



Zergotech Freedom

Instruction Manual

Model: ZFR-006

2020 All Rights Reserved

## WELCOME

Thank you for your purchase and welcome to the Zergotech Freedom. You are on your way to a healthier and more enjoyable typing experience.

Zergotech's mission is to create the most ergonomic and innovative keyboard available while keeping it as familiar to users as possible. Other ergonomic keyboards are too intimidating for the general user and the Zergotech Freedom finally delivers a solution that all typists can use. Our sliding palm rests make a truly enjoyable typing experience.

## INSTALLATION

The Zergotech Freedom is a standard USB Human Interface Device. It is 'plug-and-play' ready as a computer peripheral with all operating systems. No additional firmware or software is required to operate the keyboard.

## GETTING STARTED

### SELECTING THE CORRECT KEYBOARD

The Freedom can cater for US ANSI QWERTY, UK ISO QWERTY, German QWERTZ, and French AZERTY. While the Zergotech Freedom is neither strictly an ANSI or ISO standard, it accommodates all of the main features of these two standards.

Refer to the KeyKortex programming guide for details on how to set up your keyboard..

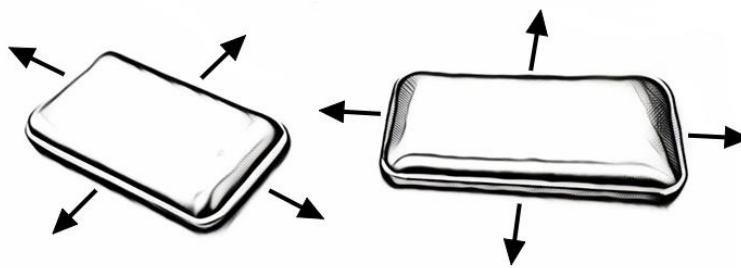
## WRIST SLIDERS AND FIXED PALM RESTS

### SLIDING PALM RESTS

Sliding palm rests are protected under patents owned by Zergotech Pty Ltd.

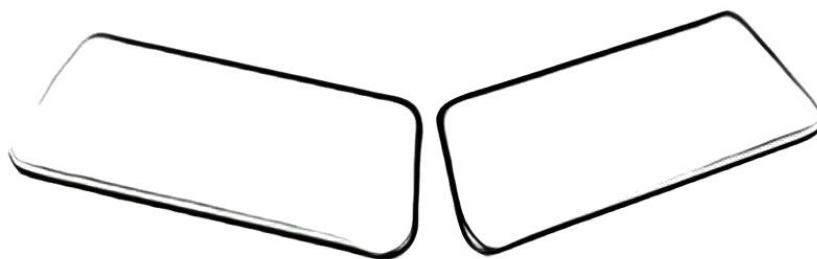
Sliding palm rests are one of the main features and proven concepts of the Zergotech Freedom. Typing pain is greatly reduced by mobilizing the wrist and hands to roam freely around the keyboard. Hard to reach keys, especially the outer most keys and top number and F rows, are within easy striking range while maintaining a healthy aligned and ergonomic wrist position. You are no longer relying on overstretching and twisting motions, such as damaging ulnar and radial deviations, a primary source of wrist pain.

They are a joy to use. The feeling of almost frictionless gliding is a satisfying and enjoyable experience upon immediate use.



### FIXED PALM RESTS

Fixed palm rests may be purchased in addition to the sliding palm rests. The fixed palm rests are simply placed in the slider bay without adhesive. They are interchangeable with the sliding palm rests at any time. While our most effective innovation is the sliding palm rests, there is a plethora of ergonomic innovation in the keyboard that still provides ergonomic benefits with the fixed palm rests alone.



## PROGRAMMING AND OTHER OPTIONS

Each user has unique typing styles and preferences. To accommodate these preferences, we have integrated on-board programming capabilities. No software or programming skills are required. Instructions on programming will be printed on screen as text. Be sure to open your preferred text editor to receive the programming guidance.

Refer to the accompanying programming guide and programming reference card for more information on how to program the keyboard.

## POSITIONS AND ANGLES

The Zergotech Freedom has been designed at optimal ergonomic positions. The keyboard is adjustable by rotation, distance, incline, decline, and inner lift or tenting.

