

BUCKINGHAM MFG.

PN 590 Series TreEZSqueeze™ for Trees Instructions / Warnings

TreEZSqueeze™ PN 590 series shown in Fig. 1a and 1b. Other models may have varying lengths, colors, options & hardware from figures shown.

PN 590 series includes:

- A- Outer strap with loop handle
- B- WebGrab / LAD
- C- BuckHorn (attached to WebGrab)
- D- Serrated Rotosnap
- E- Cleat (permanently attached)
- F- Aluminum carabiner (upper)
- G- Aluminum carabiner (lower)
- H- Integrated climbing line (inner rope)
- I- Friction hitch cord
- J- Hitch climber pulley
- K- Aluminum D-ring

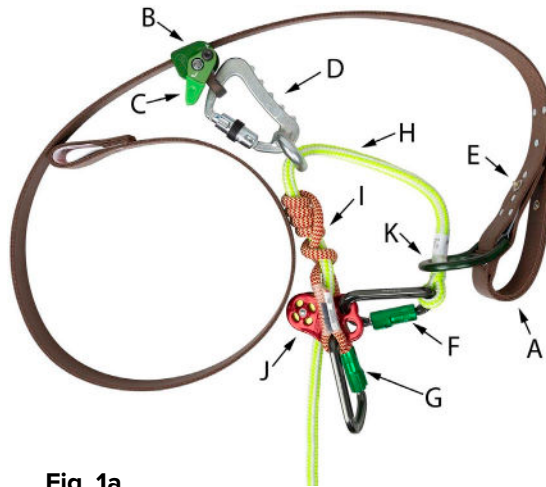


Fig. 1a

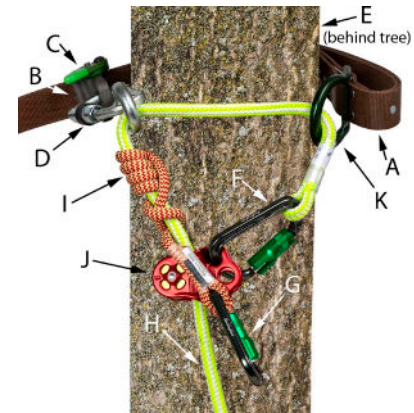


Fig. 1b

Warning: Do not use this product if you cannot understand and follow the instructions and warnings that come with it and complete all necessary functions.

The TreEZSqueeze™ is intended for Fall Restriction and Work Positioning applications allowing for accents and descents of trees. When properly adjusted and used, the TreEZSqueeze™ acts as a choking device which restricts your fall in the event of a cut- out. The TreEZSqueeze™ is manufactured with Integrated climbing line (inner rope cinching component) friction hitch and associated hardware and is intended to be used as a Hitch climbing System. The TreEZSqueeze™ has been tested to the requirements of ASTM F887 as a type A device.

PRIOR TO USE:

- This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only.
- Acquire relevant training and competence for the hitch climbing system prior to first use.
- The TreEZSqueeze™ is designed to be used only with a compatibly rated arborist saddle equipped with approved suspension attachment points.
- Know the job and the regulations governing requirements and select proper equipment.
- Manufacturer's instructions shall be provided to users with this product. Read and understand all instructions and warnings provided by Buckingham included with the product as well as all associated equipment before use.
- The TreEZSqueeze™ must be properly adjusted and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to function as designed and intended. Proper adjustment of this device according to Buckingham's warnings and instructions is the user's responsibility. Death or serious injury may result to the user in the event that the device is used while out of adjustment.
- Work at height is a high-risk activity. It is your responsibility to manage those risks. Failure to manage risks may result in serious injury or death.
- Understand the scope of application of each component and any limitations.
- Accept that there can be no claim for damages, injury or death resulting from misuse of equipment.
- Visually inspect this, and all related equipment, before each use. See inspection below inspection should include but not be limited to the following:

Rope Inspection:

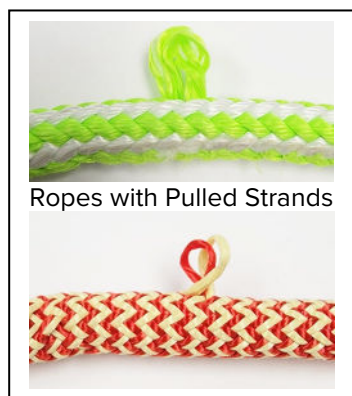
- Inspecting your rope should be a continuous process of observation before, during, and after each use.
- Inspect rope fibers for signs of excessive wear, burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, hockling, ice buildup, broken strands in any given area of the rope.
Both outer and inner fibers contribute to the strength of the rope. If either is worn, the rope will naturally be weakened. Open the rope strands and look for powdered fiber, which is one sign of internal rope wear.
- Do not use rope that shows signs of excessive wear such as but not limited to those shown in Fig. 2a through 2d.
- Inspect the rope for frayed strands and broken yarns. Check for pulled strands. A pulled strand should be re-threaded into the rope if possible, otherwise it may snag on a foreign object during use.
- Inconsistent texture or stiff areas can indicate excessive dirt or grit embedded in the rope or shock load damage.

