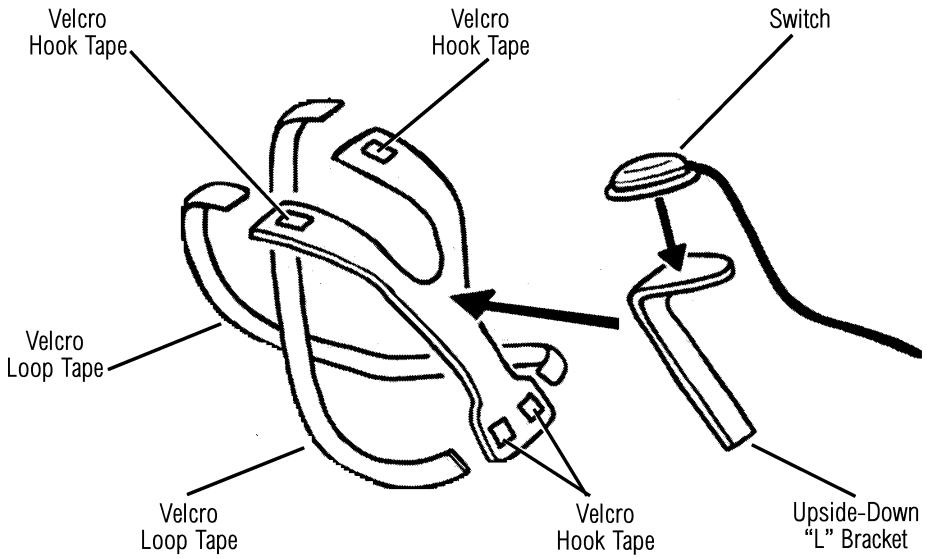
ASSEMBLY:

1. Draw and cut out a butterfly shape from the thermoplastic material to form the harness, using the measurement guidelines above and diagram.

2. Heat the material in the splinting pan and water until it is soft, let cool until it is comfortable to the touch, and form the harness to the student, folding the extensions over the shoulders.



3. Attach one 2" long pressure-sensitive Velcro hook strip to the end of each of the four extensions. Attach beta pile or Velcro loop straps in an "X" formation across the back connecting the 4 extensions.



4. Cut out a strip of thermoplastic material to make the upside-down "L" bracket. This flat strip should be wide enough to hold the switch and approximately 8" in length. Heat the strip and form an inverted "L" shape. Attach this to the harness with pressure sensitive Velcro as indicated in diagram.

5. Mount the switch to the top of the inverted "L" shape using pressure-sensitive Velcro.

OPTION: If less stabilization is required, omit the bottom extensions and attach one strap across the back of the neck, connecting both top extensions.

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