

TGA *Vita* Lite



Operating Instructions and Owner's Handbook



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1. Introduction

The TGA Vita Lite – Your New TGA Vita Lite represents a pioneering choice in compact scooter design. Offering most of the advanced features of the larger Vita models like its suspension that can react independently when negotiating uneven terrain & high visibility long life LED lights all in a more compact package. We hope your Vita Lite will bring many admiring glances and increased freedom and pleasure to your life. Please enjoy your Vita Lite and thank you for purchasing a TGA scooter.

This handbook provides important information on the most common operational and maintenance concerns that you should be familiar with when owning a Minimo. It is very important that you are familiar with the driving technique and are able to operate the controls competently before venturing far from where there is assistance.

The handbook will draw your attention to important safety related issues by **Care! Warning** labelling. Please keep this handbook for future referral.

Care! Warning

- * Do not ride your Vita Lite without fully reading and understanding this instruction manual first.
- * Do not exceed the maximum gradient/slope of 17%.
- * Do not carry passengers or exceed the maximum carrying weight (see Technical Specifications).
- * Do not get on or off your Vita Lite unless it is switched off.
- * Do not switch your Vita Lite on with the speed control lever depressed.
- * Do not back your Vita Lite into uneven inclines or surfaces. Be cautious when traversing slopes.
- * Do not turn suddenly at full speed, especially on uneven or hilly ground. Failure to observe this may result in tipping of the scooter.
- * Do not drive your Vita Lite over deep, soft terrain (e.g. soft dirt, deep grass, loose gravel or sand).
- * Do not operate your Vita Lite when under the influence of alcohol or certain drugs, which may impair your safety.
- * Do not climb or descend curbs that exceed the Vita Lite's capability.
- * Do not turn when negotiating curbs. Always approach curbs at low speed and straight.
- * Always stop fully before changing direction (forward or reverse).
- * Always keep your feet on your Vita Lite when driving.
- * Always proceed carefully while riding your Vita Lite, especially as you approach the downgrade of a ramp or hill.
- * Always proceed carefully while riding on uneven surfaces.
- * Do not sit on your Vita Lite while being transported in a moving vehicle. Always restrain your Vita Lite so that it cannot move in the vehicle and transfer yourself to a vehicle seat.
- * Do not drive your Vita Lite through deep water or clean with a high pressure hose.
- * Never attempt to freewheel down a slope as all braking will be lost.
- * Safe driving tips for scooter users have been printed in the back of this manual. For your own safety and that of others please ensure that you thoroughly read and understand this and in addition always obey the rules of the road.

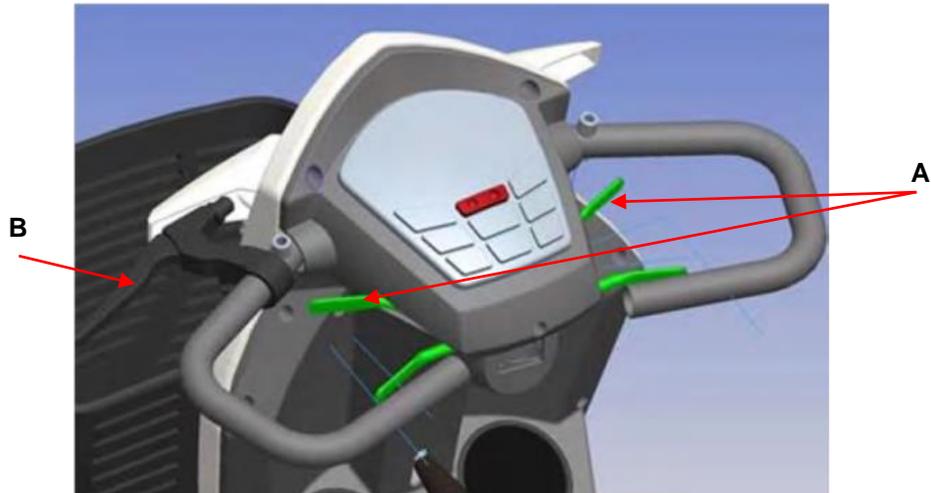
Intended Purpose

Your Vita Lite is intended for outdoor use and can negotiate gradients up to 17%.