- Inconsistent diameter (flat areas, bumps, or lumps). This condition indicates core or internal damage from overloading or shock loading.
- With use, all ropes become dirty. Inspect for areas of discoloration that could have been caused by chemical contamination and may result in the rope becoming brittle or stiff.
- Glossy or glazed areas that generally indicate signs of heat damage.
- Inspect the thread of the stitched eye for discoloration that could have been caused by chemical contamination and may result in the thread becoming brittle.
- Rope, or rope stitching and all ends are free of defects. Stitched eyes have no loose, cut, or missing stitching and have a protective cover (shrink tube) over the stitching, and the cover must not be damaged, missing or torn.
- If ice or snow build-up is noted, do not use this product until build-up is removed by thawing. Ensure the inner rope / climbing line and coils of the prusik are clean and free of packed snow or ice or of any debris. **NOTE: Prior to and while in use, particularly in extreme weather conditions (i.e. blizzards, high winds, etc.)** – guard against debris (pebbles, twigs, packed snow, ice, mud, etc.) becoming lodged in any of the component assemblies as well as any buildup on the ropes, as debris / build up could block or restrict proper function. If noted, ensure unit is clear. Test for slippage by connecting and properly adjusting the TreEZSqueeze™ to the tree and your arborist saddle. While grasping the tree, gradually shift your weight onto the TreEZSqueeze™. The TreEZSqueeze™ should cinch tightly around the tree verifying its adequacy for ascent or descent.

NOTE: Friction Hitch cord is a consumable wear part. Expect to see signs of wear. Expect to replace friction hitch cord regularly. Regular monitoring is essential e.g., pre-use checks, weekly inspections, thorough examinations and after exceptional circumstances. Concentration of high temperatures, in association with abrasion, is likely to damage the Polyester fibers (red) before the Aramid fibers (straw). Inspect all fibers for damage. Look especially at the section of cord used to make the top coils of the friction hitch. Hitch function becomes less tactile as the Polyester fibers are removed, resulting in a friction hitch that feels different i.e., it brakes and releases more abruptly. This is an advanced indicator of wear, safety margins are still high. Replace friction hitch cord at this point i.e., when function changes not when safety margins are low. Reckless climbing, characterized by rapid descents, will reduce product lifespan dramatically.

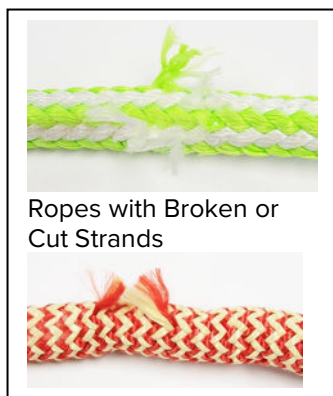
Replacement friction hitches are supplied separately and include detailed replacement instructions to be used when replacing the friction hitches. Use only compatible replacement friction hitches (manufactured from approved friction hitch cord) supplied by Buckingham Mfg. Use friction hitch PN P9J8Y-10-32S1 only.

See photos below for examples of a variety of conditions indicated above:



Ropes with Pulled Strands

Fig. 2b



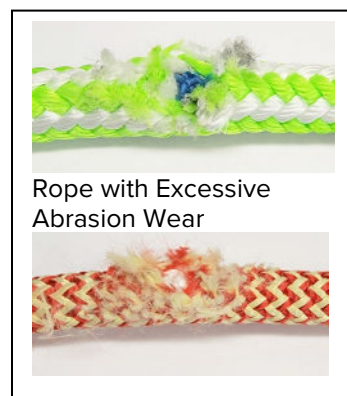
Ropes with Broken or Cut Strands

Fig. 2c



Melted / Glossy or Glazed Strands

Fig. 2d



Rope with Excessive Abrasion Wear

Hardware Inspection:

- All hardware and connecting devices are clean and functioning properly, free of cracks, deformation, burrs, excessive wear, corrosion, modifications or additions. Snaphook and Carabiner gate freely opens and closes without binding.
Note: the gate of the Serrated Rotosnap is manufactured with a spring retention slot. Ensure this slot is free from debris as this may cause the gate to bind. Ensure the rubber grip attached to the gate of the Serrated Rotosnap is centered in the knurled section of the gate as shown (Fig. 3).
- Pully rotates freely and bolts and locking nuts are in place and securely tightened.

