

# Walkabout

TM

## *'Trailblazer'*

*battery powered carrier*



## ***"Stacked Rack"***

## ***User's Guide***

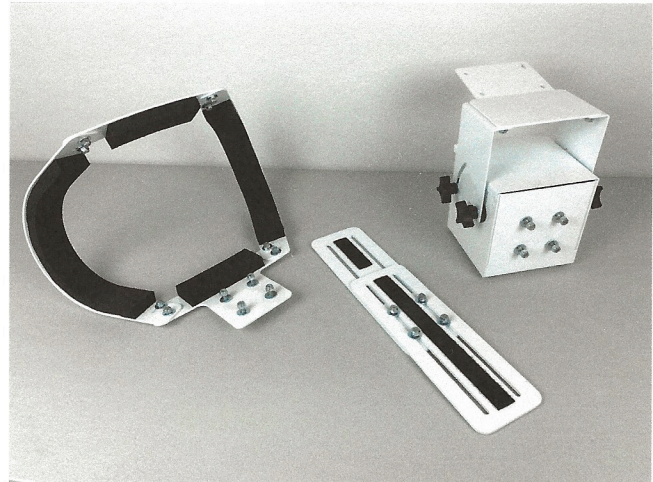
***Updated November 2021***



Your Walkabout Carrier will arrive partially preassembled in two to three pieces depending upon the model purchased.

The Yoke or shoulder harness, the vertical brackets, and the battery box.

Follow the assembly instructions carefully and you will be up and 'Walking About' in no time!



**ONE NOTE ABOUT WASHERS!**

Washers are made by a machine that punches the shape from sheets of metal.

The top side is smooth, shiny, and polished in appearance.

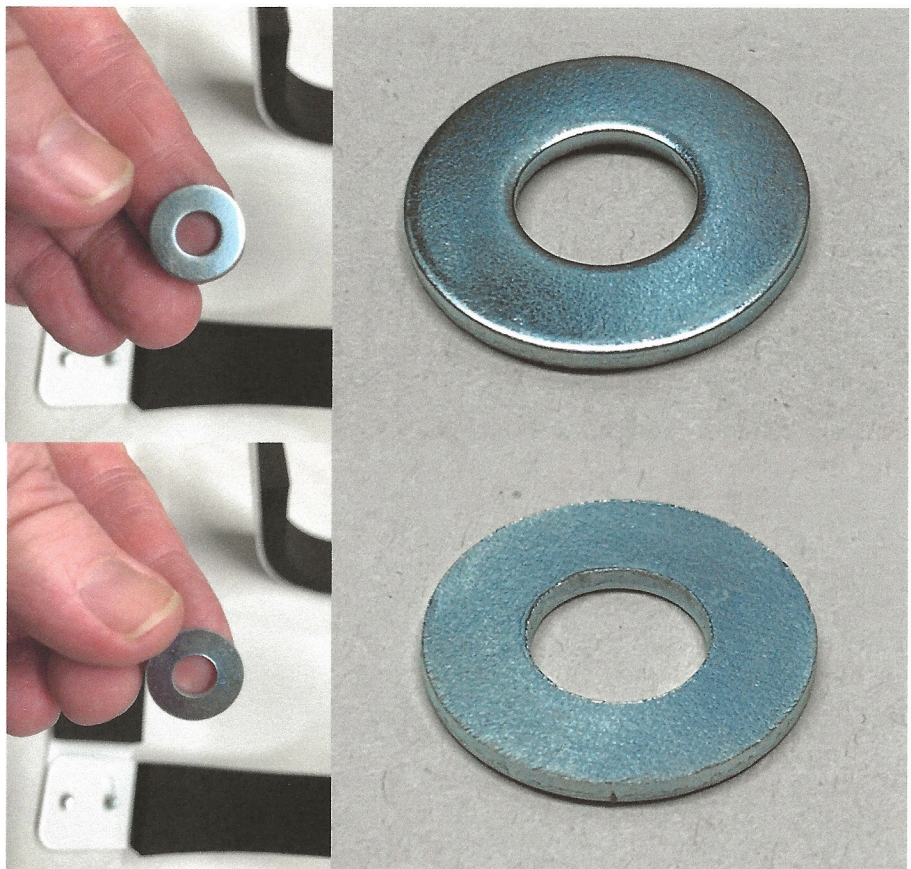
The bottom side is rough, dull, and scratchy to the touch.

**WHEN ASSEMBLING YOUR WALKABOUT PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP:**

Shiny, smooth side toward the painted surface of the metal.

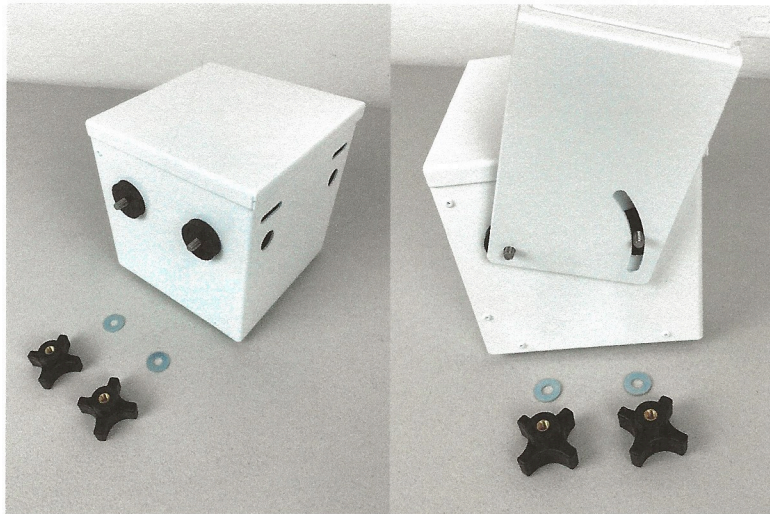
Dull, scratchy side AWAY from the painted surface of the metal.

This will prevent scratches or potential damage to the painted surface and keep your Walkabout looking nicer.



Ok... Let's have a closer look into the details of your new Walkabout Carrier!