The orientation of the keyboard can be put into two states:

1. Joined
2. Split

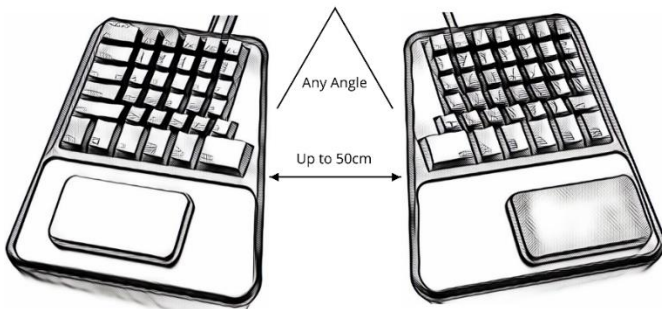
The bottom feet can be set such that the keyboard is angled at four different positions:

1. Flat Position (no feet extended)
2. Tented Position (inner feet extended only)
3. Inclined Position (rear feet extended only)
4. Declined Position (front feet extended only)

No other combination of extension of feet will provide a stable position. These positions can only be set exclusively of one another.



With the two halves joined, the default internally rotated angle is 25 degrees. This ensures your forearms meet the keyboard at an aligned angle.



The split design of the keyboard allows for a distance between the halves of up to 50cm. You can set the distance between the two halves that suit you. One suitable position is to separate the boards to shoulder width.



The tented angle of the default flat position is 5 degrees away from the center. This seemingly slight angle will make a noticeable difference in improving wrist stresses associated with pronation.



The tented angle can be increased to 12 degrees by extending the inner feet. This will further help to relieve pronation stress.



Depending on your seating arrangements, users might find this declined angle more comfortable. This is especially true for users whose forearms rest higher than desk height and approach the keyboard from above. The default tenting angle of 5 degrees is maintained.



Depending on your seating arrangements, users might find this inclined angle more comfortable. This is especially true for uses whose forearms are relatively lower than desk height and approach the keyboard from below. The default tenting angle of 5 degrees is maintained.

## ACCESSORIES

### KEYCAP PULLER

The Freedom is shipped with a custom made keycap puller. This small device is used to safely remove the keycaps from your keyboard. The puller has two widths: The shorter width is used to remove the shorter keycaps found on rows 1 to 5, while the wider width is used to remove the longer keycaps on the bottom row.

To remove a keycap, place the keycap puller over the key and press down until the switch springs back into the arms. The hooks of the keycap puller will now be under the base of the keycap. Pull up to remove.

**WARNING:** Keycaps should only be removed using the provided keycap puller. Keycaps removed using fingers or third party pullers are known to cause breakage of the keycap or key switch stems. Keycaps broken due to removal without the supplier keycap puller are not covered under warranty.



### O-RING SOUND DAMPENERS AND SHOCK ABSORPTION

The Freedom is supplied with a set of 'O-Rings'. O-Rings are small circular pieces of rubber that are placed around the stem underneath the keycap. This rubber hits the key switch on a down press, limiting the 'clacks' associated with mechanical keyboards and makes for quieter typing. They are also ergonomically effective at reducing the shock and stress on your fingers associated with strong typing.

The Freedom is not assembled with the O-Rings under the keycaps. To install the O-Rings, you will need to remove the keycaps using the supplied keycap puller, adding the O-Rings to each key.