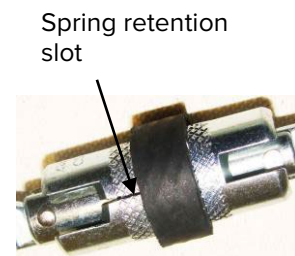


Fig. 3

- The cam of the WebGrab rotates freely, bolts and locking nuts are in place and securely tightened and WebGrab locks on the strap when properly adjusted on the tree and the user's weight is on the unit.
- The cam eye shows no signs of excessive wear. Slight wear from contact with the Serrated Rotosnap is acceptable. Unacceptable wear to the cam is defined as wear resulting in measured dimensions of less than 11/32" eye width (across the eye (Fig. 4)) or less than 5/32" eye thickness at the top of eye (Fig. 4) as defined by Buckingham's PN 6307 WebGrab Cam Eye Gauge (sold separately).



Outer Strap Inspection:

- Outer strap is free from defects including kinks, knots, cuts, cracks, burns, abrasions, broken strands or stitching, excessive wear, chemical exposure, and ice / mud / snow, etc., buildup. If buildup on straps or component assemblies is noted, remove buildup by thawing. Another method of removal from the strap is to run the WebGrab along the length of the outer strap, Ensure component assemblies are clean and free of any debris. **NOTE: Prior to and while in use, particularly in extreme weather conditions (i.e. blizzards, high winds, etc.)** – guard against debris (pebbles, twigs, packed snow, ice, mud, etc.) becoming lodged in any of the component assemblies as well as any buildup on the straps, as debris / build up could block or restrict proper function. If noted, ensure unit is clear. Test for slippage by connecting and properly adjusting the TreEZSqueeze™ to the tree and your arborist saddle. While grasping the tree, gradually shift your weight onto the TreEZSqueeze™. The TreEZSqueeze™ should cinch tightly around the tree verifying its adequacy for ascent or descent.
- Outer Straps are not worn to the point of showing the warning center (Fig. 5a & 5b).
- The Cleat on the Outer Strap is in place. Do Not Use if this cleat is missing as unit will not function as designed.
- Rivets are not loose or missing.



Fig. 5a



Fig. 5b

Use Instructions:

1. How to Mount the TreEZSqueeze™ to a Tree:

- Disconnect the Serrated Rotosnap from the eye of the WebGrab cam and wrap the Outer strap around the back of the tree, slide the WebGrab from behind or the side of the tree towards your body until it can be clearly seen and to ensure proper attachment of Serrated Rotosnap to the eye of the WebGrab cam.
- Connect the Serrated Rotosnap to the eye of the WebGrab. With each connection, visually check that the Serrated Rotosnap engages the WebGrab cam eye and that the keeper / gate is completely closed and facing outward (Fig. 6). Never rely solely on the feel or sound of the Serrated Rotosnap engaging.
- The Serrated Rotosnap and Cleat of the TreEZSqueeze™ are two pieces of hardware designed to help grip the tree.
- To adjust the Outer Strap to the proper circumference, slide the WebGrab along the Outer Strap until the hardware (Serrated Rotosnap and Cleat) are properly located on the tree as shown in Fig.7.
- Proper adjustment of the hardware is achieved with one hand holding the Serrated Rotosnap and the other hand holding the Loop handle with your hands approximately shoulder width apart, which will place the hardware at approximately the 3:00 and 9:00 o'clock positions on the tree (Fig. 7).
- It is imperative that the hardware be properly adjusted around the tree. Failure to do so could result in improper gripping capabilities and a fall.



Fig. 6

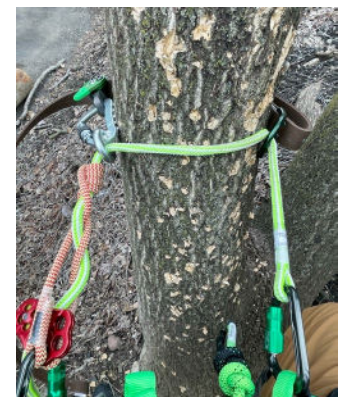


Fig. 7

Note: The **TreEZSqueeze™** can be mounted onto a tree for either a right handed or left handed user. Note: Depending on its-position, the **TreEZSqueeze™** WebGrab BuckHorn may require relocation to suit.

Instructions for Changing the Location of or Installing the WebGrab BuckHorn.

Notes:

The TreEZSqueeze™ series is supplied with a WebGrab BuckHorn installed and facing up when the **TreEZSqueeze™** is installed on the tree with the WebGrab on your left side as you face the tree. Follow steps (a-h) below to install the WebGrab BuckHorn on the opposite side (top) of the WebGrab when the **TreEZSqueeze™** is installed on the tree with the WebGrab on your right side as you face the tree.

The WebGrab body has threaded retro-fit holes on each side for future retro-fit WebGrab BuckHorn attachment. Follow steps e-h below to attach a WebGrab BuckHorn to either side of the WebGrab body.