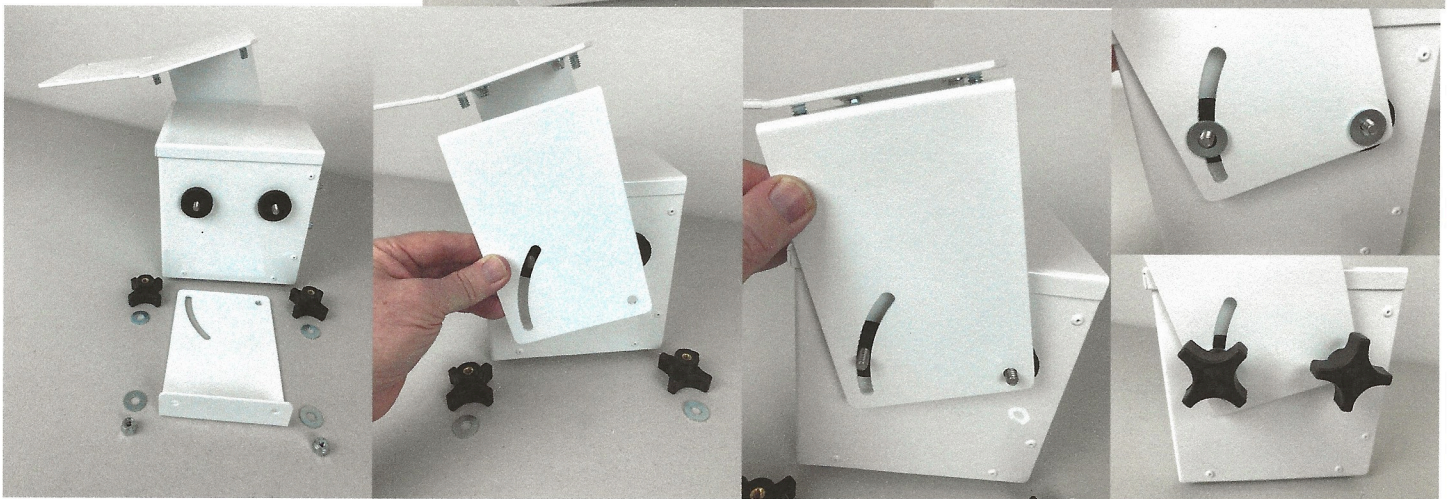
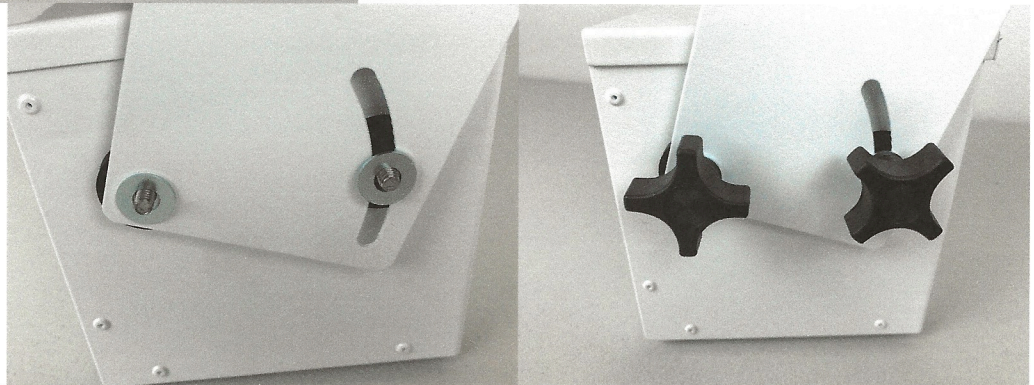
If you need to disassemble the Stacked Rack for any reason - this is how you reassemble.

There are two rubber washers - spacers - on each side of the battery box.

The sides of the 'Stacked Rack' pass around the top of the battery box cover.

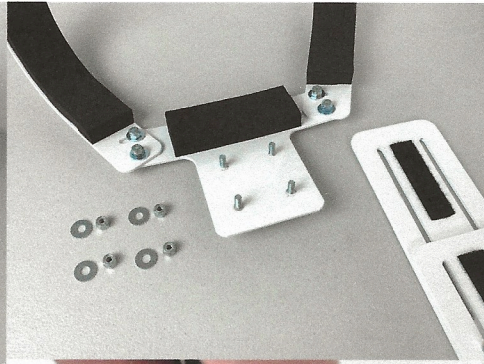
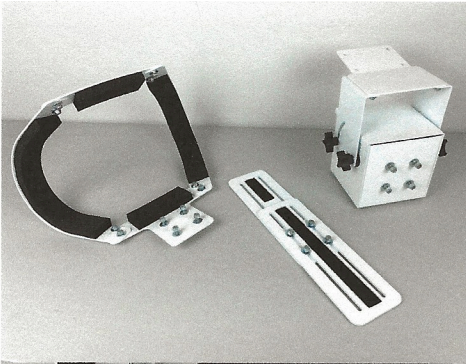
Assemble from one side and build around the battery box. Attach one side to the top bracket - then attach that assembly to the side of the battery box as shown to the left.

Now secure the assembled side to the battery box, above the rubber spacers with the washers and then the black knobs. Once this side is assembled and secure to one side of the battery box, you can attach the other side of the 'Stacked Rack' to the other side of the battery box.



Now secure the top bracket to the side bracket with washers and lock nuts as shown to the left. No need to over tighten the lock nuts. The nylon sleeve keeps things locked in place.



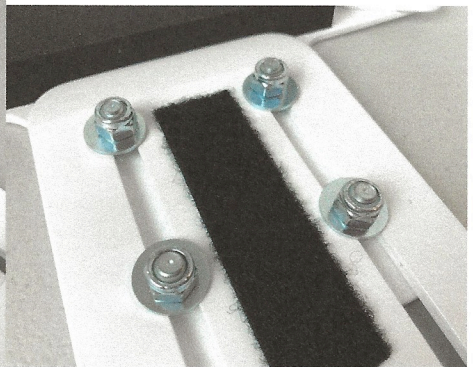
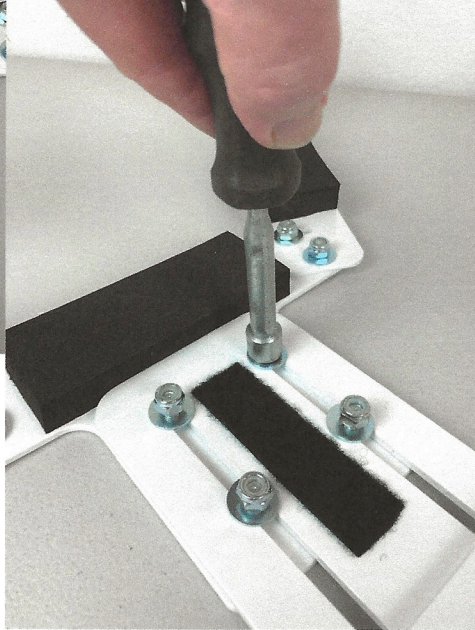
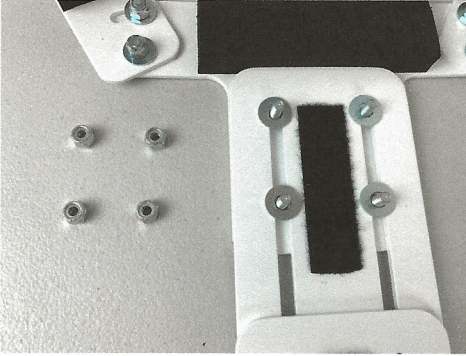


Now let's attach the vertical brackets to the Yoke with the washers and lock nuts.

Remember! - Smooth side toward the painted surface. Scratchy side AWAY from the painted surface!

Note: Look for the shorter piece of fuzzy velcro - this attaches to the Yoke right under the horizontal piece of neoprene foam rubber.