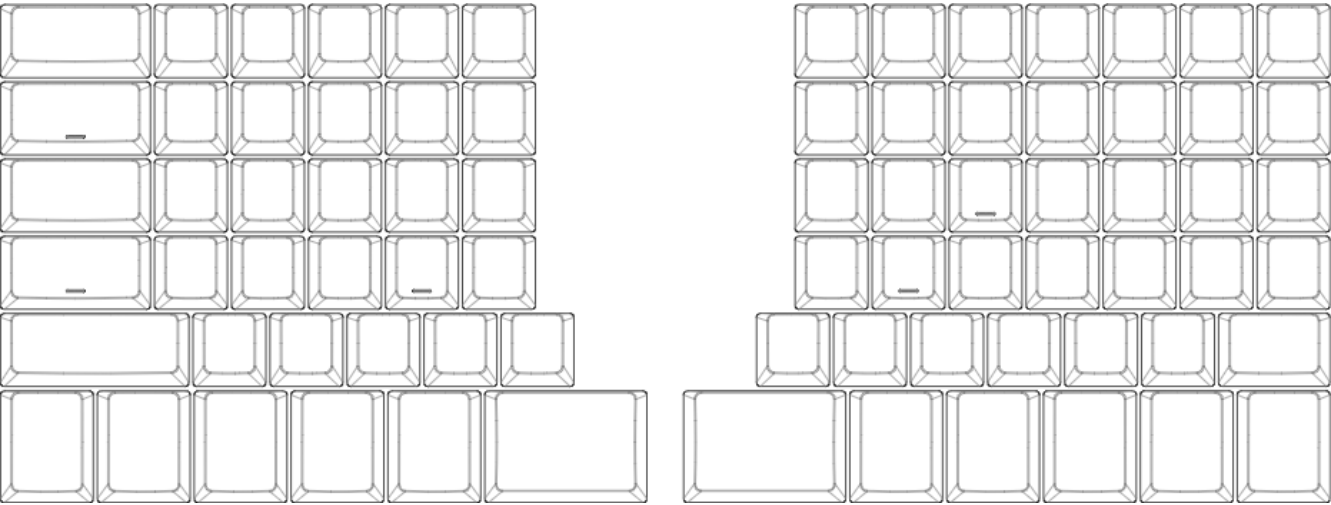
# SEMI-ORTHOGONAL LAYOUT

The Zergotech Freedom is designed with our unique and design registered Semi-Orthogonal layout.

This layout was designed to (i) achieve symmetry of reach for each of your fingers, and (ii) minimize the learning curve with change from a standard flat keyboard.

The Freedom retains the standard keyboard layout as much as possible, adjusting only for the unergonomic features of standard keyboards. The main changes include aligning the columns of the keys above the home row, and reallocating the most commonly used keys from the extreme right (Enter, Backspace, Delete) to the left hand.

This design ensures you a minimal adjustment period and allows you to enjoy the familiarity of standard keyboards.



## KEY LAYOUTS

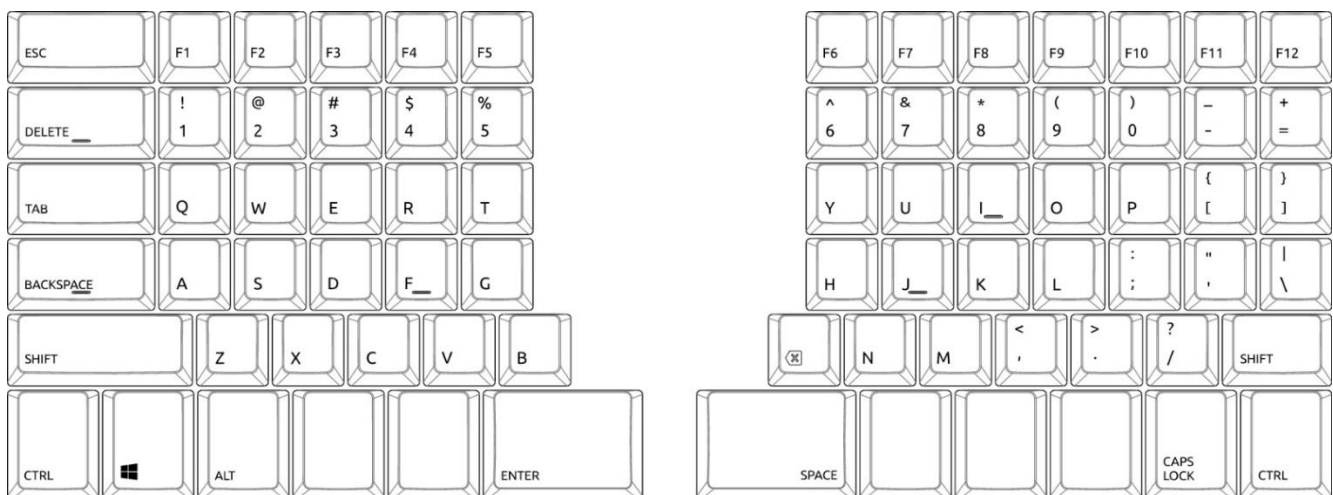
The Freedom employs the familiar physical ANSI QWERTY layout while making minimal changes to common key remappings. ISO keyboards and layouts are also configurable.

The physical locations of the keys have also been designed to retain the standard layout as much as possible. The top three rows have been vertically aligned to the right to ensure a symmetry of finger reach, while the home and bottom row remain unchanged as they already exhibit symmetry of reach. This format ensures a quicker learning curve for users, and a more familiar experience.

The keyboard has integrated the Navigation Keys and Numerical Keypad to provide the full range of keys.

