



SAFETY WARNINGS & INSTRUCTIONS

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WARNING

Hunting from an elevated position is dangerous and risky.

Do not attempt to climb off the ground without understanding the safety risks.

Failure to follow and understand all directions and watch all instructional videos could result in injury or death.

This guide does not replace proper instruction by a qualified professional.

You are responsible for your own actions and decisions.

If you become seriously injured or unconscious, this harness will NOT keep you in an upright position unless used with a chest harness.

Always know the history and maintenance of your climbing equipment. The use of secondhand equipment is discouraged.

WARNING

- **DO NOT** use Tethrd products without reading all safety warnings and directions.
- **DO NOT** use Tethrd products until you have watched ALL directional videos and warnings at www.YouTube.com/TethrdNation or www.TethrdNation.com
- **DO NOT** use Tethrd products until you have practiced on the ground with all your equipment and are 100% confident with the system.
- **DO NOT** use Tethrd products until you have practiced in the dark to prepare for a hunting scenario.
- **DO NOT** ascend or descend a tree in the dark without a hands free light (like a head lamp).
- **DO NOT** use Tethrd products without first inspecting them for damage or excessive wear.
- **DO NOT** use any safety products (ropes, carabiners, etc.) that are not climbing rated.
- **DO NOT** ascend or descend a tree with climbing methods that are untested or unrated.
- **DO NOT** ascend or descend a tree without being connected to the trunk at all times.
- **DO NOT** climb on the Predator platform or any other positioning aid without being connected to the tree with both your tether and lineman belt.
- **DO NOT** use the Tethrd saddles without fastening the waist or leg straps and keeping them snug.
- **DO NOT** remove your lineman belt for any reason while climbing until you are safely connected to the tree with your tree tether.
- **DO NOT** remove your tree tether from the tree until your lineman belt is safely attached around the tree.
- **DO NOT** allow slack in your lineman belt or tree tether. They are to remain taut at all times.
- **DO NOT** climb above your lineman belt. It should always be above waist level.
- **DO NOT** climb above your tree tether. Slack in your tether is dangerous and could cause serious injury or death.
- **DO NOT** use your your lineman belt, tether, or UtiliBridge without a stopper knot tied in the free end.
- **DO NOT** exceed the total weight limit of Tethrd products. Total weight includes yourself and gear. Exceeding the total weight limit can result in serious injury or death.
- **DO NOT** use Tethrd harnesses outside the recommended sizing specifications (see Sizing Precautions). Proper fit of the harness is critical for safe use. Use of a harness outside the recommended waist range can result in serious injury or death.

PRACTICE

Practice using your saddle and platform in a safe environment at least 5 times in the daylight and at least 2 times in the dark before using it in a hunting scenario. Under no circumstances should you use a saddle or platform without practicing your system in a safe environment.

SAFETY PLAN

- If the hunting location is unknown by anyone and communication efforts are unsuccessful, you must have a personal plan for recovery/escape because prolonged suspension in a harness can be fatal. It is important to exercise the legs by pushing against the tree or doing other forms of continuous leg exercises to avoid blood pooling while being suspended. Hunters with varying degrees of physical fitness may require different plans to recover/escape the effects of prolonged suspension. Have a personal plan and practice it in the presence of a responsible adult before leaving the ground. No one escape/rescue plan will work for every hunter on every tree in every circumstance. Only you can determine the best recovery/escape plan for your hunting situation and you must have a recovery/escape plan for your situation before leaving the ground.
- A suspension relief device must be on your person and readily accessible while using a harness. These devices allow the user to relieve the load on the lower extremities if suspended in a harness and help maintain circulation in the legs, mitigate suspension trauma (blood pooling) or allow descent to the ground. Be sure to follow the manufacturers' directions on the safe use of any suspension relief device.
- Hunt from the ground when self-recovery/escape ability is absent or if you do not have all necessary components of your saddle and platform.
- There is time to make a correct decision on what action to take if an unforeseen event takes place. It is important to remember, "DO NOT PANIC." Remain calm and implement your practiced rescue, relief and recovery plan.

GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- **NEVER** use a saddle or platform while taking drugs (even prescription drugs) or alcohol.
- **NEVER** use a saddle or platform during inclement weather such as rain, lightning, windstorms or icy conditions and end your hunt and return to the ground if inclement conditions arise.
- **NEVER** use a saddle or platform when feeling ill, nauseous or dizzy, or if you have a prior medical condition that could cause a problem i.e., heart condition, joints that lock - up, spinal fusions, etc. or if you are not well rested. You **MUST** be physically and mentally able to recover to your platform, climbing aid, or ground in the event of a fall.
- **NEVER** use a saddle or platform on a dead, leaning, diseased or loose barked tree or on a utility pole.
- **NEVER** rely on a tree branch for support.
- **NEVER** jump or bounce on a platform or positioning aid to seat it to the tree.
- Pull up a bow, backpack, firearm or other equipment only after being secure in the saddle with your tether. A firearm must be pulled up with it unloaded, chamber open and muzzle down.
- Always inform someone of the hunting location, where the saddle or platform will be located and the expected duration of the hunt.
- A signal device such as a mobile phone, radio, whistles, signal flare or personal locator device (PLD) must be on your person and readily available at all times.
- Inspect the saddle or platform and all safety devices each time before use and do not store a saddle or platform outdoors when not in use.
- **NEVER** modify your saddle or platform in any way by making repairs, replacing parts, or altering adding or attaching anything to it except if explicitly authorized in writing by the manufacturer.
- Instructions (written and video) should be kept in a safe place and reviewed at least annually. It is the responsibility of the saddle or platform owner to furnish the complete instructions to any person that borrows or purchases the saddle or platform.
- **NEVER** leave a saddle or platform in the tree. Weather, animals, or tree growth could cause damage.
- Use a haul line to raise and lower all your hunting gear. Never climb with anything on your back.
- Climbing aids (stick ladders, sectional ladders, steps, etc.) must extend above the platform to allow the user to step down onto the platform. Never step up to your platform from a climbing aid.

INSTRUCTIONS - SAFETY WARNING - READ BEFORE USE

WARNING

For hunting from an elevated position only. Hunting with a saddle is dangerous. Understand and accept the risks involved before participating. You are responsible for your own actions and decisions. Before using this product, read and understand all instructions and warnings that accompany it and familiarize yourself with its capabilities and limitations. We recommend that every hunter seek qualified instruction before use. Failure to respect any of these warnings can result in severe injury or death!

BEFORE USING YOUR SADDLE AND PLATFORM

Read the above warnings, learn how to put your saddle on correctly, learn how to attach your platform, learn how to attach the tether and lineman belt to your saddle correctly, and test the fit by hanging in your saddle in a safe situation.

SIZING PRECAUTIONS

- The Mantis/Menace saddle is available in 3 sizes and will fit most adults. Persons under the age of 18 must use the saddle and platform under adult supervision.
- The Phantom saddle is a one-size-fits-most and recommended for users with waist sizes from 28"-40"
- It is essential that you wear the correct size and that your saddle fits you well. Before using your saddle, hang in it from a safe place to ensure you've chosen the correct size and adjusted it for a comfortable fit.

WARNING

- In climbing and hunting there is no substitute for experience. If you lack experience, hunt and use your saddle and platform only under the guidance of a knowledgeable hunter.
- Putting on your saddle, attaching your platform, and tying/clipping in requires your absolute attention. Establish a routine. Complete every action, double-check all buckles and knots, and avoid distractions. During use, frequently double-check that your saddle is properly buckled and that your tether and lineman belt is correctly connected to your harness.
- The molle/accessory loops are for gear only; they will not hold body weight. Do not tie into the loops or use them for tethering, climbing, rappelling, or anchoring.
- In the event of unconsciousness this saddle and platform will NOT keep you in an upright position unless combined with a chest harness.
- We strongly discourage acquiring second hand equipment. In order to fully trust your gear you must know its history of use.