Pavement Use

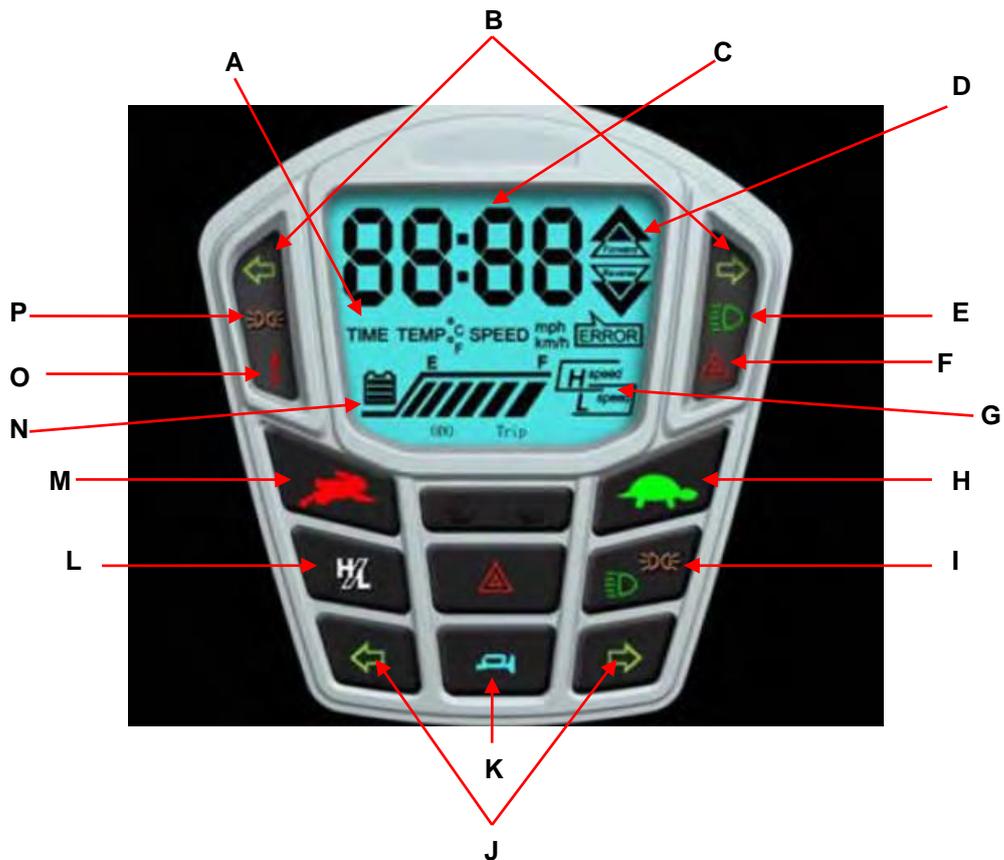
The speed of your Vita Lite is dependent on the weight of the occupant, incline and the type of surface. Tested with a weight of 18 stone (114.55kg) the Vita Lite had a speed of 7.5/8mph on the flat, on high speed setting. The UK law limits the speed to 4mph for pavement use so make sure Low speed (4mph) is selected, and drive with care and have consideration for pedestrians.

2. Your Vita Lite Controls & Instrument Panel



A. **Throttle Controls** – The Throttle Controls adjust the speed of your Vita Lite. The further you pull/push the control the faster your Vita Lite will go.

B. **Emergency Brake** - All braking on your Vita Lite is automatic and the emergency brake should never need to be used. It is only for emergency in the very unlikely event that the automatic braking fails. If used this lever will bring you safely to a halt. The brake lever is located on the left handle bar



A. **Display Type Indicator** – The relevant light will illuminate indicating that the numerical display (C) above is indicating either time, temperature or speed.

