

MEI-TAI

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



Diwa Essenza Azzurro mei-tai



DIVA
ESSENZA

MEI-TAI ADVANTAGES

A MEI-TAI IS AN ADAPTED WRAPAROUND SLING WITH A SIMPLIFIED METHOD OF TYING.

Its advantages are:

- simple and fast tying;
- excellent support provided by wide straps made of soft, loose-woven fabric with a good bounce;
- suitable for all seasons and ages, from newborns to toddlers.

Unlike firm structured carriers (which are not recommended for use from birth even with newborn inserts), a mei-tai provides excellent baby spine support and correct spread-squat leg position due to the full adjustability of the mei-tai back panel and straps.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF THE DIVA MEI-TAI?

- adjustable base (20 to 40 cm) to provide the correct 'M'-shape leg position even for newborns;
- fabric quality: initially produced for a wraparound sling, the fabric is soft from new and is manufactured at the ISO-certified factory, with AZO-free dyes.
- designed in Italy, manufactured in Portugal
- meets ASTM International Standard F2236-14, approved January 2014. Meets European Standard EN 13209-2, approved August 2005

Diva mei-tai is designed for children from birth to 2-3 years (from 7lb./ 3,2kg – to 45lb./ 22kg)

BABY'S POSITION IN THE SLING IS CORRECT IF IT IS SIMILAR TO HOW HE RESTS IN YOUR HANDS:



Baby's upper back is well supported and she is tightly held against her mother by the position of the mother's hands. This secure position is re-created with the mei-tai.

The mei-tai prevents any stress to baby's hips when used at the appropriate angle for baby's age (in the early months this is usually no wider than the outer edge of the pelvis, approx. 60 degrees) and is completely safe even for long walks.

RULES FOR SAFE BABYWEARING

When used properly, carrying a baby in a sling is safer than carrying a baby in your arms. But good safety practices are very important. You are responsible for your child's safety when using a sling, so you should always keep these simple safety rules in mind.

CORRECT POSITIONING

- Sling fabric should not be draped across baby's face. Ensure that baby's nose is not blocked, either by fabric or parent's body, and your baby has a good air supply. Check your baby has plenty of airflow frequently.
- Wrap the sling tightly enough to hug your baby close to you. This will help to avoid any slumping forwards.
- In a 'tummy-to-tummy' position your baby should be in a 'froggy' or 'M'-shape leg position, with his knees higher than his bottom.
- Your baby's head should be as close to your chin as is comfortable. By tipping your head forward you should be able to kiss your baby's head.

CORRECT USAGE

- Avoid sharp movements and intensive activities when babywearing: never jog, run, jump, or do any other activity that subjects your baby to similar shaking or bouncing motion.
- Do not use a baby carrier when riding in a car; it is not a replacement for a car seat!
- Ensure your baby's head is well supported in a sling. If your baby does not support his head himself or falls asleep, use the sling fabric to add support, or use your hands.
- Inspect your sling regularly to ensure it is sound. Do not use it if there are any signs of tearing or damage.
- Try to avoid walking on slippery surfaces while babywearing. In icy or wet conditions use non-slip boots.
- Hold a baby with one hand while wrapping until he is securely tied, and always tie a wrap securely with a double knot.
- In summer, protect your baby from sun and do not dress him too warmly. Protect your child from cold in winter, use special babywearing clothes and accessories.



MEI-TAI INSTRUCTIONS: FRONT CARRY Age: from birth



Adjust the base of the mei-tai to the appropriate width (usually the narrower mei-tai back is needed until 3-4 months of the baby's age, to avoid excessive spreading of baby's hips).



Tighten lower cords and fix them with a double knot.



Tie the carrier around your waist with the face side and shoulder straps hanging down. For a small baby you can reduce the height of the back panel by slight tucking of the belt.

Make a double knot on your back.



Support your baby's back with one hand and place him on your chest. The baby's back should be slightly rounded but not slumped over.



Hold the baby closely to you with one hand and smooth the mei-tai panel up over his back with the other hand. Do not forget to ensure a newborn's head is supported.