CHOOSING OTHER COMPONENTS

This saddle and platform should be used in conjunction with appropriate CEN, UIAA, or ASTM certified mountaineering, alpine, and arborist equipment. Do not alter the saddle or platform in any way. Alterations may cause injury or death.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- Hand wash only with warm water. Use a mild soap, no bleach. Anytime your harness gets wet, allow it to drip dry away from direct sunlight before storing.
- Saddles and platforms must not come into contact with corrosive and oxidative materials such as battery acid, solvents, gasoline or chlorine bleach.
- Do not allow your saddle or platform to be exposed to temperatures above 140° F (60° C) or below -80° F (-62° C).
- Do not sew, resew, burn or singe loose threads, bleach the webbing, file a buckle, drill, saw, modify, or change a saddle and platform in any way.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

- Never store a wet or damp saddle.
- Store all of your gear in a clean and dry environment, out of direct sunlight and away from heat sources.
- Keep your saddle and other sewn equipment away from gnawing rodents and pets.
- The threads and fabric in your harness will weaken with age if not stored free from mildew, UV light, temperature extremes or other harmful agents. If a harness has been properly stored for five years or more, retire it.
- When not in use or when transporting your saddle, protect it from sharp objects and abrasion

INSPECTION AND RETIREMENT

Inspect your saddle and platform for signs of damage and wear before and after each use. It is vitally important that your harness be in good condition. A damaged harness must be retired immediately if any of the following exist:

- There is any kind of rip or hole in the webbing.
 - The webbing is burnt, singed, or melted.
 - There are any torn threads, or heavy abrasion to the webbing.
 - Bar tacks or stitching are abraded or showing wear.
 - The mounting apparatus is worn or destroyed
 - One of the buckles is cracked, corroded, has a burr, or is damaged or deformed in any way
 - The webbing is faded from exposure to ultraviolet light.
 - The metal is cracked or destroyed.
- If a saddle has been used to arrest a fall, even if it is not obviously damaged, it should be retired immediately. If you have any doubts about the dependability of your saddle, retire it immediately. Anytime you retire a piece of gear, destroy it to prevent future use. Retire all safety equipment after 5 years regardless of condition.

For more information on Rope Inspection and Retirement refer to the Rope Retirement Guidelines at: <https://tethrdnation.com/saddle-hunting-101/> or <https://samsonrope.com/resources/rope-care>

RN LABEL

A tag sewn inside your saddle identifies the harness by name. It also indicates the size with a single letter such as "M" for medium

WARNING

Indicates the inherent dangers and responsibilities the user assumes when using a Tethrd LLC product.

MAXIMUM WEIGHT

The maximum weight of a user and their gear wearing a Mantis/Menace saddle is 300 lbs. The maximum weight of the user and their gear using a Predator platform is 300 lbs. DO NOT jump or bounce on the platform. Always attach your tether to the tree and affix tether to your harness before climbing on your platform.

WARRANTY

We warrant for one year from purchase date and only to the original retail buyer (Buyer) that our products (Products) are free from defects in material and workmanship. If Buyer discovers a covered defect, Buyer should deliver the Product to us at the address set forth in this pamphlet. We will replace such Product free of charge. That is the extent of our liability under this Warranty and, upon the expiration of the applicable warranty period, all such liability shall terminate.

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS

We do not warrant Products against normal wear and tear, unauthorized modifications or alterations, improper use, improper maintenance, accident, misuse, negligence, damage, or if the Product is used for a purpose for which it was not designed. This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. Except as expressly stated in this Warranty, we shall not be liable for direct, indirect, incidental, or other types of damages arising out of, or resulting from the use of the Product. This Warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, including, but not limited to, implied warranties of not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages or allow limitations on the duration of an implied warranty, so the above exclusions may not apply to you).

INSTRUCTIONS - SAFETY WARNING – READ BEFORE USE

WARNING

For hunting from an elevated position only. Hunting with a saddle is dangerous. Understand and accept the risks involved before participating. You are responsible for your own actions and decisions. Before using this product, read and understand all instructions and warnings that accompany it and familiarize yourself with its capabilities and limitations. We recommend that every hunter seek qualified instruction before use. Failure to respect any of these warnings can result in severe injury or death!