B. **Indicator Warning Light** – When indicating the relevant Indicator warning Light will flash.

C. **Numerical Display** – This will indicate either the current time, current temperature or speed of travel depending on which is currently set.

D. **Direction Indication Light** – When moving the relevant light will illuminate to indicate the direction you are travelling (Forward or Reverse).

E. **High Light Setting Indicator** – When your lights are on the highest setting this will illuminate.

F. **Hazard Warning Light Indicator** - When your hazard warning lights are on this will illuminate.

G. **Speed Indicator** – This will indicate the current speed setting (low or high).

H. **Reduce Speed** – Press the reduce speed button to select your maximum speed option. Each speed setting (low & high) has 5 options ranging from slowest to fastest.

I. **Light Setting Switch** – Press this button once to select the low lights setting (outer ring of LED's only) then press a second time to select the high lights setting (all LED's). Press a third time to turn off all lower lights. The high level lights surrounding your front indicator will remain on whenever your Vita Light is. The Light Setting Indicators (E or P) will always display which light setting is selected.

J. **Indicators** – Press the arrow pointing to your left to activate the left indicators and the arrow pointing right to activate your right indicator. When you are indicating you will hear a beep and the relevant indicator warning light (B) will flash.

K. **Horn** – Press the Horn button to sound the horn.

L. **High/Low Speed Setting Switch** – Press the H/L button to switch between the low & high speed settings. Either the H or L speed indicator (G) will always be displayed on the screen to indicate your current setting.

M. **Increase Speed** – Press the increase speed button to select your maximum speed option. Each speed setting (low & high) has 5 options ranging from slowest to fastest.

N. **Battery Display Indicator** - When your Vita Lite is switched on the indicator will display the state of charge in your batteries. As the charge is used up in your batteries the number of sections displayed will reduce from right to left sector indicating the state of charge at that precise time. When all six sections are visible the batteries are fully charged. As the number of sections reduces your batteries are losing charge and when the indicator begins to flash your batteries urgently need to be recharged. For more information see the Battery Charging section.

O. **Parking Brake Indicator** – When you're parking brake is engaged this light will illuminate.

P. **Low Light Setting Indicator** – When your lights are on the lowest setting this will illuminate.

3. Adjusting Your Vita Lite Tiller



If you'd like to adjust the height of your Vita Lite tiller simply push the adjustment lever down towards the floor until the tiller moves freely up (away from the seat) and down (towards the seat). Once the tiller is in a comfortable position simply let go of the lever.

4. Adjusting & Removing Your Vita Lite Seat

1. The seat can be swivelled fully through 360° and can lock into any one of eight positions. This allows a variety of different positions for 1f you need to sit at a table etc. Swivelling it within 90° allows easy entry and exit. The lever is located on the right hand side of the seat. When the lever is released make sure the seat locks into place
2. The seat adjustment lever located at the front of seat allows the seat to be adjusted forward or backward
3. The Backrest Adjustment lever located at the RH side of the seat allows the backrest to be adjusted for comfort.
4. Both armrests can be adjusted for angle, by use of turn wheel located under the armrest
5. The seat can be removed by simply lifting upwards.
6. The Seat Height is adjustable and can be reset by removing the seat and top cover (see previous instruction). You will see the seat post and a bolt going through it from right to left. Remove the bolt and pull up the inner seat post. You will see several adjustment holes. Select the one of your choice and refit.

5. Charging Your Vita Lite

The battery charger supplied is special to your Vita Lite and so it may not be suitable for any other powered mobility product. Only use the charger supplied with your Vita Lite as other makes of chargers may permanently damage your batteries and will void the warranty.