The vertical bracket with the longer piece of fuzzy velcro will attach to the back of the battery box (more on that later)

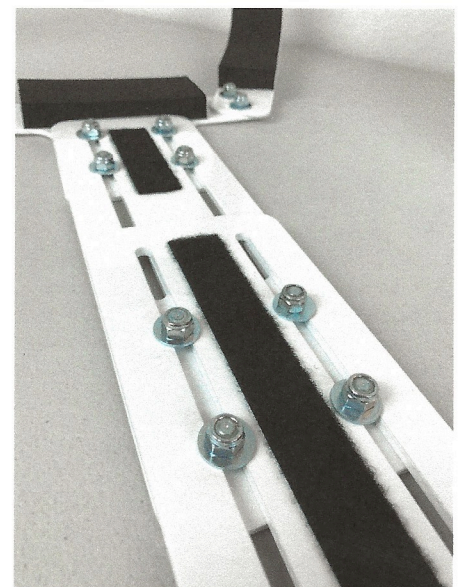
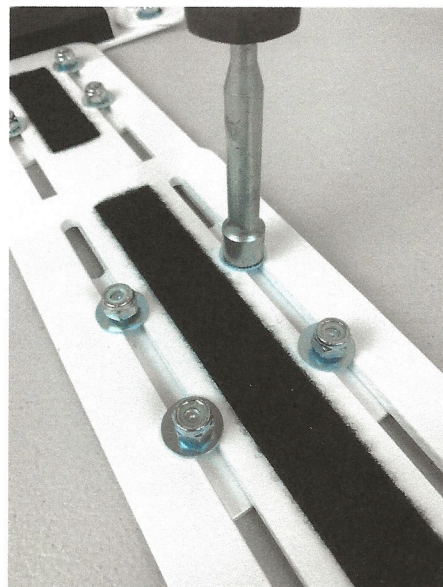
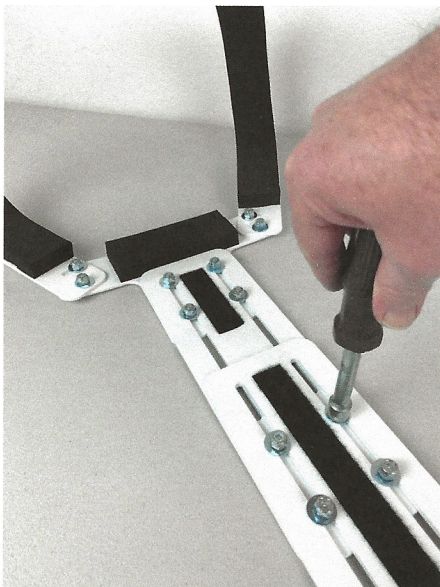


Continue to tighten the lock nuts along the length of the vertical brackets as shown.

Don't over tighten as you may need to make some slight adjustments as you determine the best fit for the carrier on your body.

Once the entire carrier is assembled, you can tweak the adjustments here and there to arrive at the best fit for you.

**Nice job!**  
**You're doing great!**  
**Keep up the good work!**

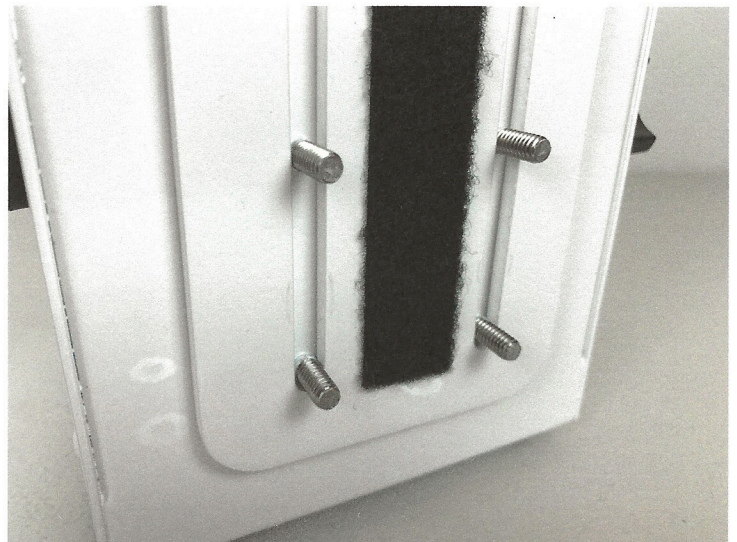
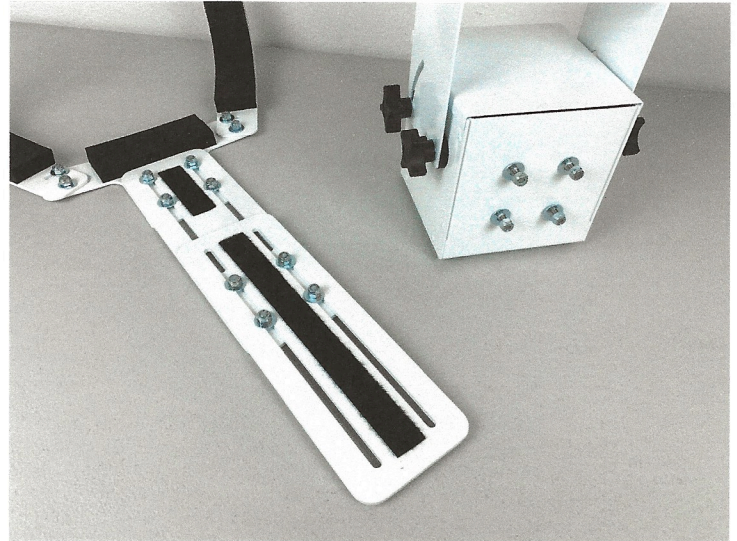
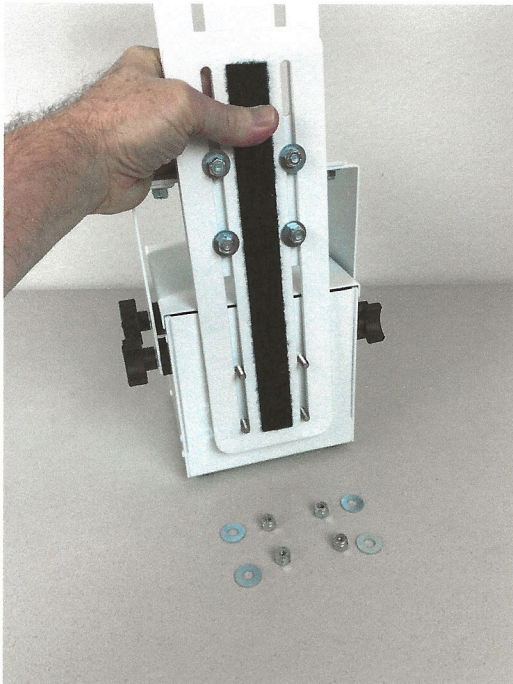