PUTTING ON YOUR SADDLE

MANTIS/MENACE SADDLE

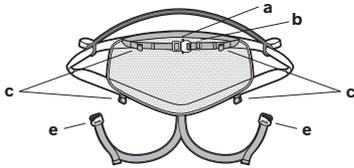


Figure 1.1

PHANTOM SADDLE

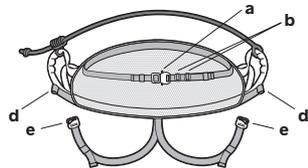


Figure 1.2

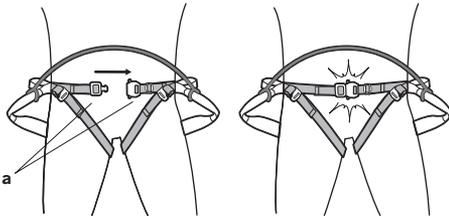


Figure 1.3

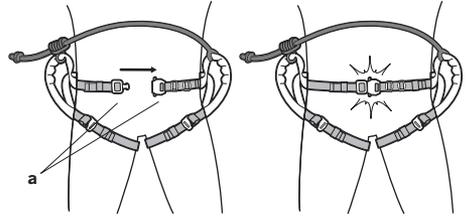


Figure 1.4

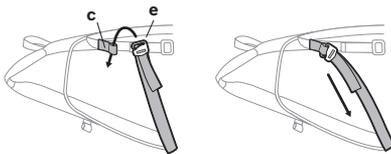


Figure 1.5

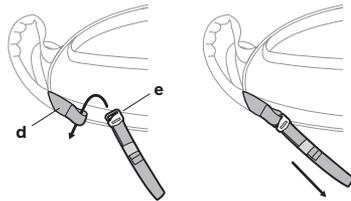


Figure 1.6

Before putting on your saddle, identify if you are wearing a Mantis/Menace (**Fig 1.1**) or Phantom (**Fig 1.2**) saddle. While the process for putting either saddle on is essentially the same, the location of certain features is slightly different from one model to the next. It is important to familiarize yourself with your model of saddle before hunting with it.

1. Hold the waistbelt (**a**) around your waist (**Fig 1.3, Fig 1.4**).
2. Buckle the waistbelt (**a**) around the waist and adjust snugly.
3. At least 3 inches of webbing tail must extend from the waistbelt buckle after the waistbelt has been adjusted correctly. Adjusting the three-bar sliders (**b**) on the waistbelt may be necessary to extend the length of the webbing tail to the correct length.
4. Pull the leg loop center between your legs and up to the leg loop connection (**c, d**) (**Fig 1.5, Fig 1.6**), then secure the adjustable hook buckles (**e**) and adjust snugly as drop testing suggests that leg loops help in an event of a fall (**Fig. 1.5, Fig. 1.6**). On the Mantis/Menace the leg loop (**c**) will be located on the waist belt, or along the bottom of the saddle body webbing. On the Phantom the leg loop (**d**) is located along the bottom of the saddle, near the bottom of the bridge loops. Be certain the webbing is not twisted.
5. The waistbelt must fit snugly around your waist. It should ride below your rib cage and above the top of your hip bone. The leg loops should fit snugly, as drop testing suggests that leg loops help in an event of a fall, but shouldn't restrict movement.

ADJUSTING THE UTILIBRIDGE (PHANTOM SADDLE ONLY)

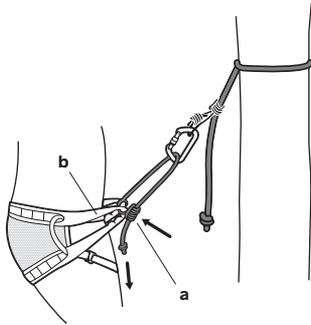


Figure 2.1

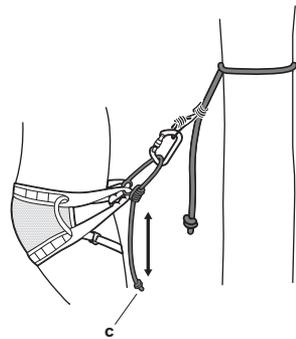


Figure 2.2

1. Inspect your UtiliBridge before every hunt for signs of wear and damage.
2. **NEVER** untie the stopper knot (c) at the end of the UtiliBridge for any reason.
3. Locate the UtiliBridge prusik knot (a) tied onto the bridge loop (b) on the Phantom saddle.
4. Using your hands, pull the UtiliBridge in or out to the desired length (Fig 2.2).
5. If the prusik knot is bound tightly, you may need to work it free with your hands before adjusting (Fig 2.1).
6. Once adjusted to your preferred length (Fig. 2.2), applying weight to the UtiliBridge will cause the prusik knot to hold securely.
7. Try different bridge lengths quickly and easily using the UtiliBridge to achieve maximum comfort.
8. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