Newborn: A newborn's hips will not be ready to open widely, so simply bring the mei-tai panel up between his legs and make him secure. Once he is safe, you can gently raise his knees up.



From 1,5-2 months: the baby's knees should be above the bum and slightly spread, forming a letter 'M' (M- shape position).



Continue to support the baby's back with one hand and bring one strap over your shoulder with the other hand.



Change your hands and put the second strap over the other shoulder over the other shoulder.





While still supporting your baby with one hand, place the other hand behind your back, take the opposite strap and pull it outward to cross over your back.



Pull the strap further outward under your armpit and around baby, so you can take it into the opposite hand while still providing support.

Gather the spread shoulder strap fabric and guide it under the opposite leg of your baby.



Wrap the strap around your waist and bring it around under the baby's leg.



Secure the shoulder strap between your knees at the front.



Continue holding your baby with one hand and take the mei tai strap with another hand.



Pull the strap outward to cross over your back.



Wrap the second shoulder strap around you and your baby just like the first one.



Guide the strap under the opposite leg of your baby.



Wrap the strap around your waist.





Now take both straps in your hands and make a double knot in front on your waist.



This is what the carry should finally look like. It is important to spread the strap fabric thoroughly across the baby's back. Make sure that the baby's back is not straightened by rope like straps crossing in the middle! A small baby's back should be gently rounded.



The baby's main support in the mei-tai is provided by the back panel. During the first months of her life you can tie the shoulder straps **without spreading them across the baby's back**. Place the baby in a carrier, as shown above, crossing the shoulder straps on your back, but guide the bunched straps over the baby's legs beneath your baby's bottom.



Wrap the strap around your waist. Guide both straps outward UNDER the baby's legs. Make a double knot under the baby's bum.



This is what the carry should finally look like. It is good for all ages in summer due to less fabric on the baby's back.



Use a hood for a head support when your baby has fallen asleep. Roll the hood over the baby's head and fix it with the half-rings on the shoulder straps.



The hood can be adjusted in size by side straps and fixed with the half-rings on the shoulder straps.



The baby's head should be turned aside, with a cheek on the parent's chest, and the fabric should not obscure the baby's nose and mouth.



If a head support is not needed, you can roll the hood and fix it in a lower position, in the loops hidden in the shoulder straps folds.



MEI-TAI INSTRUCTIONS: BACK CARRY

Age: from 4 months, when a baby is confidently able to hold his head up



Put the carrier up on your waist with the face side and shoulder straps hanging down. For a small baby you can reduce the mei-tai back panel height by slight tucking of the belt.



Make a double knot on your waist with the belt straps.



Put the baby on your hip with his legs slightly spread.



Now lean your upper body slightly forward and move the baby gently around your side and toward the middle of your back, bringing the nearside arm over his body.



Keep supporting a baby with both hands!



Now place him exactly on the centre of your back.

Be careful! During the first attempts it may be wise to ask for someone's help to ensure the baby's safety. You can also perform these actions leaning over a bed or another soft surface.



Now hold your baby with one hand and grasp one shoulder strap with another hand.



Put the strap over your shoulder and pull the strap at the front so that the mei-tai panel slides up over your baby's back.



Pin this strap between your knees to keep the correct tension over baby while you keep leaning forwards.



With your free hand, hold baby's bum. Now bring the second strap up over baby's back and over the other shoulder.



Collect the first strap from between your knees and then pull both straps upwards. This will help to spread any loose excess fabric over the child.



Then pull the straps downwards again.





Bring the straps under your arms in parallel to each other, and pass gently over the baby's legs in the knee pits.



Cross the straps under the baby's bum, and bring the straps around your waist, passing the straps under the baby's legs.



Wrap the straps around your waist.

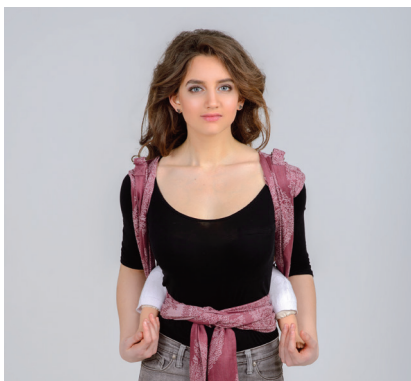
Make one knot in front of you on your waist.