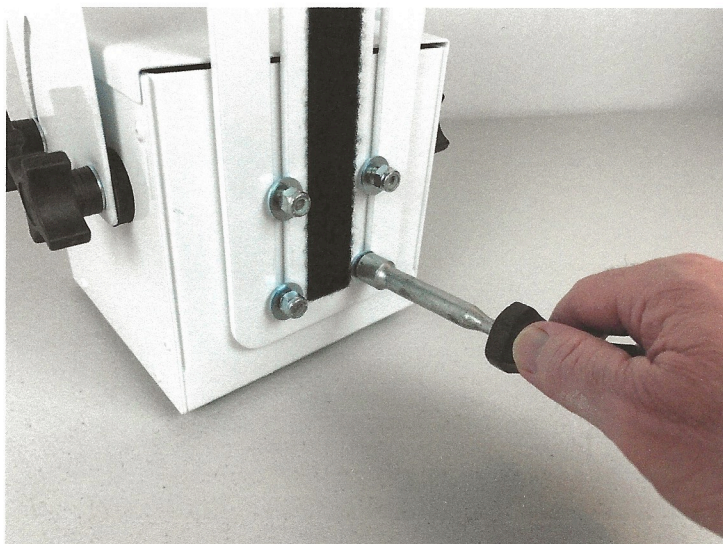
## ***HEY! LOOK AT THAT! WE'RE ALMOST THERE!***

**Now let's attach the  
Yoke and vertical brackets  
to the battery box.**

**Start by removing  
the lock nuts and washers  
from the back of the battery box.**



**Note: Align the lower edge of the slots with  
the bottom row of bolts as shown above.**

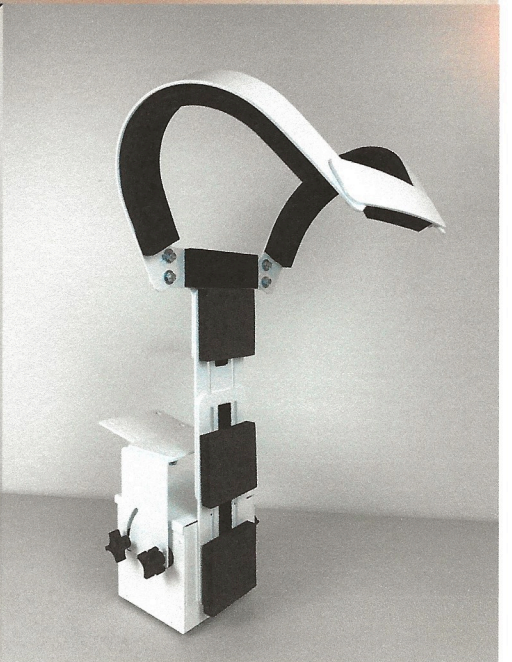
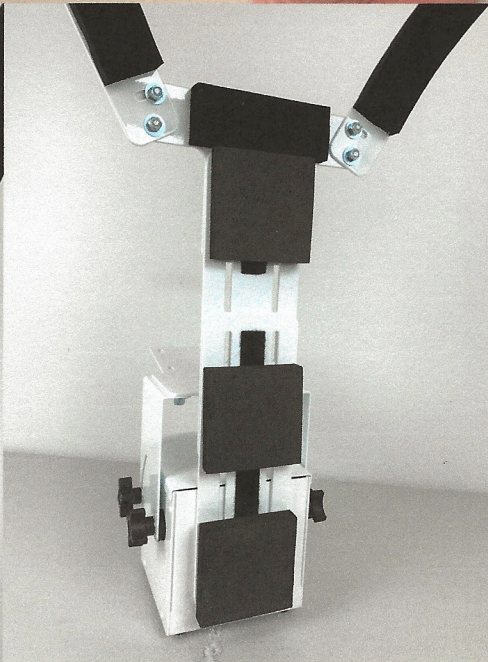
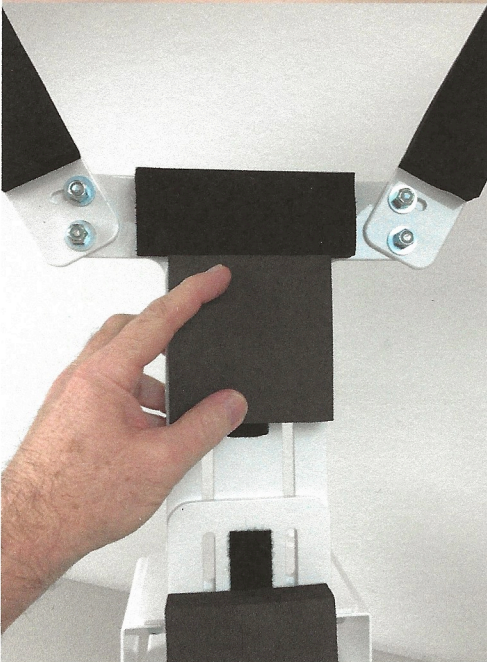
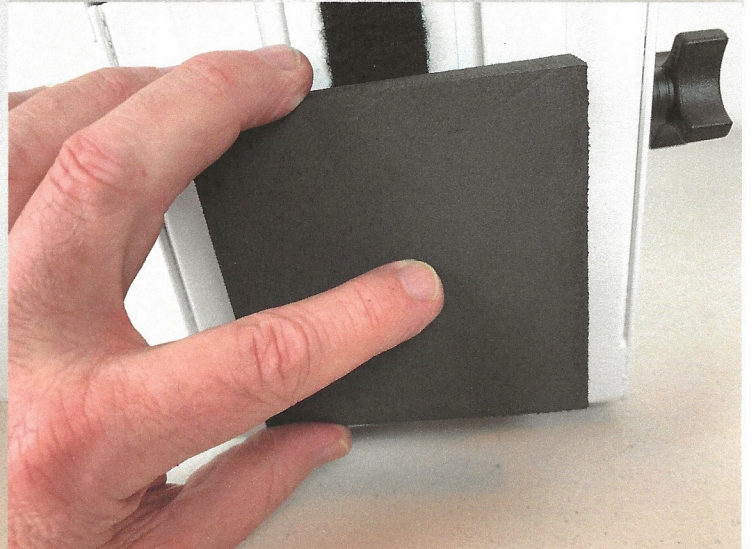
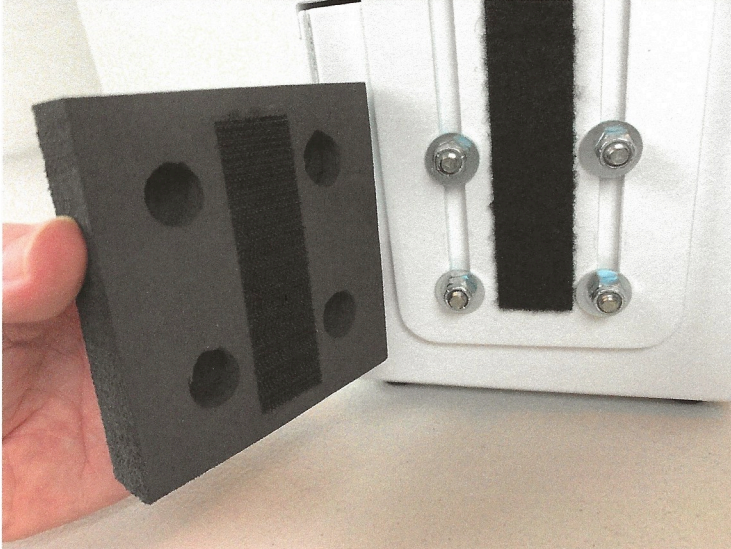
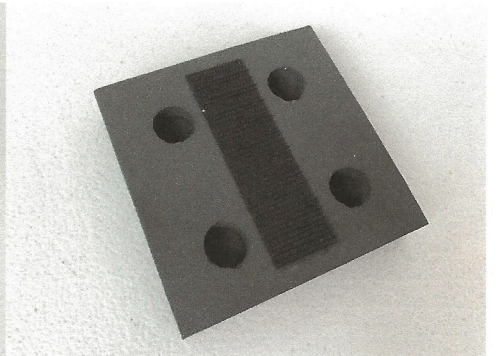
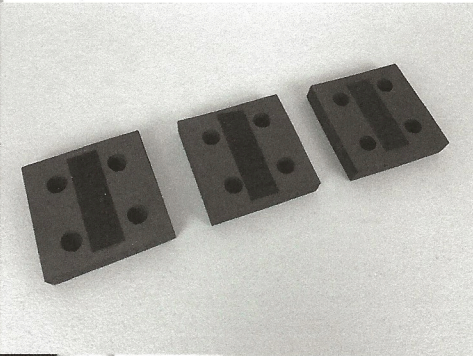
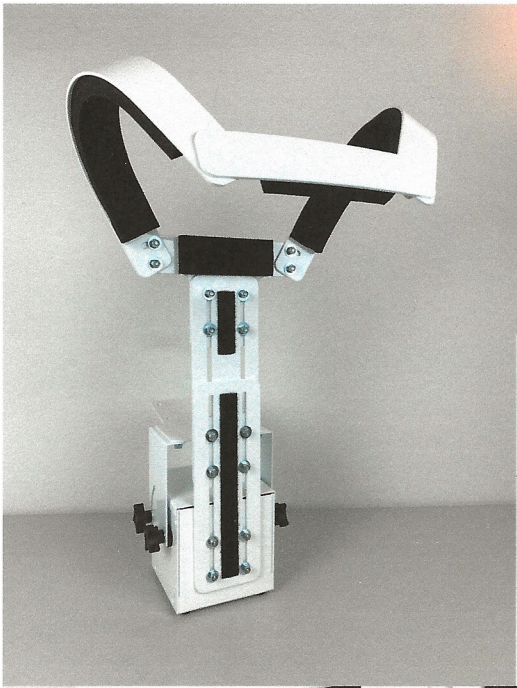