USING THE COMFORT CHANNELS (PHANTOM SADDLE ONLY)

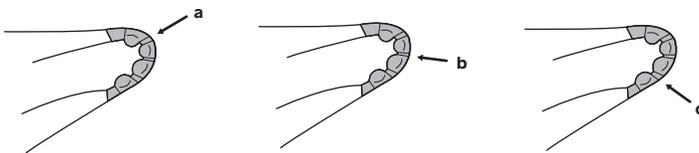


Figure 3

1. Before using the Comfort Channels secure the linemans belt to tree (see Using Your Lineman Belt on pg. 6).
2. The Phantom saddle has three built in Comfort Channels (Fig 3.) on both bridge loops: High (a), Medium (b), and Low (c).
3. To adjust your desired Comfort Channel, slide the UtiliBridge up or down to the High, Medium, or Low settings and lock it in by slowly applying weight to your saddle. You should always be connected to the tree when adjusting your Comfort Channels.
4. Try different Comfort Channel positions to achieve maximum comfort.
5. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

USING YOUR LINEMAN BELT



ALWAYS attach your lineman belt around the tree before climbing off the ground.
NEVER detach your lineman belt for any reason until you are safely attached to the tree with your tether.

MANTIS/MENACE SADDLE

PHANTOM SADDLE

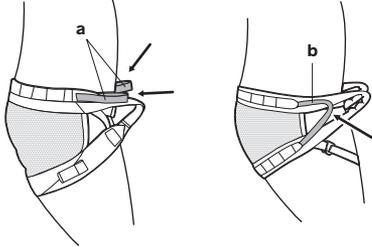


Figure 4.1

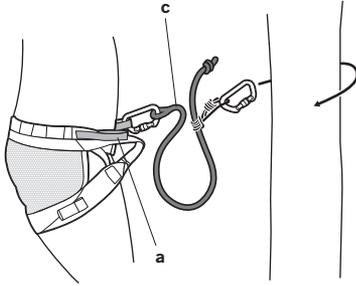


Figure 4.2

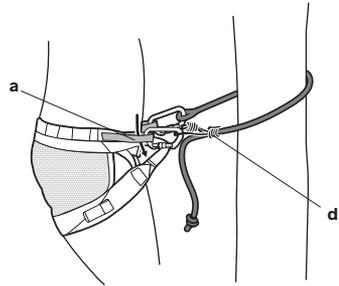


Figure 4.3

Before attaching your linemans belt, identify if you are wearing a Mantis/Menace or Phantom saddle (**Fig. 4.1**). The Mantis/Menace saddle has higher linemans belt loops (**a**) located more forward on the saddle and are in line with the waist belt. The Phantom saddle has larger linemans belt loops (**b**) located more rear of the saddle and is attached to both the top and bottom portions of the saddle webbing.

1. **NEVER** climb above your lineman belt. It should always be above waist level when in use.
2. You should always ascend and descend the tree using your lineman belt (**c**). This allows you to safely affix your climbing method, platform, and your tree tether while remaining attached to the tree at all times.
3. At the base of the tree, pass the free end of your lineman belt (**c**) around the tree (**Fig. 4.2**). Attach it via a carabiner at the opposite lineman loop (**a**) (**Fig. 4.3**) and secure the crew gate on the carabiner.
4. Adjust your lineman belt with a prusik knot (**d**) to safely climb the tree. While climbing the lineman's belt should be taut and supporting your weight.
5. At hunting height, **DO NOT** remove your lineman belt until you are safely tethered to the tree with your tree tether.
6. At the end of the hunt connect your lineman belt to the tree before removing your tree tether and starting your descent.
7. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