Wrap the straps around your body again, passing UNDER the baby's legs.



Tie a double knot under the baby's bum.



The final look of the carry.



The final look of the carry with a hood in a roll fixed with the hood straps in half-rings.



Use a hood for a head support when your baby has fallen asleep. Roll the hood over the baby's head and fix it with the half-rings on the shoulder straps. The baby's head should be turned aside, with a cheek on the parent's chest, and the fabric should not obscure the baby's nose and mouth.



OTHER TYPES OF DIVA SLINGS

THE DIVA WOVEN WRAPAROUND SLING is the simplest, most versatile, stylish, convenient and comfortable baby carrier, allowing a range of carrying positions and distributing weight across one or both of the wearer's shoulders. Suitable for babies of any age, children can be cradled or carried upright, and held on the chest, on the back, or on the hip.



THE WRAPAROUND SLING provides genuine ergonomic comfort for your baby without undue stress on your spine and hips. It is suitable even for newborns (but please follow instructions carefully), and is particularly good for carrying long distances, even with heavy toddlers.



THE DIVA RING SLING is very comfortable for newborns. It is also very convenient with toddlers especially when they start walking and want to be able to get down from the sling quickly and then go back in again a few moments later!



DIVA BASICO MEI TAI is a mei tai with a simplified construction, without a hood and base cords.

ATTENTION: Diva Senza Mei Tai instructions are applicable to Diva Basico Mei Tai, please ignore information on hood and base cords.

CARE TIPS FOR THE DIVA MEI-TAI

- we recommend washing the mei-tai before the first use;
- use gentle cycles and cool water (max.40 degrees) for all types of sling fabric;
- use only liquid detergents for fabrics containing linen, bamboo and silk;
- do not use bleaches and do not tumble dry;
- do not spin with more than 800 revs;
- use only detergents intended for colored fabrics to keep the colors bright;
- cool iron after wash.

With proper care your sling will look like new for a long time.

IMPORTANT! KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Read all instructions before assembling and using the soft carrier. The carer should read all the instructions before using the sling. Keep instructions for future use.

WARNING!

- Constantly monitor your child and ensure the mouth and nose are unobstructed.
- For pre-term, low birthweight babies and children with medical conditions, seek advice from a health professional before using this product.
- Ensure your child's chin is not resting on its chest as its breathing may be restricted which could lead to suffocation.
- To prevent hazards from falling ensure that your child is securely positioned in the sling.
- Check to assure all buckles, snaps, straps, and adjustments are secure before each use. Check for ripped seams, torn straps or fabric and damaged fasteners before each use.
- Ensure proper placement of child in product including leg placement.
- Premature infants, infants with respiratory problems, and infants under 4 months are at greatest risk of suffocation.
- The carer should be aware of the increased risk of your child falling out of the sling as it becomes more active.
- Never use a soft carrier when balance or mobility is impaired because of exercise, drowsiness, or medical conditions. Your movement and the child's movement may affect your balance. Take care when bending and leaning forwards or sideways.
- Never use a soft carrier while engaging in activities such as cooking and cleaning which involve a heat source or exposure to chemicals.
- The sling is not suitable for use during sporting activities e.g. running, cycling, swimming and skiing.
- Never wear a soft carrier while driving or being a passenger in a motor vehicle.
- Only use the product for the number of children for which the product is intended.
- Keep the sling away from children when it is not in use.

⚠ WARNING

FALL AND SUFFOCATION HAZARD

FALL HAZARD – Infants can fall through a wide leg opening or out of carrier.

- Adjust leg openings to fit baby's legs snugly.
- Before each use, make sure all knots are secure.
- Take special care when leaning or walking.
- Never bend at waist; bend at knees.
- Only use this carrier for children between 7lb and 45lb (3.2kg - 22kg).

SUFFOCATION HAZARD – Infants under 4 months can suffocate in this product if face is pressed tight against your body.

- Do not strap infant too tight against your body.
- Allow room for head movement.
- Keep infant's face free from obstructions at all times.

WARNING: When using the sling, constantly monitor your child.



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ESSENZA



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