Place the washers  
(scratchy side away from the paint)  
and the lock nuts  
onto the bolts  
and tighten down  
with the nut driver  
as shown to the left.



Well look at that! Your Walkabout Carrier is almost all set up.

Ok now let's apply the finishing touches. In your kit, you should see a few foam rubber squares with four holes and a vertical strip of sticky velcro. These are called "Tummy Pads" and are designed to offer some padding for greater comfort while performing. The Tummy Pads are placed over the lock nut/bolt configurations. The vertical velcro strip will coincide with the corresponding velcro strip on the vertical adjustment brackets.

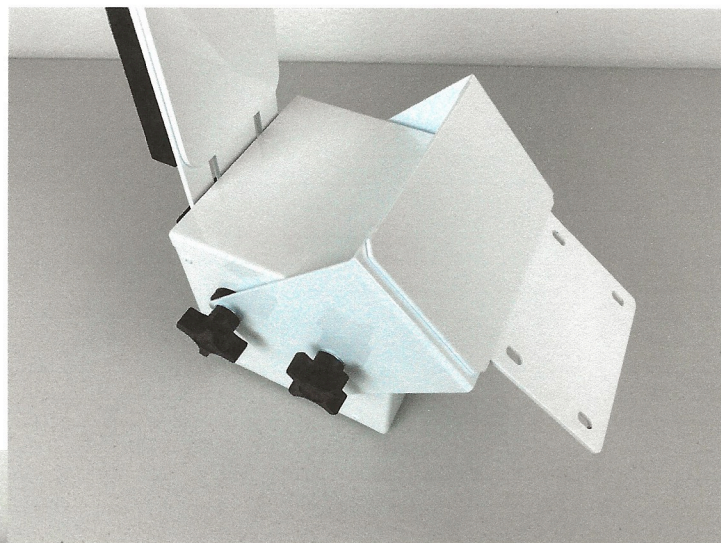




Let's take a peak inside the battery box.

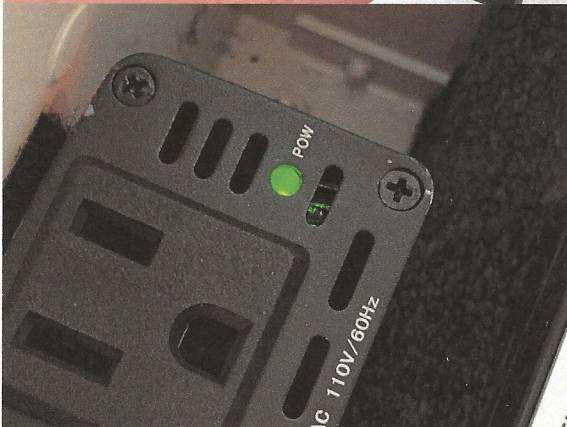
To access the interior of the battery box, first loosen the tension knobs a bit to allow the mounting bracket to tilt forward. Then you can more easily remove the battery box cover.

Inside you'll find the battery box compartment with a foam battery 'seat' and the ac to dc inverter.



Inside the battery box, you will find two wire leads - one black, one red. To connect the battery to the leads, simply slip the connector end to the corresponding battery terminal.

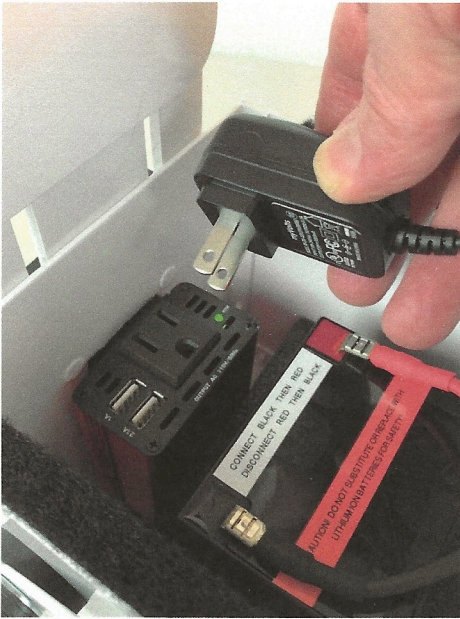
Connect the black lead to the black terminal first! Then connect the red lead to the red terminal. You might see a small spark when you connect the red lead, but don't be too concerned, it means that the juice is flowing.



The green LED will remain lit while power is flowing from the battery. Now you can sit the battery back down in the battery seat to keep it in place while performing. That's it! Nice job!