ATTACHING YOUR TETHER

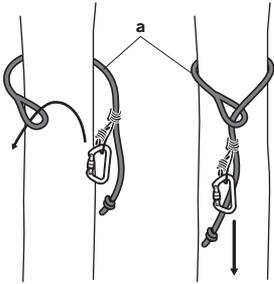


Figure 5.1



Figure 5.2

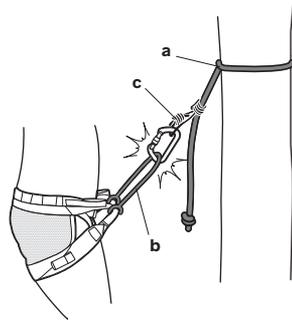


Figure 5.3

1. While you are connected to the tree via your lineman belt, pass the tether (a) loop around the tree at forehead height (Fig 5.1).
2. Pass the free end of the rope, prusik knot (c), and carabiner through the loop and cinch the tether tight to the tree. This is often referred to as a girth hitch or a larkshead knot (Fig. 5.2).
3. Attach the carabiner to your bridge (b), lock your carabiner, and tighten your prusik knot (c) so the tether is taut and holding your weight (Fig 5.3).
4. Once the saddle and tether is holding your body weight, you can remove your lineman belt and adjust your tether height for comfort.
5. At the end of the hunt connect your lineman belt to the tree before removing your tree tether and starting your descent.
6. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

ATTACHING THE PREDATOR PLATFORM

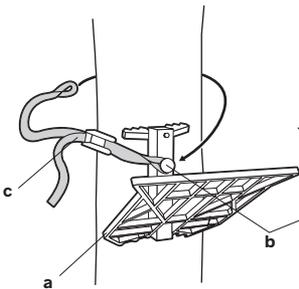


Figure 6.1

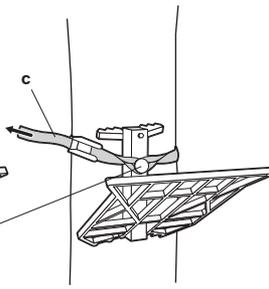


Figure 6.2

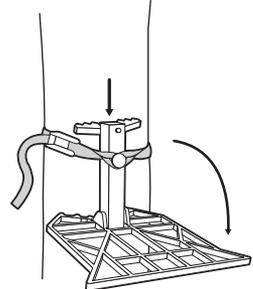


Figure 6.3

1. Place the back of the Predator (a) against the tree at the desired hunting position with the tree bracket firmly against the bark.
2. With one loop attached to the Predator Button (b), pass the free end of the ZipCam attachment strap (c) around the tree, and attach the second loop to the Predator button (b) (Fig. 6.1).
3. Tighten the ZipCam attachment strap (c) as tightly as you can with the platform base in the upright position (Fig. 6.2).
4. Push the Predator base down into the hunting position while applying significant pressure to the top of the cast aluminum post. You may have to repeat steps 3 and 4 depending on the type of tree you are hunting (Fig. 6.3).
5. Attach your Tether BEFORE climbing onto the Predator platform.
6. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

PROPER METHOD OF USE OF YOUR TETHER

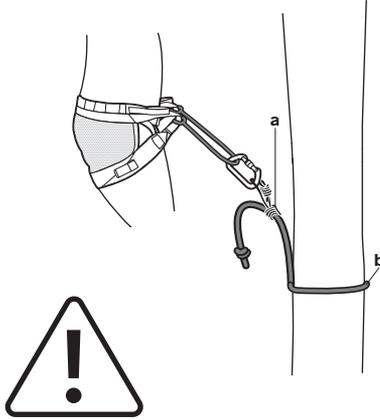


Figure 7.1

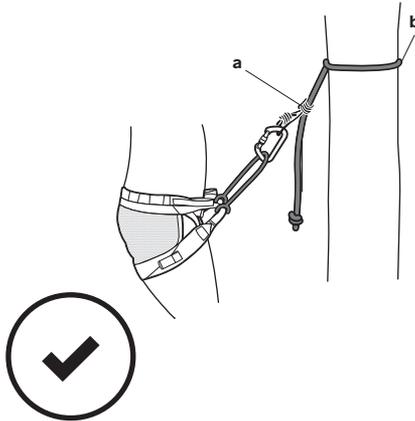


Figure 7.2

1. **NEVER** Climb above your tether (Fig 7.1).
2. The carabiner and friction knot (a) should ALWAYS be below the girth hitch (b) or knot of your tether (Fig. 7.2).



Climbing above the loop/girth hitch in your tether creates slack in your tether. Slack in your tether can cause serious injury or death. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should you ever allow slack into your tether.