- Disconnect the Serrated Rotosnap from the WebGrab cam eye on the outer strap (Fig 8).
- Using a 3/16" hex wrench, remove the 5/16" button head cap screw that secures the WebGrab BuckHorn to the WebGrab body (Fig 8a-8b). Discard the removed button cap screw.
- Remove the WebGrab BuckHorn (Fig. 9).
- Flip entire Outer Strap assembly over so WebGrab is positioned on your right side (Fig 10).
- Position the WebGrab BuckHorn onto the WebGrab body as shown (Fig. 11). Note: The center hole in the WebGrab BuckHorn is designed to slip over the WebGrab cam bolt and nut when installed in the WebGrab (Do Not Remove the Cam Bolt or Nut).
- Install the new included 5/16" button head cap screw with thread sealant patch through the WebGrab BuckHorn and into the WebGrab body (Fig 12).
- Using a 3/16" hex wrench tighten the 5/16" button head cap screw securing the BuckHorn to the WebGrab (Fig 13) (Do Not Over Tighten).
- Re-connect the Serrated Rotosnap to the WebGrab cam eye (Fig. 14). The TreEZSqueeze™ is now ready for use with the WebGrab on the right side of the tree as you face it.



2. How attach the TreEZSqueeze™ to your arborist saddle:

- ◆ The TreEZSqueeze™ may be connected to your arborist Saddle using either a single carabiner method or a dual carabiner method as outlined below. The TreEZSqueeze™ is supplied from the manufacture with the inner rope / climbing line attached to the outer strap with both connection carabiners attached to the hitch climber pully as would be used in the single carabiner method (Fig 15).

- Single carabiner attachment: To attach to the center of a suspension bridge or to a floating suspension ring (Fig. 16).
- - Open the gate of the lower carabiner (attached through friction hitch eyes and pully) and connect the carabiner to the center of the bridge or through the center of the ring. Visually check to ensure that the carabiner freely engages the connection point and the gate is completely closed. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a carabiner engaging.



Fig. 15

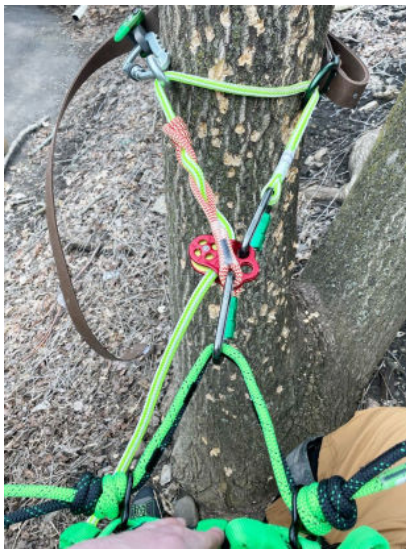


Fig. 16



Fig. 17

- Dual carabiner attachment: To attach to the suspension rigging plates or suspension D-rings of your saddle (Fig. 17).
 - Open the gate of the lower carabiner (attached through friction hitch eyes and pulley) and connect the carabiner to one of the attachment holes in one of the suspension pawls on one side of your saddle.
 - Disconnect the other carabiner that is attached through the eye of the inner rope / climbing line and pulley.
 - connect that carabiner to one of the corresponding attachment holes in the suspension pawl on the opposite side of your saddle.
 - Visually check to ensure that both carabiners freely engaged the connection points and the gates are completely closed. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a carabiner engaging.

- Adjust the friction hitch / inner rope to change your position on the tree:
 - To shorten the device, lean slightly into the tree to relax tension on the friction hitch. Grasp the free end of the climbing line with one hand and the coils of the friction hitch with the other hand. Slowly slide the friction hitch towards the tree (Fig. 18). When properly positioned release your grasp on the coils and lean back slowly to put tension back on the friction hitch.
 - To lengthen the device, slightly lean into the tree, to relax tension on the friction hitch. Grasp the coils of the friction hitch with one hand and slowly slide it back towards your body (Fig. 18). When properly positioned release your grasp on the coils and lean back slowly to put tension back on the friction hitch.

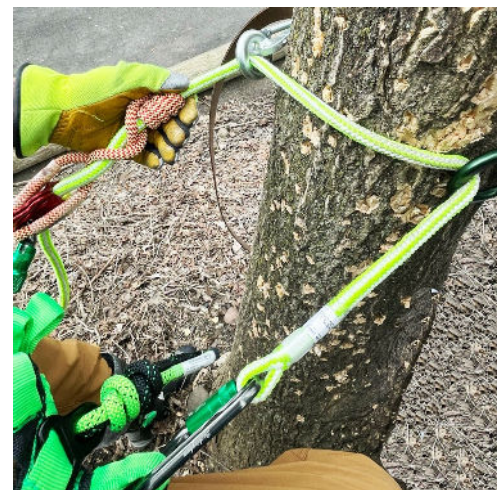


Fig. 18

- It is imperative that the hardware be properly adjusted around the tree. Failure to do so could result in improper gripping capabilities and a fall (Fig. 19).