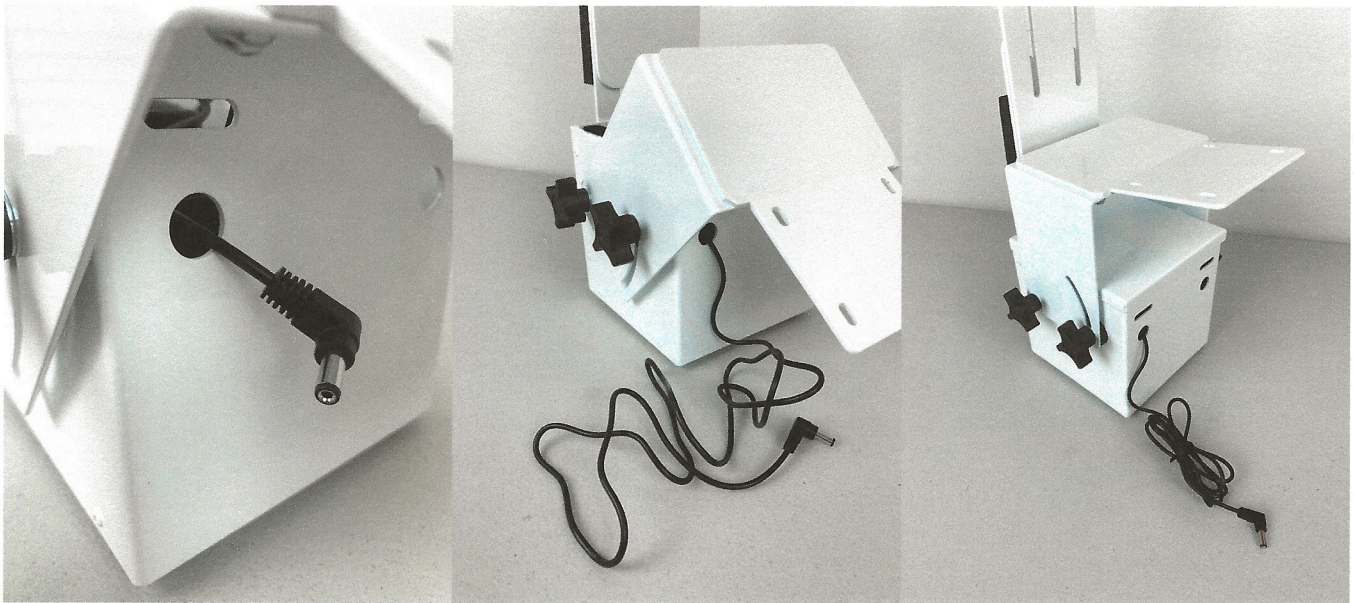




Now you can connect the ac adapter plug to the power outlet of the inverter.

**NOTE: Make sure the power switch of your controller is set to the OFF position before connecting.**

**ALSO NOTE: The top of the inverter should be level with the top of the battery so that the ac adapter plug will fit under the cover.**



The connector end of the ac adapter cable can be fed through one of the cable ports on the front of the battery box.

The slack of the adapter cable can be bundled up and either stored (preferably) inside the battery box

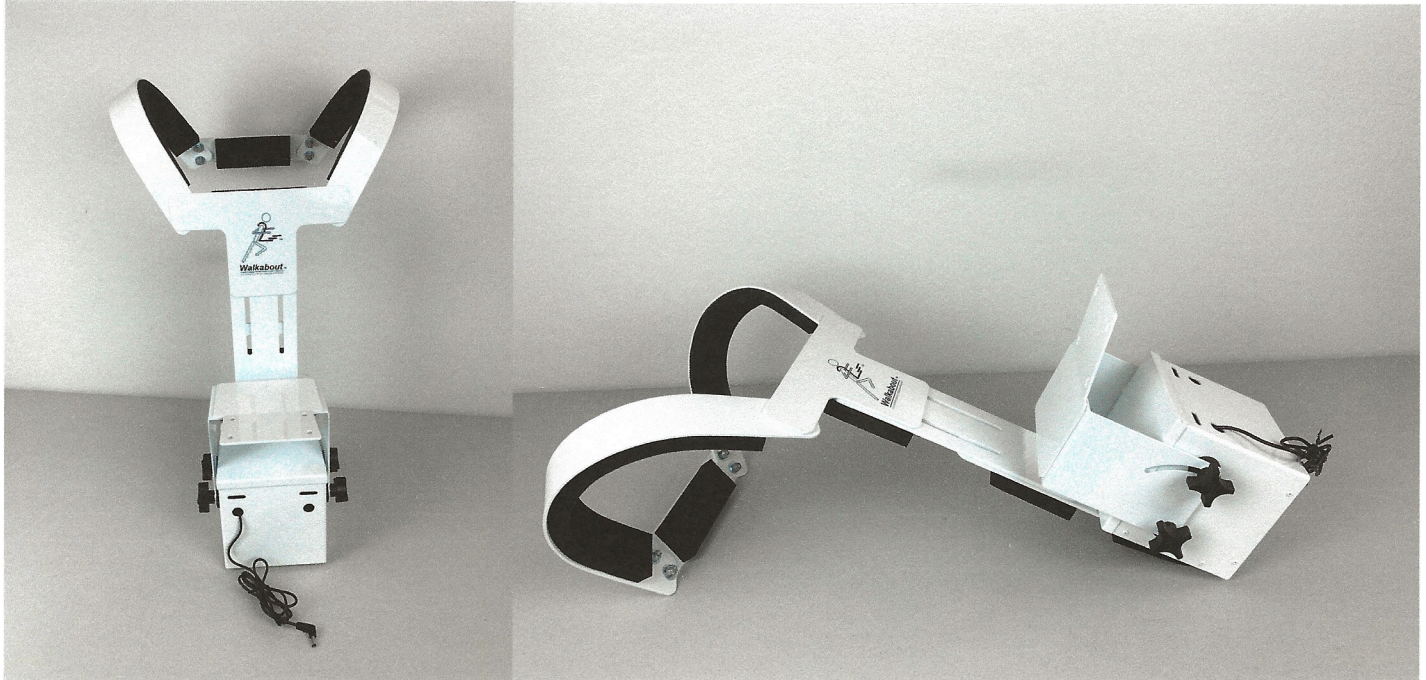
or

bundled up on the outside of the battery box if things get too crowded.

We recommend a twist tie, rubber band, or two sided velcro strip.



Now let's look at attaching the controller to the mounting bracket. (This manual refers to the a specific electronic hand percussion controller that has become very popular.) ;-)



Perhaps the easiest way to mount the controller onto the Walkabout Carrier is to lay the carrier back to gain better access to the underside of the controller where the mounting hardware attaches.



The mounting bracket provided with this carrier is designed specifically for this popular electronic hand percussion controller. Simply align the holes of the mounting bracket with the threaded holes on the underside of the controller and secure with the fasteners (bolts) provided in the kit.



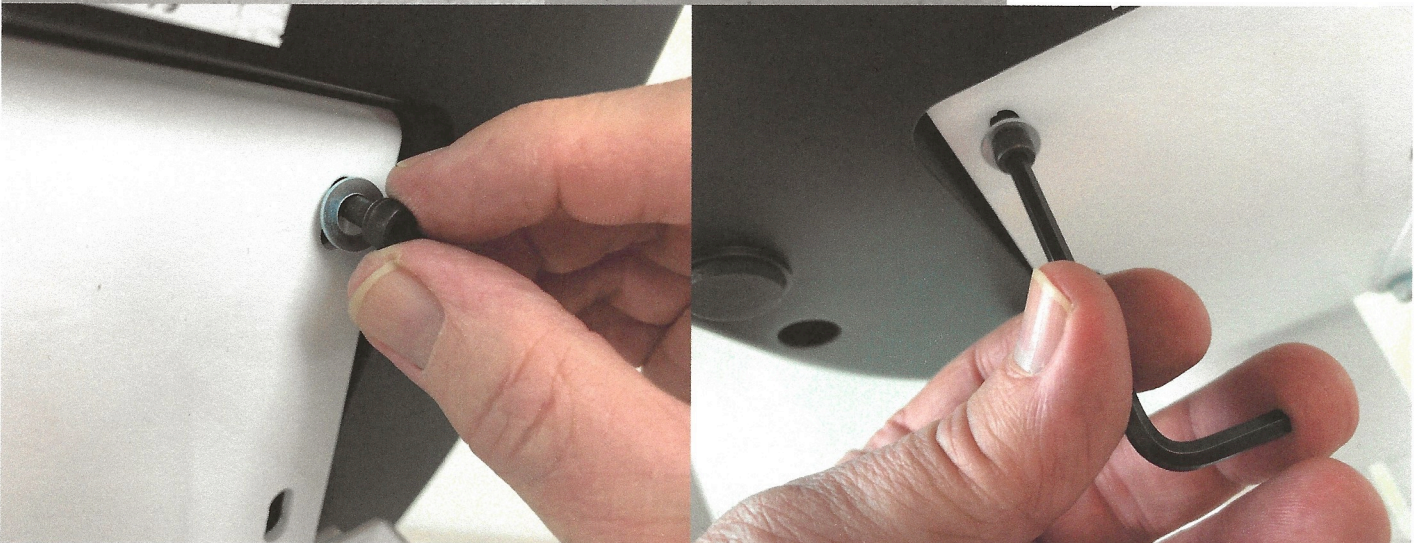


**NOTE:**  
You will find two pair of mounting bolts, one short pair and one long pair.

Use the short pair of bolts to mount the controller to the bracket at the FAR side of the bracket edge.