PROPER METHOD OF USE OF YOUR LINEMAN BELT

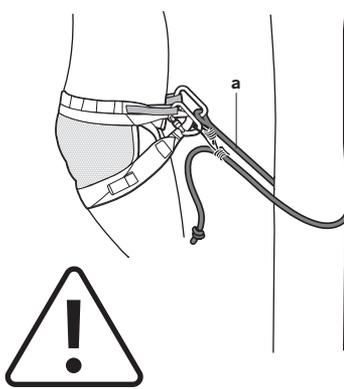


Figure 8.1

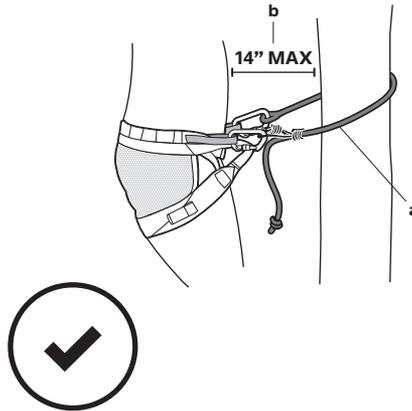


Figure 8.2

1. **NEVER** allow your lineman belt (a) to angle downward away from your waist. (Fig. 8.1).
2. The Lineman belt (a) should ALWAYS be angled upwards from your waist. (Fig. 8.2).
3. **NEVER** allow yourself to be more than 14" (b) away from the trunk of the tree (Fig. 8.2).



Climbing above your lineman belt, or allowing your lineman belt to sag down beneath your waist significantly reduces the effectiveness of the lineman belt. This can cause serious injury or death. NEVER climb above your lineman belt.

PROPER METHODS OF SUSPENSION RELIEF

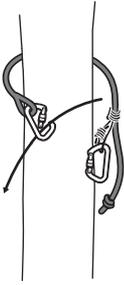


Figure 9.1

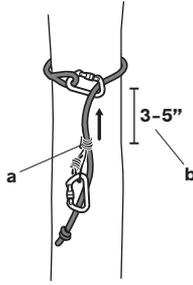


Figure 9.2

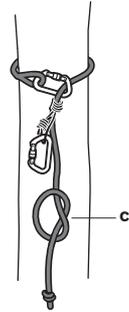


Figure 9.3

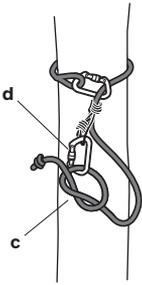


Figure 9.4

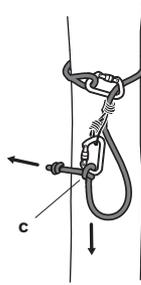


Figure 9.5



Figure 9.6

In the event of a catastrophic situation, you can use your lineman belt or tether as a suspension relief device. A suspension relief device must be readily accessible while using a saddle. These devices allow the user to relieve the load on the lower extremities if suspended in a harness, help maintain circulation in the legs, mitigate suspension trauma (blood pooling), and allow descent to the ground. Be sure to follow the manufacturers' directions on the safe use of any suspension relief device.

1. Pass the free end of the rope through the fixed loop of the rope, or pass the free end of the rope through a carabiner to wrap your tether or lineman belt around the tree (**Fig. 9.1**).
2. Pull the rope tight and adjust prusic loop or friction knot (**a**) so it is approximately three to five inches below the girth hitch (**b**) (**Fig. 9.2**).
3. Tie and overhand knot (**c**) in the rope but do not cinch tight (**Fig. 9.3**).
4. Clip the overhand knot (**c**) into the carabiner (**d**) (**Fig. 9.4**).
5. Tighten the overhand knot (**c**) by pulling both ends of the rope on either side of the carabiner (**Fig. 9.5**).
6. Step into the loop for suspension relief (**Fig. 9.6**).
7. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com

MOVING AROUND LIMBS OR OBSTRUCTIONS DURING YOUR CLIMB.