To charge your Vita Lite batteries follow these simple steps:

1. Switch OFF your Vita Lite and remove the key
2. Plug the charger lead into the socket located on your Vita Lite tiller
2. Plug the charger lead into a suitable wall outlet and switch on
4. You will see the light on the charger will turn Orange to indicate it is charging
6. After a period of time the light on the charger will turn Green indicating the battery is fully charged
7. At this time the charger can be disconnected and your Vita Lite is ready for use. NB At the point the Green light comes on the charger will automatically stop charging although the light will still be on. **The batteries cannot overcharge**
8. Although to get out of trouble the batteries can be put on charge for a short period of time, it is always best to go through a complete charge cycle each time. Excessive short period charging will be detrimental to battery life
9. For the best results and to prolong battery life, try to run the battery down by at least 50% before recharging and in addition it is always best to go through a complete charge cycle each time.
10. Depending on the depth of the discharge, the minimum time taken to recharge serviceable batteries fully will vary up to 12 hours. Please note that this time may increase as batteries get older. During periods without use (perhaps during the winter) it is wise to charge the batteries every 4 to 6 weeks.
11. For the best results your batteries must be cycled for their first 10-15 charges. This means run them down as much as you safely can in use and then give them a full charge. They will not work at their best until this process has been carried out. It can also prolong battery life.

You will find that the distance that your Vita Lite can travel will gradually increase over the first few weeks of use as the batteries reach their optimum efficiency after approximately 10-15 cycles of discharge and recharge. NB When the charger is plugged into Vita Lite an automatic inhibit device will shut down the scooter stopping anything being used whilst plugged into the charger.

Care! Warning

- * Do not smoke or use a naked flame while your batteries are being charged.
- * Do not use the charger if it has received a sharp blow, been dropped or otherwise misused in any way. Take it to a qualified technician.
- * Do not dismantle the charger. This will void the warranty.
- * Do not leave charger plugged into your Minimo with charger switched off as this may discharge your batteries.
- * For a complete charge – Do not switch off, unplug or interrupt the recharge cycle until the charging cycle has completed.

6. Driving Your Vita Lite

Care! Warning

The Vita Lite is easy to drive but it is essential that you familiarize yourself with the controls and learn to drive it in a safe area with sufficient room to manoeuvre for your safety and that of others. The area should be free of obstacles and reasonably flat. Mark a practice course for straight line driving, turning in confined spaces, reversing and driving around obstacles.

Driving

Before driving make sure that the Battery has enough charge to complete your journey. Check that the Key is switched OFF and the seat is locked (see Adjusting & Removing Your Vita Lite Seat) before getting on. Ensure that the armrests are in the down position.

1. Hold the Tiller with both hands and gently pull the right control lever away towards you to move forward. The more you pull the lever, the faster you will go. To reverse pull the left control lever, when reversing the speed is reduced to a maximum of 2mph. Alternatively if you find it more comfortable you can push the left control lever away from you to move forwards and the push the right control lever away from you to reverse.
2. Releasing the control lever automatically operates the brakes to slow down and stop. Once stopped, the parking brake will automatically come on.
3. Use the Tiller to steer. Move your left hand towards you to steer left and your right hand towards you to steer right. When reversing the opposite will apply.
4. To cross the road you should try to find a suitable slope. Your Vita Lite will mount lowered kerbs, but you should always approach a kerb at right angles (90°). If you are going up you should stop just short of the edge and select full speed. Then drive until both front and back wheels are on the pavement, then immediately lower the speed.

If going down, proceed slowly on low setting until on the road, then switch to a suitable higher speed to cross the road safely. Do not attempt kerbs that are not lowered and do not go up or down at an angle, always 90°. Do take extra care and if you are going from pavement to road, make sure the road is clear. Anything different to the above could result in an accident and injury.

5. Watch your Battery Indicator. The distance you can travel depends on many factors, the more slopes, the less distance you can travel. We recommend that you gradually explore going further each day.
6. Should the battery "run out" before you get home there are two things you can do to avoid being stranded. Stopping and switching off the KEY for 5 – 10 minutes will allow the battery to "recover" a little power so that you can proceed further. You can attempt this a number of times. If you are unfortunate and cannot return to home under the battery power there is a "Free Wheel" device that will allow someone to push you home (see Parking Brake Release).
7. Range is influenced by many environmental conditions, hills will substantially decrease the range. Establish what you can obtain around your locality by gradually increasing the distance and checking the battery indicators at the end of each journey.
9. Reducing the speed will also reduce the power. For climbing obstacles or hills you will need to increase the speed setting to give the power and then control the speed with the levers.