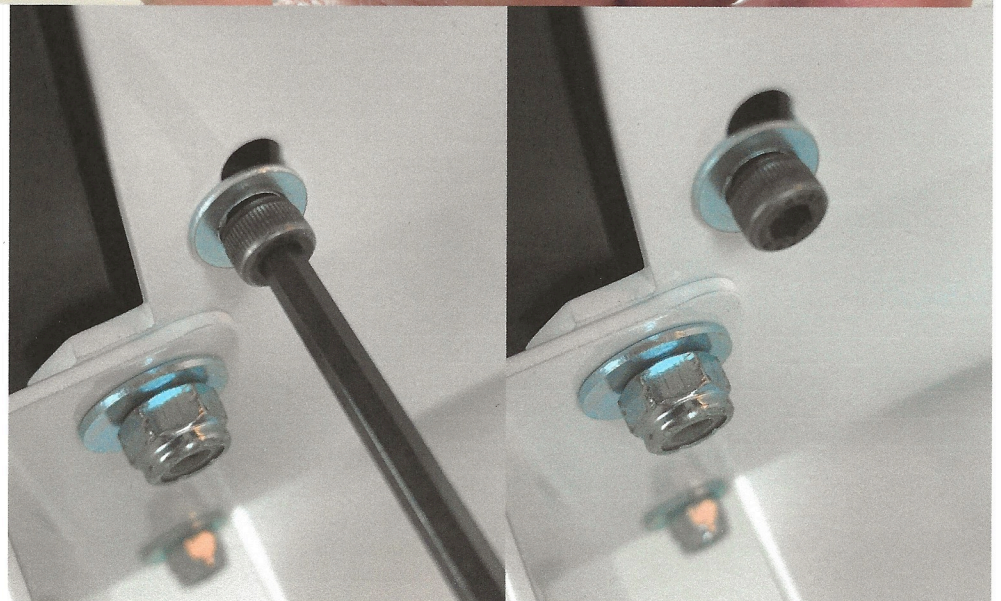
You can hand tighten the bolts at first, then gently tighten the bolts using the Allen wrench tool provided in your kit.

**Be careful not to tighten too much to avoid damage to the threads!**



The longer pair of mounting bolts are provided as an option. You may or may not need to use them but they're there in case you'd like an added layer of 'security' in attaching your controller to the Walkabout carrier.

The longer bolts should be used for the threaded holes closest to the inside of the mounting bracket. You may need to adjust the tension of all bolts to make sure none are too loose defeating the purpose of the bolts.

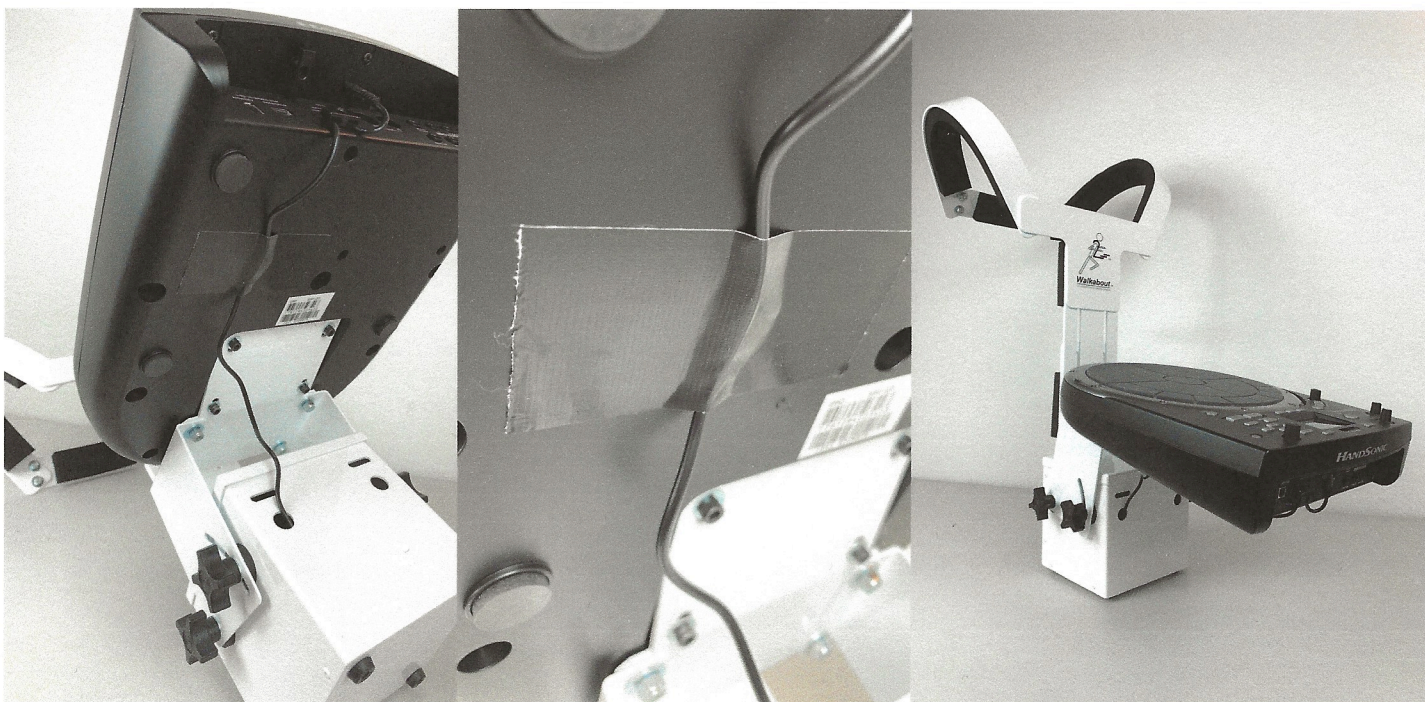




Now let's address how to dress that adapter cable! We like to bundle up the slack and store it inside the battery box so that the cable does not slacken and dangle from the carrier. This will prevent the power cable from getting caught on external objects - the performance environment, stationary stands, mic stands, other musicians etc. This is completely up to you but we highly recommend securing the cable to prevent an accident disconnection of the power cable during your live music performance. Below you will see additional options for securing your power cable. **Safety first!**



**NOTE:** Another suggestion in securing the power cable from excessive slack or dangling down from the carrier during live music performance - we recommend securing the power cable with a small piece of duct tape, preferably in a color matching your controller (just for clean presentation.) This may seem a little 'low budget' but if it helps prevent accidental disconnection of your power cable you'll be glad you followed this simple suggestion. Have fun! (not a power failure) ;-)





## AND SPEAKING OF CABLES...

The Walkabout Carrier was designed to be used 'in concert' with a wireless audio transmitter. We know there are many, many wireless audio transmitter systems available on the market and we generally like to leave that purchase decision to you. Only you can really decide which wireless set up will work best for you in your local broadcast and or performance environment. Most manufacturers of wireless audio systems use specific radio frequency bandwidths approved for public use by the FCC which can vary depending upon locality within the U.S.A.