With the improved design, a new proprietary Error key is introduced on Row 5, Column 7. This allows right-handed reach of Backspace and Delete keys. Dedicated Backspace and Delete keys are also found to the left most column. Either hand now has access to the error correction keys.

### THE DEFAULT LAYOUT



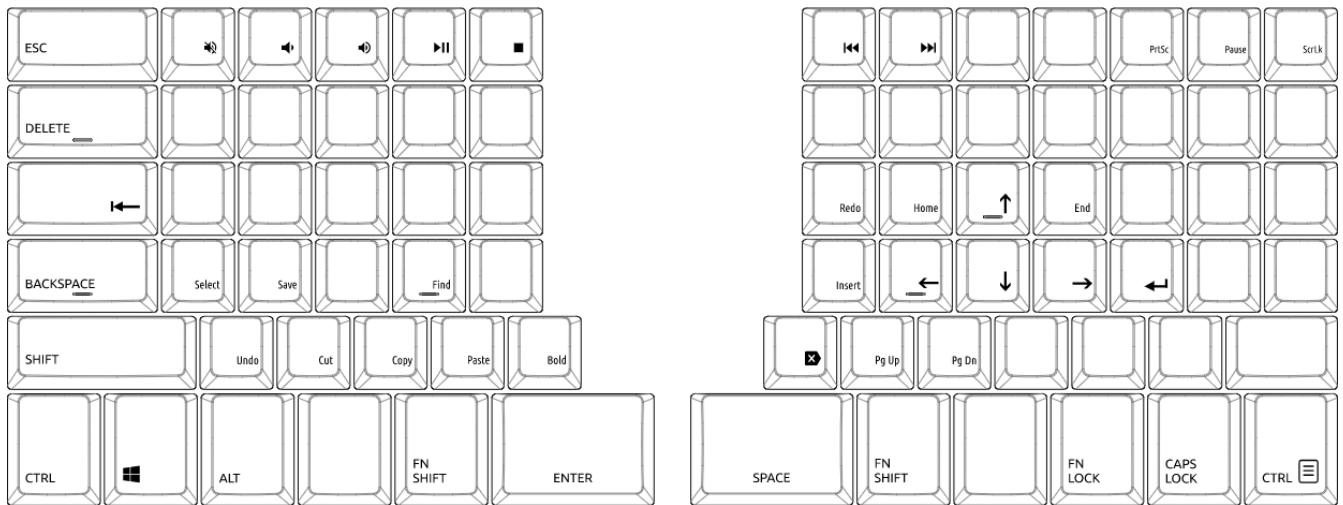
The default layout, indicated by white characters, maintains the standard keyboard layout, with only a minimal number of key mappings.

The most effective remappings include:

1. Backspace relocated to Row 4, Column 1
2. Delete Key relocated to Row 2, Column 1
3. Enter Key relocated to Row 6, Column 6.