Parking

1. Before leaving your Vita Lite, switch the ignition off, the tiller display will then turn off. Remove the Key for security.
2. If your Vita Lite has been used in the Free Wheel mode (see Parking Brake Release), it is VERY IMPORTANT to re-engage the drive to ensure that the scooter brake is on before you get on.

9. Parking Brake Release

Your Vita Lite is fitted with a manual parking brake release. This is located on the back panel to the left of the right hand rear wheel. When the lever is pointing up it is set for normal use. When it is pointing down the brake is released which allows your Vita Lite to be pushed. There will be no power to drive your Vita Lite when the brake is in this position, however when switched on the Parking Brake Indicator will illuminate to indicate the parking brake is disengaged. Never release this lever when your Vita Lite is on a slope. Push lever down to regain normal drive.

10. Maintaining Your Minimo

We recommend that your Vita Lite has an annual service and maintenance check by your Vita Lite Dealer or TGA. This is very important and can help to avoid breakdowns. The following are weekly/monthly checks that will keep your Vita Lite in good running order.

- Do not apply oil or grease to any components. Sealed bearings and nylon bushes eliminate the need for lubrication.
- Keep all components clean and dry.
- Your Vita Lite uses maintenance free batteries, they are leak-proof regardless of position. Charging the battery is the only maintenance required (refer to charging instructions). DO NOT leave the batteries flat, charge every 4-6 weeks if your Vita Lite is being stored and not used.
- Check the electrical cable connectors are fully home and secure.
- Battery Replacement is dependent upon use. When batteries lose power too quickly, it is likely they are due for replacement.
- Repairs relating to electrical or mechanical components should be performed by your Vita Lite dealer or TGA only.

Seat Upholstery

A damp cloth and a little soap will keep your seat, looking good. Do not use abrasive cleaners as this will damage the coating. Upholstery can be damaged by chemical cleaners. Ultraviolet light can also reduce the life of the upholstery coating material. This is a normal ageing process and cannot be guaranteed (see exclusion in the Warranty Terms section).

Bodywork

The bodywork on your Vita Lite can be lightly washed with clean soapy water. Car polish can be used to keep the paint and bodywork in pristine condition. Do not use abrasive cleaners or strong detergents as this will fade the colour.

CAUTION: Do not hose down your Vita Lite. Water could be forced into the electronics and cause permanent damage.

DO NOT: Store your Vita Lite in damp conditions. This may affect the electronics if left for very long periods of time.

Electronics

Servicing of the electronics and charger should only be carried out by your Vita Lite dealer or TGA. These units are sealed and should not be opened. **BROKEN SEALS WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY.**

DO NOT: Operate your Vita Lite in extreme weather conditions i.e. very heavy rain.

DO NOT: Drive through deep water. This could damage the main electronic controller or the electronics.

Motor Brakes

If the motor brakes are functioning correctly, you will not be able to push your machine when it is switched off or switched on with the speed control throttle in the neutral position.

If your machine can be pushed when as described above, the motor brake(s) may be faulty. **Do not use your Vita Lite and contact your Vita Lite dealer or TGA.**

SAFETY NOTE: For your own safety, we recommend that you check the function of your brakes prior to every journey.

Driving Brake

When you drive your Vita Lite and let go of the speed control lever, it should reduce speed very quickly. If you notice a change in the normal driving/slowing condition and your Vita Lite does not slow down quickly then **do not use your Vita Lite and contact your Vita Lite dealer or TGA.**

Batteries

Keep your batteries well charged (see Battery Charging section). Keep batteries clean and in a dry frost-proof place.

IMPORTANT: It is not possible to predict the life expectancy of your batteries. This is mainly due to different workloads a battery can be subjected to.

