

Perform regular mattress audits

Worn out mattresses can cause pressure ulcers and infections.

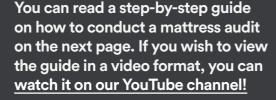
By performing regular mattress audits, the number of healthcare injuries can be reduced.

Lying on old and worn out mattresses can have a negative impact on the user. As the foam in the mattress shifts and ages beyond its technical lifespan, the structure changes and eventually, the foam could "collapse".

To counteract this, it is important to know how old the mattresses being used really are. On Care of Sweden's mattresses and covers there is always a date stamp where you can read the date of manufacture. However, how a mattress has been used and how it's been stored can also have an impact on the expected lifespan.

By conducting regular mattress audits with the intention of checking the condition of the mattress, mattresses that doesn't meet the requirements can be replaced at an early stage. This in turn, contributes to a better health economy as well as reduced suffering for the user.

Please use our evaluation protocols as a guide when performing a mattress audit. You can download them for free here.





- **BEGIN THE AUDIT.** Begin by localizing the date stamp on the cover to identify its age and product information. Open the cover and localize the date stamp on the foam. The cover might have been changed at some point, meaning its age might be different compared to the cover.
- 2. INSPECT THE COVER. Are there any holes, stains, or other visible damages to the cover? Let a light source shine through the cover to easier inspect the inside.
- 3. INSPECT THE FOAM. Remove the cover. Are there any obvious damage to the foam like holes, moisture, or stains? Then the mattress needs to be replaced. Make sure to inspect both sides of the foam.
- **EXAMINE THE COMPOSITION.** Is it possible to feel the bottom of the mattress with your hands? Cup your hands and use the weight of your body to push your hands into the foam. Begin at the end of the mattress and work your way up.
- 5• FINISH THE INSPECTION. Put the cover back on. If the mattress needs to be discarded, it is important that this is marked in a clear way in the protocol.

Do you need help or guidance?

Contact us:

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Care of Sweden is an innovative company in the medtech sector,
devoted to the cause of eliminating pressure ulcers around
the world. Our product range covers mattresses, positioning pillows and
seat cushions, used as an aid in the prevention as well as treatment
of pressure ulcers. Our head office, R&D and production are located in
Tranemo, western Sweden, and our products are used in care facilities across
Sweden as well as in many other parts of the world.