## THE FUNCTION LAYOUT

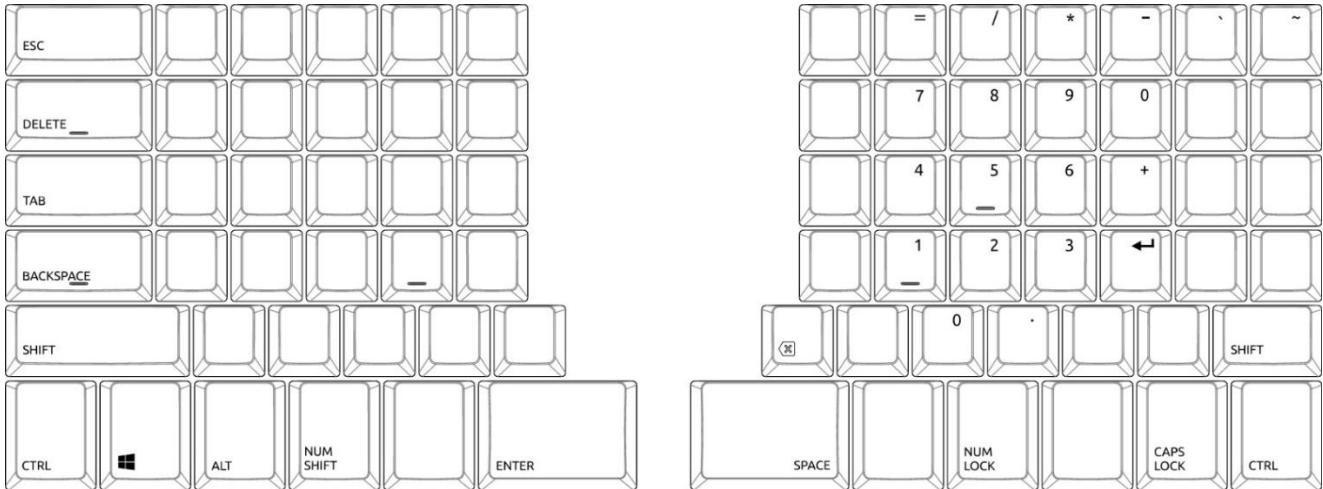


The Function Layout, indicated by blue characters, is activated by either pressing and holding the FN Shift key, or the activation of the FN Lock key. This layout activates:

1. Media Keys
2. Navigation Keys
3. Print Screen, Scroll Lock, Pause, Insert keys
4. Optimized shortcuts

FN Shortcut	Windows Key Combination	MAC OS Key Combination
Reverse Tab	Shift + Tab	Shift + Tab
Select All	CTRL + A	CMD + A
Save	CTRL + S	CMD + S
Find	CTRL + F	CMD + F
Undo	CTRL + Z	CMD + Z
Cut	CTRL + X	CMD + X
Copy	CTRL + C	CMD + C
Paste	CTRL + V	CMD + V
Bold	CTRL + B	CMD + B
Close Window	CTRL + W	CMD + W

THE NUM LAYOUT



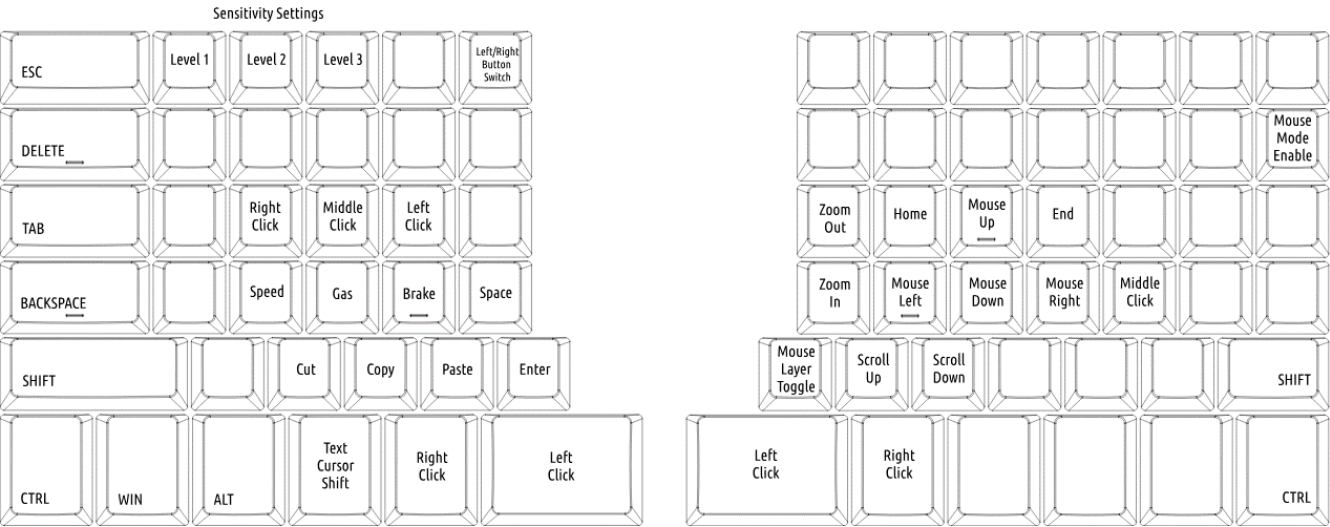
The NUM Layout, indicated by yellow characters, activates a standard Numpad layout. This is integrated on the right half of the keyboard. The layout is activated by either pressing and holding the NUM Shift, or by activating the NUM Lock key.

The Tilde (~) key and Grave accent (`) key are located to the top row and right most columns.

# MOUSE MODE

The Freedom comes with an embedded mouse module. This allows the user to control the cursor on screen with the keyboard itself. The Mouse Mode is disabled by default. This can be enabled by holding and pressing Left Num Shift + Left FN Shift + Key at Row 2, Column 13. Once enabled, you can toggle the mouse layer by pressing the key labelled “MOUSE” found at Row 5, Column 7.