Some Vita Lite users will use their scooter every day and for long periods of time. Their batteries will receive a near total and regular discharge and the life of their batteries will be short (12 months or less in some cases).

Other Vita Lite users will use their scooter less frequently, putting their batteries through a less demanding discharge lifestyle. These batteries will probably have a longer life (12 to 24 months or longer). When you need to replace the batteries, always insist on the model fitted as standard equipment to your Vita Lite. If In doubt, consult with your Vita Lite dealer or TGA.

11. Technical Specification

Length	1195mm	47"
Width	620mm	24"
Height	1200mm	47"
Seat Width	460mm	18"
Total Weight (Including Batteries)	83kgs	185lbs
Speed	Up To 6mph	10kmh
Turning Radius	1020mm	40"
Approximate Range	25km	15miles
Battery Size	2 x 12V 36AH	
Controller Details	70 Amp S-Drive	
Motor Details	4 Pole 400W	
Maximum Carry Capacity	135kgs	21 stone
Front & Rear Wheel Size	260mm	10.2"
Maximum Gradient	17%	
Ground Clearance	85mm	3"

12. Warranty

This is to certify that your Vita Lite is warranted by TGA for a period of twelve months from the date of purchase subject to the following conditions:

1. This warranty is available only to the original purchaser/user of the Vita Lite. The Vita Lite is identified by the unique serial number located on the frame. **Warranty is not transferable.**
2. TGA will repair or replace free of charge any part found upon inspection by an authorised representative of TGA to be defective in material and/or workmanship.
3. If a defect or fault is discovered, the dealer from where the product was purchased should be notified immediately.

Warranty Exclusions

Tyres (these are normal wear components and replacement is not warranted)

TGA will not be responsible for defects caused by abuse in return transit, vandalism, misuse, abuse, accident, negligence, alteration or misuse caused by non-observance of instructions set out in this manual

This warranty does not cover commercial or rental use of the Vita Lite or if it is being used for anything other than its intended use

Upholstery and seating (these are normal wear components and replacement is not warranted)

Returns are only accepted when the product is shipped in the original carton with original protective packing materials installed

Returned goods to be sent to TGA carriage paid. If a successful warranty claim is found TGA will pay return carriage. There is no other express warranty. Any and all other implied warranties are excluded. Your rights as a consumer are not affected.

Service Information: Only genuine TGA Spares should be used.

An authorised TGA dealer will service your Vita Lite under the terms of the above stated warranty. Servicing dealership personnel are trained professionals. They should be able to answer any question you may have. If you encounter a problem that a dealer does not solve to your satisfaction, please discuss it with the dealership's management. The Service Manager or General Manager can help. Almost all problems can be solved in this way. If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by the dealership's management, contact TGA for advice.

13. Tips, Cautions, Problems and Additional Features

Stop Problems before they Start

If you detect an unusual vibration or noise in the operation of your Vita Lite, try to determine the cause. Be sure the power is off before investigating. If you cannot discover the cause of a problem contact your Vita Lite dealer or TGA for help.

Airline Checking

Sealed Lead Acid and are permitted on airplanes. Airline personnel may insist on disassembling scooter to verify its contents. It is best to check with the airline before hand. An airline compliance certificate is available from TGA.

Storage

Avoid storing your Vita Lite in locations with extreme heat or cold. A cool dry location is ideal if possible. The following steps will help keep rust and corrosion from impairing your Vita Lite's function and appearance. Turn the key to the off position. Clean all exterior surfaces, touch-up any damaged paint. Be sure the battery is fully charged before prolonged periods of storage and be sure to recharge every 6 weeks. Failure to comply may result in battery replacement.

Batteries

Keeping your Vita Lite working to its maximum potential means that the batterie(s) must be maintained with full power. Nightly recharging, after reasonable use, will help you to give them a longer life and will ensure your Vita Lite is always ready to go when you are. However, occasionally running the batteries down as far as safely possible is also a good idea as it allows the batteries to then take a full charge.

