

### **Information about prams in buses**

Sweden has a long tradition on transporting prams in buses. It is very common that persons travel with a baby in a pram on urban public transport routes. The pram is placed on a space designed for prams and wheelchairs in the bus. All Class I buses and most Class II lowfloor buses in Sweden are equipped with a combined pram and wheelchair space. For the stability of the pram, the space is equipped with straps, similar to luggage straps, which are mounted on a horizontal handrail at the space for the pram in the bus. The straps are attached to the pram by the person who travels with the pram.

The possibility to travel with prams in buses is quite popular. Most people who travel with prams travel during normal shopping hours. Often there are several prams in a bus. When there is one pram in a bus, the pram is placed on the combined pram and wheelchair space along the side of the bus. When there are two or more prams in the bus, the prams are normally placed sideways on the aisle. There are no severe accidents reported with prams in buses.

In Sweden, public transport is purchased from bus operators by public transport authorities in each county. In the purchasing procedure the public transport authorities specify that buses of Class I, A and II must be equipped with spaces for prams. The organisation of public transport authorities, the Swedish Public Transport Association, the organisation of bus operators and the Swedish Bus & Coach Federation, have developed a joint document that specifies technical requirements on buses to be used in the purchasing of buses and bus traffic. The document, called Bus 2010, specifies requirements that must be met in addition to all mandatory requirements in directives and regulations.

The purchasing document specifies the following regarding prams in buses:

Space shall be provided for prams. The width of a pram is assumed to be 600 mm.  
Roll-over protection for prams (so called pram-strap) shall be provided.

Bus of Class I shall have spaces for at least three prams of which at least two on the low floor area. Bus of Class I that is shorter than 11.5 m shall have at least two spaces for prams on the low floor area.

Bus of Class II shall have spaces for at least two prams on the low floor area.

Bus of Class A shall have space for at least one pram on the low floor area.

Voluntary addition: Bus shall have space for \_\_ prams.

Below are some photographs of facilities for prams in buses. The photographs were taken in the city Karlstad, which has about 80,000 inhabitants.



Combined tram and wheelchair space in a bus



Straps for the stability of trams on the tram and wheelchair space



Communication device adjacent to the service door



A passenger boarding with a pram (1)





A passenger boarding with a pram (2)



A passenger boarding with a pram (3)

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