Fig. 19

Prior To Ascent:

1. Ensure the TreEZSqueeze™ outer strap is properly adjusted, and the inner rope / climbing line securely tightened around the stem of the tree (Fig. 19 & 20).
2. Perform a function test as follows:
 - Ensure the friction hitch is properly dressed and set, and that the grab function of the friction hitch is functioning as intended.
 - Check that the friction hitch grabs reliably after advancing it a number of times and that a controlled ascent is possible.
 - Check that the friction hitch can be gently released under load and that a controlled descent is possible.
 - Check that a small impact load is effectively braked. If the friction hitch fails to grab reliably, it may be necessary to 'condition' a new hitch by loading it a few times with a normal working load. A slight increase of the contact surface area of the friction hitch against the climbing line may significantly improve the grab function. This can be achieved by rotating the first crossover as shown (Fig. 21).
3. Ensure you have adequate length of climbing line in the system to descend safely back to the ground. Note: The length of climbing line needed will equal 2 times the height of your ascent. Therefore, if climbing to an undetermined height, an additional length of rope must be left on the ground as a safety factor to ensure you can reach the ground upon your descent.
4. Install a figure 8 stopper knot at the end of the climbing line to prevent it from pulling through the system in the event of a miscalculation of your ascent height.

Fig. 20



To Ascend:

1. Ensure the TreEZSqueeze™ system and outer strap are tightened securely and properly adjusted around the stem of the tree. (Fig. 19 & 20).
2. Ensure the friction hitch is properly dressed and set.
3. Grasp the Outer Strap Loop with one hand and the Serrated Rotosnap in the other (Fig. 22).
4. Spread the hardware outward slightly (1" max) away from the Tree and lift the TreEZSqueeze™ to chest height. (NOTE: the TreEZSqueeze™ must remain snug to the Tree).



Fig. 22

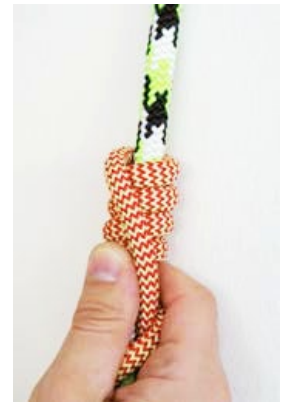


Fig. 21

5. To initiate the ascent, set the 1st climber gaff approximately 10" up the tree and the 2nd climber gaff approximately 10" above the first. With the gaffs set, flip the TreEZSqueeze™ up to chest height (Fig.23) using either forearm and elbow motion or shoulder and arm motion.

Fig. 23



6. Check the adjustment of the TreEZSqueeze™ around the tree when at chest height and take a short step or two with climbers to ascend, be cautious of the free end of the climbing line.
7. Then with the gaffs set, again flip the TreEZSqueeze™ up to chest height (Fig.24). Repeating the described procedure until at the desired height.
8. Keep the TreEZSqueeze™ between your waist and chest as you hitchhike (Fig. 24). never let the TreEZSqueeze™ fall below your waist.
9. Never allow the D-ring and the Serrated Rotosnap to come into contact with each other. Do not allow for excess slack in the climbing line: Excessive slack could allow components of system to become loosened and potentially come out of adjustment, which could affect the operation of the system.

NOTE: The inner rope must always be snug around the tree when climbing. Also, shortening the inner rope and by flipping the TreEZSqueeze™ shorter distances makes climbing less strenuous. Flipping the outer strap approximately the same distance that you can bend your elbows may aid in reducing stress on your body.



Fig. 24

Adjusting the TreEZSqueeze™ to the Circumference of the Tree

- Tree circumference changes encountered as you ascend or descend the tree requires an Outer Strap length adjustment to keep the system in proper adjustment.
- To shorten, grasp the brown Outer Strap behind the WebGrab and pull towards the back of the tree (away from your body). This will cause the WebGrab to adjust towards the tree shortening the Outer Strap (Fig. 25).



Fig. 25



Fig. 26

- To lengthen, use the palm of your hand to tap the WebGrab BuckHorn away from you and towards the back of the tree (Fig. 26). This will lengthen the Outer strap approx. a ½” with each tap. Continue until you have adjusted it to your desired length. Note: You do not have to take tension off of the TreEZSqueeze™ to make this adjustment.