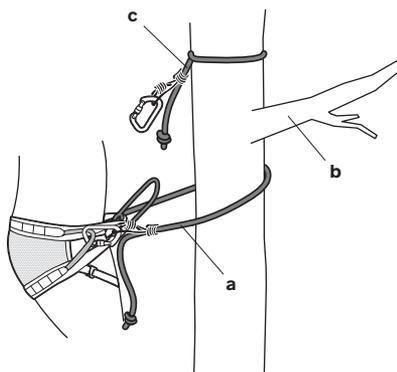


Figure 10.1

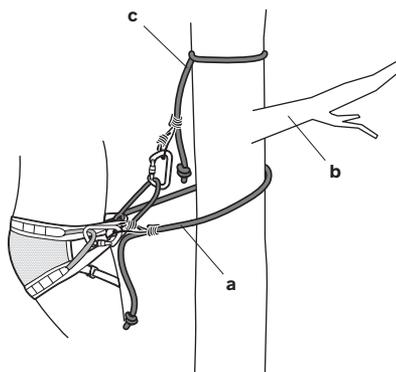


Figure 10.2

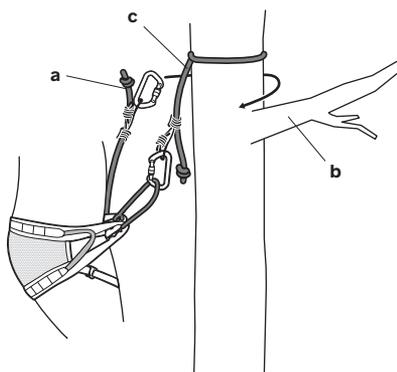


Figure 10.3

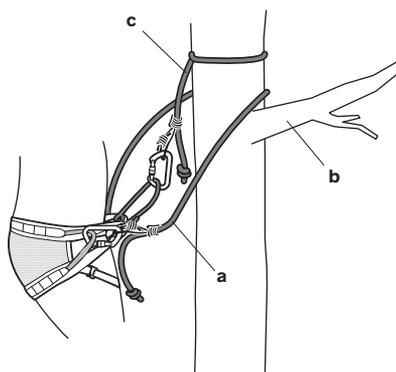


Figure 10.4

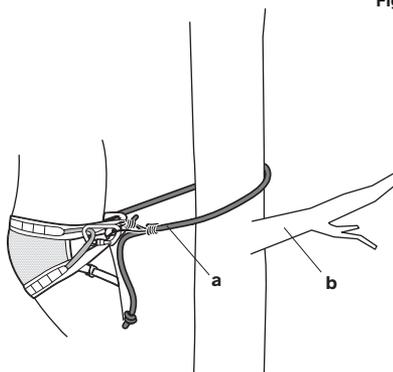


Figure 10.5

1. **NEVER** disconnect your lineman belt (a) from the tree in order to move around limbs or obstructions (b) without first attaching a secondary connection to the tree.
2. When you encounter a limb or obstruction (b) during your climb, safely attach your tether (c) (see instructions on page 7) above the obstruction (b) before adjusting your lineman belt (a) (Fig. 10.1).
3. Once all your weight is safely supported by your tether (c) (Fig. 10.2), you can unclip one side of your lineman belt (a) to pass it over or around the obstruction (b) (Fig. 10.3).
4. Once your lineman belt (a) is safely reconnected above or around the obstruction (b) (Fig. 10.4), you can safely remove your tether (c) and continue your climb (Fig. 10.5).
5. Repeat these steps when encountering another limb or obstruction.
6. For detailed video instructions visit our website at www.TethrdNation.com



Tethrd is a team of saddle hunting fanatics with a passionate addiction to whitetail hunting. Tethrd seeks to accomplish 2 missions: Spread the love for saddle hunting to the sportsman community, and design and engineer the world's best saddle hunting equipment.

Tethrd evolved from a burning desire to provide quality gear and resources to the saddle hunting community. Because our community is a small niche component of the greater hunting industry, the availability of saddle specific gear and innovation was severely lacking. Tethrd solved this problem by designing, engineering, and producing the most mobile, stealthy, and safest elevated hunting gear on the planet.

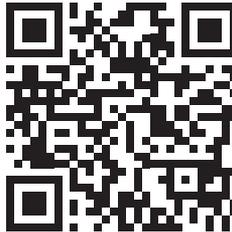
If it doesn't make the saddle hunting community better, we won't do it. Period.

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