14. Safe Driving Tips for Scooter Users

Scooters fall into two categories, Class 2 or Class 3. A Class 2 scooter is essentially a 4mph pavement vehicle and can only legally be used on the road when either crossing over or because there are no footpaths. A Class 3 vehicle is capable of 4 to 8mph and provided it is fitted with front and rear lights, flashing indicators, horn and rear view mirror it is legal for use on the road. It can also be used on the footpaths but must not exceed 4 mph. Class 2 & 3 vehicles must not be driven on Dual Carriageways, Motorways, Bus Lanes or Cycle Tracks.

Insurance

There is no legal requirement for insurance but it is a very good idea to have cover for fire and theft, accidental and malicious damage, and also third party damages. Just phone TGA on 01787 882244 and they will talk you through it.

Breakdown & Recovery Service

Again a very good idea and can take a load of worry off your mind. Just talk to TGA.

Mobile Phone

An essential item if you are on a journey alone. You never know, breakdown, accident, health - communication is a must.

Carrying Loads

Do not overload. It may make your Vita Lite unstable and reduce its range. Place heavy loads inboard – in the middle – not behind the back wheel which can lighten the steering or can cause the front end to lift off the road on a bump, and not at the front which might make steering heavy.

Watch Your Brakes

Never try to drive, or even sit on your Vita Lite while it is in "free wheel". The parking brake will be out of action and your Vita Lite could run away with you.

Maintenance

Carry out the checks listed in this manual regularly and also have your Vita Lite serviced by your Vita Lite dealer or TGA at least once a year.

Sensible Guidelines for Safety

When using the footpath

Just because you are on the footpath or pedestrian precinct does not make you a pedestrian. If you are on a motorized vehicle you are no longer a pedestrian.

Remember pedestrians always have right of way!

Many people on foot will be kind and helpful to the drivers of a wheelchair or scooter, but not everyone!

In a crowded precinct, market area, or footpath

It is your responsibility to ensure you do not run into anyone or do any harm with your Vita Lite. While many people will make way for you, you cannot expect **everyone** to do so. Some will appear to not even realize you are there. They will climb round and even over your Vita Lite rather than allow you room to move. Also be very aware of people's feet.

When climbing or descending kerbs

Your Vita Lite will mount lowered kerbs, but you should always approach a kerb at right angles (90°). If you are going up you should stop just short of the edge and select full speed. Then drive until both front and back wheels are on the pavement, then immediately lower the speed. Kerb climbing in any other manner will lead to your Vita Lite becoming unstable and the risk of possible accident and injury.

Watch out for:

Children – They may well run in front of you without warning. You may only be moving very slowly, but you could still injure a child.

Elderly People – They may be unable to quickly move aside to let you pass. Give way to them

Disabled people on foot – they too may be unable to quickly move aside to let you pass

People with visual problems or impaired hearing – Give them space and time

Other motorised vehicle users – You may be doing all the right things. This does not guarantee they will do likewise

When you need help:

You may need to ask people to open doors for you

Most people are willing to help, if asked politely. Don't struggle to do the impossible or even the very difficult things when there are people around who would help if asked.

Driving inside shops and buildings

This is where you have the advantage over car users! Not many supermarkets would welcome a car driving round their store. But bigger shops and even some quite small ones are accessible to wheelchairs and scooters. Once inside the store it is **your responsibility** to drive slowly and safely and not damage the fittings or the stock, or injure other shoppers or store workers. You may need to ask for help. Again in most cases people are willing if asked politely. Don't risk pulling down a whole display to reach the top shelf. **ASK FOR HELP.**

Speed in shops and buildings

Reduce it! – Drive at the slowest speed to avoid any accident. Be especially careful if you need to reverse, that your way is clear of shop fittings and people

Please ensure you have read and understood everything in this manual, it has been put together using many years experience to ensure you will get the best from your TGA Vita Lite and that you will enjoy using it. Best wishes and safe driving.

Daniel Stone
Managing Director



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