To Descend:

1. Ensure the TreEZSqueeze™ system and outer strap are tightened securely and properly adjusted around the stem of the tree (Fig. 19 & 20).
2. Need to make sure friction hitch is properly dressed and set.
3. To descend, adjust the friction hitch to allow rope to pass through it. Ensure that the descent is slow and controlled.
4. Release the friction hitch gradually by gently dragging the top of the friction hitch downward with the tip of your thumb and fore finger of one hand (Fig 27). By doing so, contact is maintained between the upper coils of the friction hitch and the climbing line, so that when released, the friction hitch grabs reliably and arrests your descent.
5. Grasp the free end of the climbing line below the friction hitch with your gloved second hand when descending (tailing), this acts as a panic brake, which will slow or stop descent (Fig 27).

Fig. 27



Fig. 28



6. Do not compress the friction hitch too far.
7. Ensure you keep your weight in the system until you have safely reached the ground to prevent slack in the climbing line.
8. Never allow excess slack in the climbing line. Excessive slack could allow the components of the system to become loosened and potentially come out of adjustment, which could affect the operation of the system.

Descending the tree will leave the Outer Strap of the TreEZSqueeze™ attached in the tree, use the climbing line and a Buckingham Friction Saver Retrieval Key to retrieve the Outer Strap as you would a standard friction saver.

Friction Hitch Replacement

The photos below illustrate the method of tying the Friction hitch (Valdotain Tresse) to the inner rope / climbing line of the TreEZSqueeze™.

1. Coil the eye to eye friction hitch cord four times around the inner rope / climbing line as shown (Fig. 29 & 30).
2. Start to braid the friction hitch cord, with the leg originating from the top of the hitch on the outside of the first and third crossovers and underneath on the second and fourth crossovers. The legs of the cord should be approximately equal. The first crossover is the crossing of upper leg and bottom coil (Fig. 31).
3. Continue braiding until four crossovers have been made. (Fig. 32). Install the pulley on the climbing line and place the friction hitch stitched eyes to each side of the bottom holes of the pulley. Ensure the pulley holes are correctly aligned with stitched eyes and pass a carabiner through the stitched eyes and the bottom holes of the pulley. (Referred to as lower carabiner).
4. Install the second carabiner in the middle or top hole of the pulley, with the opening upward. Connect the stitched eye of the inner rope / climbing line with the upper carabiner (Fig. 33).



Fig. 29

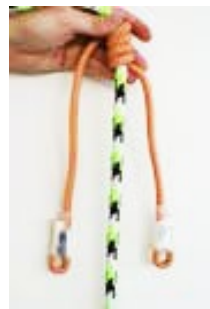


Fig. 30

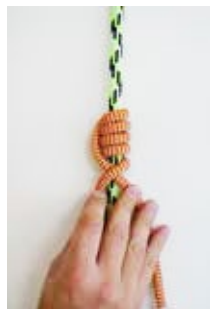


Fig. 31



Fig. 32



Fig. 33

Once the friction hitch is properly replaced attach the TreEZSqueeze™ to your saddle and perform a function test before working at height as follows.

- Check on the ground that the grab function of the friction hitch is functioning as intended.
- Check that the friction hitch grabs reliably after advancing it a number of times and that a controlled ascent is possible.
- Check that the friction hitch can be gently released under load and that a controlled descent is possible.
- Check that a small impact load is effectively braked. If the friction hitch fails to grab reliably, it may be necessary to 'condition' a new hitch by loading it a few times with a normal working load. A slight increase of the contact surface area of the friction hitch against the climbing line may significantly improve the grab function. This can be achieved by rotating the first crossover as shown (Fig. 34)

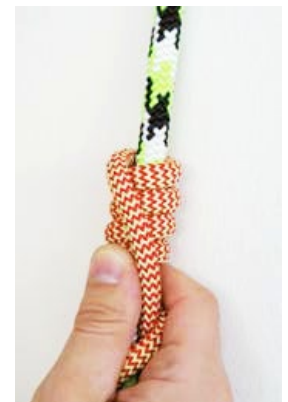


Fig. 34

Warnings:

- Know the job and the regulations governing performance requirements and select the proper equipment.
- This equipment is designed for use as part of a Fall Restriction and Work Positioning system. Work Positioning may only be adopted when a thorough Risk Assessment has demonstrated that the work can be performed safely and the use of other, potentially safer work equipment is not reasonably practicable.
- Before each use check that your equipment is free of burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands, Cracks, deformation and excessive wear. Remove from service, destroy and discard equipment if it does not pass this inspection and replace immediately.
- All affixed labels should be left in place and all instructional material kept for future reference.

