Use Instructions

NOTES: Climbing line rope diameter must be equal to or greater than that of the material used in the manufacture of the 38ST-series split tail.

The type of rope affects how the friction knots will work, so it is important to test rope on rope combinations before using.

Outlined below is a typical use of the Split Tail.

Using a carabiner, connect the suspension dee rings of the tree saddle and the looped end of the split tail (see Fig. 1). The Buckingham Split Tail is manufactured such that it gives the user two methods of attachment to the carabiner. The carabiner may simply be passed through the loop in the rope, or as many users prefer, the rope may be attached to the carabiner by means of a hitch. The hitch tightens the rope to the carabiner and prevents slippage of the rope around the carabiner. Both methods are illustrated below.

Method 1

Method 2 (hitch)

Attach the opposite end to the climbing line by means of a friction hitch as described below.

3 types of friction hitches are typically used to attach the Split Tail to the climbing rope:

1. Tautline Hitch
2. Blake’s Hitch
3. Prusik Knot

To tie the Tautline hitch:

1. Coil the rope twice around the climbing line.
2. Put two more turns in the rope above the first two.
3. Dress and set the hitch as shown so it grips the climbing line without slipping. Finish with a “figure 8” stopper knot.

To tie the Blake’s hitch:

1. Make 3 ½ upward turns around the climbing line.
2. Pass the end in front of the Split Tail, around the climbing line, and back up through the lower two loops.
3. Set and dress the hitch. Finish with a “figure 8” stopper knot.
To tie the Prusik knot:

1. Make two downward turns around the climbing line.
2. Pass the end in front of the Split Tail and make two more turns around the climbing line in the opposite direction.
3. Dress and set the hitch. Finish with a “figure 8” stopper knot.

Figure 8 stopper knot:

1. Make a loop in the end of the rope, bring the end upward and around itself and back down through the loop.
2. Pull in opposite directions to tighten.

Warnings

- This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only. Do not use without proper training.
- KNOW and FOLLOW ANSI Z133 -17 for Tree Care Operations.
- Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance can not be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- Be certain this equipment is suitable for the intended use and work environment. If suitability for intended use is in doubt, consult a safety engineer or contact Buckingham Mfg. before using.
- This product is to be used for positioning and suspension only, NOT FOR FALL ARREST. Therefore, it may be necessary to supplement arrangements for work positioning / suspension with collective means (i.e. safety nets) or personal means of protection against falls from a height (i.e. fall arrest system).
- As outlined by OSHA 1926.502 (e)(2) positioning devices shall be secured to an anchorage capable of supporting at least twice the potential impact load of an employee’s fall or 3,000 lbf. (13.3 kN), whichever is greater versus fall arrest anchor points which must support a minimum of 5,000 lbf. (22.2 kN) per attached worker and be Independent of worker support.
- OSHA requires that impact force in a fall NOT exceed an 1800 lb. limit with a harness. Keep connecting device slack to a minimum or use a deceleration unit to stay under these limits.
- Connecting devices must be destroyed if subjected to impact loading.
- Always attach snaphook / carabiner to proper anchor point for the intended use with the proper D-ring of belt or harness.
- Avoid contact of this equipment with high temperature surfaces, welding or other heat sources.
- Use PPE equipment only for the specific purpose for which it is designed and intended.
- Only Buckingham Mfg. Co. or those people authorized in writing by Buckingham Mfg. Co. may make repairs / modifications to this equipment.
- Always visually check that snaphook / carabiner freely engages D-ring or anchor point and keeper / gate is completely closed with each use. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a connector engaging.
- Use only with belt or harness meeting standards for intended use.
- Before each use check that your equipment is free of burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands and excessive wear. Remove from service, destroy and discard equipment if it does not pass this inspection and replace immediately.
- For personal use only. NOT for towing or hoisting.
- Never work without independent fall-arrest protection if there is danger of a fall.
- Employer - instruct employee as to proper use and warnings before use of equipment.
- Completely read, understand, and follow all instructions, warnings, and guidelines pertaining to this and all associated equipment before use. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death.
- Product covered under these instructions / warnings should not be resold / redistributed or re-used after use by original user.
- Manufactured to comply with the ANSI Z133 -17 standard.

NOTE: Ensure proper fit / size of product before use. This product can not be returned unless it is in new / unused condition.