Refer to the Mouse Mode operation reference card and accompanying guides for further detailed guidance.



## WARRANTY AND REFUNDS POLICIES

### WARRANTY POLICY

1. The 2 year warranty period begins from the date of purchase.
2. Expected wear and tear from the normal use of our product is not covered under warranty. This includes normal wear on palm rests, keycaps, or abrasions on our products. Zergotech, at its discretion will assess the validity of the claim.
3. Deliberate misuse, and the use of our products for operation not designed for, is not covered under warranty.
4. Proof of purchase must be provided with the claim.

### REFUND POLICY

1. 60 day money back guarantee begins from the date of purchase.
2. The keyboard must be in a condition that is like new and acceptable for resale. A damaged keyboard, as determined at Zergotech's discretion, will incur a 15% restocking fee. A severely damaged or non-functioning keyboard will not be eligible for refund.
3. Shipping of returned product to Zergotech will be at the purchaser's expense.
4. Shipping of original purchase from Zergotech to customer is non-refundable.
5. Proof of purchase and product serial number must be provided.

### CLAIMS

Please visit our [Contact Us](#) page for details on how to make claims for Warranty and Refunds.

## COMPLIANCE STANDARDS AND STATEMENTS

The Zergotech Freedom has been certified to be in compliance with the following standards:

### Europe (CE):

- 2014/30/EU Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Directive (Europe)
  - EN 55032 Emissions
  - EN 55024 Immunity
  - RoHS Directives EU/2011/65 and EU/2015/863 - restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances (RoHS).

### United States (FCC):

- FCC Part 15B Unintentional Radiators, SDoC Method

### Canada (ISED):

- ICES-003 Unintentional Radiators

### Australia and New Zealand (RCM):

- Radiocommunications (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Standard 2017 – AS/NZS CISPR 32

### FCC Compliance Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

### ICES-003 Class B Notice - Avis NMB-003, Class B

This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

## LEGAL DISCLAIMER

### GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

General Communications refers to: any information located on [www.zergotech.com](http://www.zergotech.com), other product information including instruction manuals, general ergonomic advice, general user feedback, and any communications between our customers and Zergotech via email, phone conversations, or other media.

General Communications contain general ergonomic information and should not be relied upon as medical advice. General Communication is provided without any representations or warranties, express or implied. You must not rely on our General Communications as an alternative to medical advice from your doctor or other professional healthcare provider. If you have specific questions about any medical matter, or are suffering from any medical condition, you should consult your doctor or other healthcare provider.

## OUR PRODUCTS ARE NOT MEDICAL DEVICES

Our products refers to any products for sale on our website, or other avenues of purchase, for example, authorised resellers. Our products are not registered medical devices. The use of our products should be considered therapeutic.

Our products are intended to be used on common desktops which have been configured at optimal ergonomic positions. Consult your doctor or registered ergonomic specialist for advice on what constitutes an optimal ergonomic position for you.

On average, our products are found to prevent, relieve, and improve computer related hand and wrist pain, and improve seated posture. However, given the many varied and complex set of factors that are believed to cause computer related injury that is unique to each person, there is no guarantee or warranty that our products will be effective for any individual at preventing, relieving, or improving any pain, posture, or computer related injury.

## OTHER LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Zergo Tech Pty Ltd is a registered company in Australia, with ACN (628856548). It is governed under New South Wales law.

**Limited Liability** - Under no circumstances will Zergotech Pty Ltd be held responsible for any injury, directly or indirectly, arising out of the use of our products.

Microsoft®, Windows®, and the Windows logo are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

Mac, Mac OS, are registered trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Zergotech Freedom and associated palm sliders are protected under Australian pending patent (2019901121), and International pending patent (PCT/AU2020-050326)

The Zergotech Freedom is design registered under Australian design registration (201911884), with other design registrations pending worldwide.

## TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHT

"Zergo", "Zergotech", "Freedom", and "KeyKortex", are trademarks of Zergotech Pty Ltd.

All materials including graphics and content is copyright of Zergotech Pty Ltd and may not be reproduced without prior permission and credits.

## ABOUT ZERGOTECH

Zergotech is an Australia based technology company. We have been assessing desktop ergonomics since 2014 with a focus on desktop peripherals.

ZERGOTECH PTY LTD

ACN 628856548

Headquarters:

Ryde, Sydney, NSW 2112, Australia

Get in touch: [admin@zergotech.com](mailto:admin@zergotech.com)