- This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only.
- This product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- Use PPE equipment only for the specific purpose for which it is designed and intended.
- For personal use only. NOT for towing or hoisting.
- Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, climbers, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance cannot be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- This product is to be used for Positioning and Fall Restriction only, **NOT FOR FALL ARREST**. Therefore, it may be necessary to supplement arrangements for Work Positioning / Fall Restriction with collective means (i.e. safety nets) or personal means of protection against falls from a height (i.e. fall arrest system).
- Use only with saddle or harness meeting standards for intended use.
- 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.
- The user must be securely attached to at least one anchor point at all times.
- Each anchor point, and the means of attachment to it, shall be of suitable and sufficient strength and stability for the purposes of supporting any foreseeable loading including those in an emergency.
- The system must be installed and used in such a way as to prevent unplanned or uncontrolled movement of the user.
- The potential for a fall shall be minimized at all times.
- A Work Positioning system must only be used if: a. The system includes a suitable backup system for preventing or arresting a fall (and the user is connected to it). A second structural anchor point is required especially during cutting operations; or b. Where it is not reasonably practicable to comply with a), all practicable measures are taken to ensure that the work positioning system does not fail.
- Where potential for a fall is anticipated, Fall Arrest systems must be adopted.
- Always work directly under fall arrest anchor point to avoid swing fall injuries (pendulum effect).
- Unsure that the climbing line is long enough for a safe egress and that there is a stopper of sufficient size and strength in the end of the rope to stop the friction hitch running off the end of the rope.
- Ensure that objects (such as leaves or twigs) are not trapped by the friction hitch. Friction levels may be lowered, the grab function may fail, resulting in descent.
- Also ensure at all times that objects (including karabiners, rope crossings, branches etc.) do not contact the top of the friction hitch and affect or eliminate the reliable grab function.
- In adverse environments, the function of Hitch Climber Systems may be affected. Use caution to ensure that the friction hitch grabs reliably and that snaphook / carabiner gates close and lock. Ice, mud, rain, cold, snow and tree exudates are examples of localized or climatic conditions that may demand greater attention from the user. Beware, tree exudates may create conditions similar to those made by lubricants or adhesives. Contamination of ropes with tree exudates may lead to rope hardening and reduce friction hitch grab reliability. Maintain ropes so that their function is reliable. Ideally, ropes should always be dry, clean and equally flexible along their entire length.
- Safe use of the device during a descent requires use of both hands at all times. One hand releasing the auto-stop lever of the descender and the other hand braking the descent by holding the free end of the descent line to provide additional braking (tailing).
- Safe use of the TreEZSqueeze™ during a descent requires use of both hands at all times. One hand gently dragging the top of the friction hitch downward and the other hand braking the descent by holding the free end of the descent line to provide additional braking (tailing).
- Be aware that a friction hitch does not have a 'panic safety feature'. Practice involving many repetitions is required to ensure the necessary conditioning for an appropriate reaction in a stressful situation. Gripping tightly and pulling down on the top of the friction hitch in a stress reaction may lead to a fast descent.
- Do not compress the coils of the friction hitch too far. When fully compressed, the Valdotaín Tresse retains little contact with the climbing line. Beware, in this case, a very rapid descent is possible, grab function may become less reliable.
- Avoid contact of this equipment with sharp edged or pointed tools, hand saws, chainsaws, hand tools, abrasive surfaces, high temperature surfaces, welding or other heat sources electrical hazards, chemicals, moving machinery etc. Sharp and abrasive surfaces may include but not be limited to (sheet metal, steel, concrete, block, stone, laminated materials etc.)
- Be aware of this devices position / placement at all times in relation to the operations being performed. Use extreme caution when performing operations such as cutting, drilling, sawing, etc. Always perform this type of work well above this device to avoid the potential of tool contact, causing damage which may result in a fall, serious injury or death).
- Never let the TreEZSqueeze™ fall below waist level while ascending, descending, or working.
- Never allow the D-ring and the Serrated Rotosnap to come into contact with each other.
- Ensure a rescue plan and resources are in place before climbing.
- The tree to be climbed must have a minimum diameter of 5 inches (127 millimeters) or a minimum circumference of 15.75 inches (400 millimeters). This measurement must be taken when the TreEZSqueeze™ is above the user's waist.

- Do not use this system near energized power lines.
- Do not use this system if ice or snow buildup is noted on outer strap, climbing line / inner rope or prusik. Ensure the entire system is clean and free of packed snow or ice before use.
- Ensure the Cleat on the Outer Strap is in place. Do Not Use if this cleat is missing as unit will not function as designed.
- Only Buckingham Mfg. Co., or those authorized in writing by Buckingham Mfg. Co., may make repairs / modifications to this equipment.
- Remove from service and destroy if subjected to impact loading. Even though no visible signs may be present, internal damage may have occurred thus reducing its strength and margin of safety.
- Never wrap device around a sharp member as the material could be cut or damaged.
- Employer - instruct employee as to proper use and warnings before use of equipment.
- Always visually check that snap hook / carabiner connecting device freely engages the TreEZSqueeze™ and / or anchor point connections and keeper / gate is completely closed with each use. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a snap hook / carabiner connecting device engaging.
- Make sure each snap hook / carabiner connecting device is positioned so that its keeper / gate is never load bearing.
- When in the work position, ensure there is no pressure on the snap hook locking mechanism sufficient to depress it as this will, due to its length, render it incompatible with currently designed D-rings and make it very susceptible to rollout.
- Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, climbers, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance cannot be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- 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. Should questions arise concerning the proper use or condition of your equipment, contact Buckingham Manufacturing Co. at 1-800-937-2825.
- Keep these and all associated instructions for future reference.
- If any evidence of wear or deterioration as outlined above is observed, immediately cease use, destroy the product, and replace it with new equipment. Should any unusual conditions not outlined above be observed, or you have reasonable doubt about a particular condition, remove the equipment from service and notify your Supervisor, Safety Director, or contact Buckingham Mfg. Co. for clarification. Failure to carefully and completely inspect your equipment could result in serious injury or death.