We believe it's important to use a good quality audio wireless transmitter system, with a reliable bandwidth and enough transmission power to provide you with enough range to support your live music performance. Typically, a guitar style audio wireless transmitter system is recommended for use with your Walkabout Carrier. So please consult with your local music retailer or conduct sufficient research to satisfy your live music performance needs. We trust you will make the best choice for your live music performance needs.



Most guitar style wireless transmitter systems have two main components. The transmitter is often a small 'body pack' that guitarists will attach to their belt or the guitar strap. The 1/4" male plug is connected to the (mono) audio output of your controller, unless you're bold enough to operate two simultaneous wireless systems for a full stereo effect - again totally up to you.

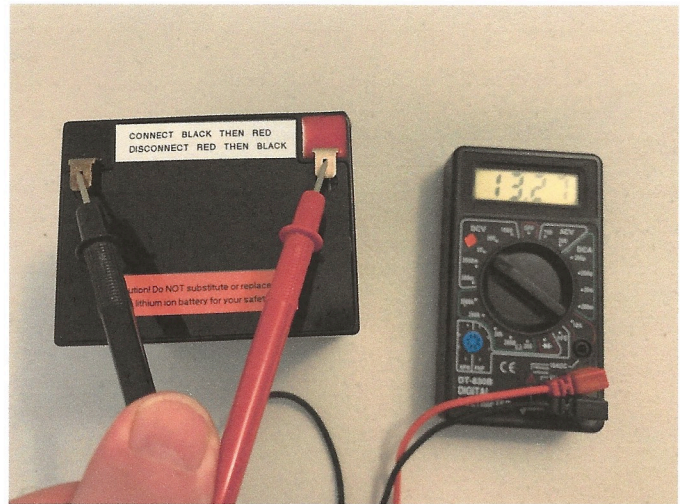
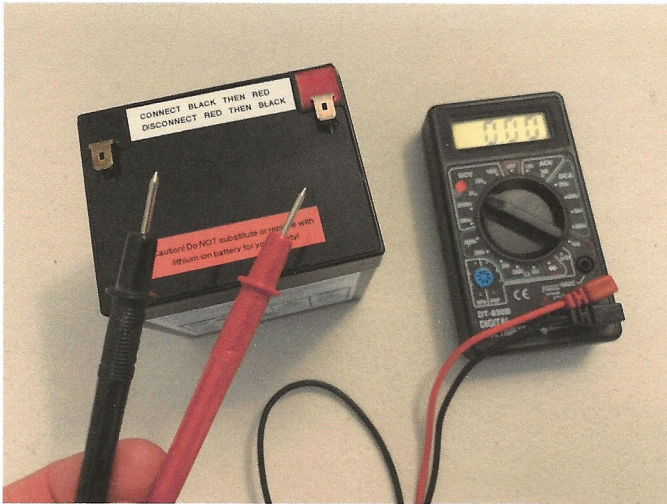
The body pack transmitter can be attached to the Walkabout Carrier in different ways. We prefer attaching the wireless body pack to the carrier itself with velcro. Yes velcro. Velcro is your friend in many situations, not just space exploration. We trust you'll find the solution that works best for you in your live music performance situation. We're always available for consultation.

The second component is the receiver - often a small box - that may or may not have a radio antenna attached to the receiver unit itself. The output of the receiver is connected to your amplifier or PA system via another 1/4 audio cable, often provided by the manufacturer.

**WE DO NOT RECOMMEND USING THE WALKABOUT CARRIER WITHOUT A WIRELESS TRANSMITTER SYSTEM! USING THE WALKABOUT CARRIER WITH A GUITAR CABLE INVOLVES RISK OF TRIPPING AND DEFEATS THE PURPOSE OF THE CARRIER'S INTENDED USE!**



## Putting the batteries to the test!



A simple battery tester is provided in your Toolkit. To test the battery, press the contact pins to their corresponding terminals - black to black ( - negative terminal) and red to red ( + positive terminal.) You will notice a small red sticker on the face of the battery tester which is the proper setting to test the rechargeable batteries provided with your kit.

The batteries provided are 12 volt, 6 amp hour “lead acid gel cells.” These batteries are commonly used in a variety of commercial applications from hobby use, to home security, small electrical vehicles, and even medical use such as wheel chairs.

You may see a warning label on the battery regarding the battery chemistry - specifically lead. Please do not be alarmed by this warning label, as the state of California requires these batteries to be labeled accordingly. The batteries are completely safe to use so long as the housing remains integral, sealing the battery’s liquid contents for safe operation.

**DO NOT USE IF THE HOUSING BECOMES CRACKED OR IS LEAKING FLUID!  
DISPOSE OF THE BATTERY IMMEDIATELY - AS SAFELY AS POSSIBLE!**

**CONTACT US FOR A REPLACEMENT BATTERY  
OR SUGGESTION WHERE THEY CAN BE SOURCED LOCALLY.**

**DO NOT SUBSTITUTE OR REPLACE WITH  
ANY LITHIUM ION TYPE BATTERY EVER!**

**THE BATTERY CHEMISTRY OF LITHIUM ION BATTERIES CAN BECOME UNSTABLE  
OVER TIME AND CAN CAUSE SUDDEN COMBUSTION OR FIRE!**

**WE HAVE USED THE TYPE OF BATTERIES PROVIDED TO YOU FOR OVER TWO DECADES  
AND HAVE NEVER HAD AN ISSUE WITH THE BATTERIES BECOMING UNSAFE.**

**WE TAKE YOUR HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELL BEING AS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY!**



## LET'S GET CHARGED UP!



A simple battery charger is also provided in your kit. This battery charger is a floating charge type - meaning that once the battery is fully charged the charger will float current through the battery preventing any accidental overcharging of the battery cell.

The **RED LED** indicates the fast charge cycle is in progress.  
The **GREEN LED** indicates the battery is fully charged and in float mode.

The 12 volt rechargeable batteries can receive a charge that may exceed 12 volts - as much as 13 volts or so - this is perfectly normal.

If the battery charge falls below the threshold of the inverter's minimum charge - about 10 volts - an alarm will sound from the inverter indicating the battery needs to be charged. You should hear a constant beep tone.

This is why we have provided two batteries, so you will always have a back up battery charged up and ready to go.



# THE TOOLKIT!



**Each Walkabout Trailblazer model carrier comes complete with our “Toolkit.”**

**The contents of the Toolkit may vary slightly from the items pictured above but each Toolkit will contain the following items:**

**2 - 12 volt rechargeable batteries, 1 - battery charger, 1 - battery tester, adjustment tools; 7/16” nut driver, a 7/16” combination wrench, the Toolkit tool box/tote, and the Walkabout Carriers User’s Guide.**

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS  
AND YOUR TRUST IN OUR PRODUCTS!**



**This page is left for your personal notes.**





# ***Walkabout Carriers***

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PATENT PENDING