

# Foothills Prosthetics

1603 S Sterling St  
Morganton, NC 28655  
www.FoothillsProsthetics.com

Kevin A Wicker, CPO  
kevinw@foothillsprosthetics.com  
Phone: (828) 391-5164  
Fax: (828) 391-5011

## Below Elbow (BE) Prostheses

### What is a BE Prostheses?

The type of Blow Elbow (BE) Prostheses that an individual receives will be determined by the shape and length of the residual limb, activity level, prognosis, and individual preference. Each BE Prosthesis is custom made and will fit the specific purposes of the wearer.

### What are the types of BE Prostheses?

A cosmetic, or passive, prosthesis is used primarily to replace the body part that is missing. This promotes a healthy body image, but is also functional in that it can assist the sound side arm in activities such as holding or placing objects.



### Daily Care and Maintenance

1. Wipe the socket using mild soap and water as needed. If one lives in a warmer climate or perspires heavily, it may need to be cleaned more often
2. Take care when handling items that can stain the cosmetic glove such as inks, paints, newspapers and even blue jeans.
3. Inspect your stump daily for irritations.

A body powered, or conventional, prosthesis uses body movements to operate the terminal device such as a hand or hook. The prosthesis is connected to the body through the use of cables and a harness. By movements of the shoulders and the arms, the person can open and close the terminal device.

### Daily Care and Maintenance

1. Wipe the socket using mild soap and water as needed.
2. Hand-wash the harness in cold water using a mild detergent, then line dry.
3. Clean the cosmetic glove with soap and water or rubbing alcohol.

A myoelectric prosthesis uses muscles of the affected arm to control the opening and closing of the terminal device. Electrodes are fit within the prosthesis. By contracting the muscles of the arm which formerly controlled the opening and closing of an anatomical hand, electrical outputs are sent to a motor that open and close an artificial hand. External-powered systems are self contained so harnessing and activation cables are eliminated.

### Daily Care and Maintenance

1. Charge the battery nightly.
2. Wipe the socket out with mild soap and water as needed. Do not submerge the prosthesis in water. If for some reason the prosthesis is submerged, contact your prosthetist immediately.

*Please complete our satisfaction survey*

[FoothillsProsthetics.com/survey.html](http://FoothillsProsthetics.com/survey.html)

*If at any time your if you have any questions or concerns about your BE Prostheses, please contact Foothills Prosthetics*

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*Modern Technology, Old-time Hospitality®*