Cleaning Instructions:

This equipment should be cleaned and maintained at regular intervals depending on usage. A dirty product should be washed and then rinsed in clean water. Clean with water and a mild soap (a dish washing soap that removes grease (such as Dawn) and allow to dry thoroughly without using excessive heat.

Storage Instructions:

Proper maintenance and storage of your equipment will prolong its useful life and contribute toward its performance. This product should be stored in a clean and dry environment out of direct sunlight and away from extreme climate conditions. Ropes should be stored on racks or hooks to provide ventilation and should never be stored on concrete or dirt surfaces. Do not store near solvents or corrosive chemicals or at extreme temperatures.

Lubrication:

Lubricate lock mechanisms, keepers and gates of Carabiners / Snaphooks at least weekly or as often as required to maintain smooth operation (no binding). Lubricate springs on WebGrab as often as required to maintain smooth operation. Use a lightweight lubricant such as BuckLube™, WD-40®, etc.

NOTES:

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

STATEMENT of OBSOLESCENCE:

Precise “useful life expectancy” or “shelf life” for this product is not specified, as the degree of use, conditions of use, and the degree of care and storage determines useful life. All users maintain responsibility to select proper equipment for the job, be properly trained in its use, and ensure all personnel support equipment passes inspection before each use. Upon evidence of defects, damage or deterioration, all equipment shall be removed from service immediately and tagged or marked as unusable or destroyed. Additionally, all equipment shall be inspected on a regular basis not to exceed one year by a Competent Person, as defined by OSHA/ANSI, to verify that the equipment is safe for use. In the event of any question or concern regarding the condition of such equipment, users shall remove the equipment from service for further inspection. All users must comply with OSHA/ANSI/ASTM standards prior to and in using such equipment. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

INTERNATIONAL USERS:

Notwithstanding the above, please know that certain international jurisdictions require manufacturers of equipment to provide customers with a maximum useful lifespan (sometimes referred to as a “Statement of Obsolescence”). To the extent required, Buckingham personal protective equipment manufactured from synthetic fiber materials including but not limited to items such as webbing and/or rope are subject to a maximum useful lifespan of ten (10) years from the date of manufacture. As stated above proper usage, storage, maintenance, and care impacts the useful lifespan of equipment. Extreme circumstances may require that product must be retired after only one use. This statement is made in conformance and compliance with BS EN 365:2004. International users must ensure that product inspections are completed by Competent Persons as defined by international standards including but not limited to British Standard (“BS”). If equipment fails any inspections, it must be immediately withdrawn from service and destroyed. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

OUR GUARANTEE:

We guarantee the equipment we manufacture to be free from defects in material and workmanship. We will repair any equipment deemed to be defective which is returned to us by the original purchaser. However, this guarantee is void if any product is changed or altered in any way, or if the product is used in a manner other than for which it is intended. This express guarantee supersedes all other expressed or implied guarantees, obligations or liabilities. THERE ARE NO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND AS SUCH, ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMED.

LIMITATION ON LIABILITY:

IN NO EVENT WILL BUCKINGHAM OR BUYER BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR LOST REVENUES, LOST PROFITS OR ANY OTHER INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL OR PUNITIVE LOSSES OR DAMAGES, HOWEVER CAUSED, WHETHER IN ACTION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, TORT, OR OTHERWISE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH LOSSES OR DAMAGES. IN NO EVENT WILL BUCKINGHAM'S LIABILITY EXCEED THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAID BY BUYER TO BUCKINGHAM FOR THE PRODUCT OR EQUIPMENT GIVING RISE TO SUCH CLAIM(S).

PLEASE SEE OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO THIS PRODUCT AT <https://buckinghammfg.com/terms-conditions/>

REGISTRATION:

Before use of the product, ensure to register and confirm the product at www.buckinghammfg.com/register.

Patented, for more information, visit BuckinghamMFG.com/Patents.

BUCKINGHAM MFG.
BINGHAMTON, NY
1-800-937-2825
www.buckinghammfg.com

Information contained in these written instructions supersedes all other information (written, audio, video etc.) produced by Buckingham Mfg. prior to the revision date of this document.