

⚠ 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.

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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). You need both hands free to safely climb. **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 your tether and lineman belt. **DO NOT** use the Mantis saddle 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 or your harness until your lineman belt is safely attached around the tree. **DO NOT** allow slack in your lineman belt or tree tether. They should 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 lineman belt or tree tether without a stopper knot tied in the free end.

PRACTICE

Practice using your saddle and platform in a safe environment and no more than six inches off the ground. You must practice at least five times in the daylight and at least two 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. Practicing will ensure you understand the safe guards of your system, as well as the most efficient way to employ your saddle and platform.

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 supplied 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.
- 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 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 equipment owner to furnish the complete instructions to any person that who borrows or purchases the equipment.
- Never leave a saddle or platform in the tree for more than two weeks. 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 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.
- 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 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 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

- Machine wash your saddle in warm water on a gentle cycle. Use a mild soap, no bleach. Anytime your saddle gets wet, allow it to drip dry away from direct sunlight before storing.
- Saddles and platforms must not come into contact with corrosive 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, re sew, 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. 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 damage exists. Examples of damage include, but are not limited to:

- 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.
- The ropes are showing excessive signs of wear or abuse.

If a saddle has been used to arrest a fall, even if it is not obviously damaged, it will need to be retired. If you have any doubts about the dependability of your saddle, retire it and get a new one. 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/>

ID 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 for the Mantis saddle is 300 lbs including clothes and gear. The maximum weight for the Predator platform is 300 lbs including clothes and gear. DO NOT jump or bounce on the platform. Always attach your tether to the tree and securely affix tether to your saddle 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.

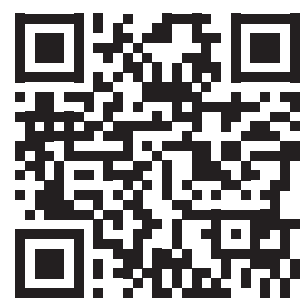
WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS: We do not warrant Products against normal wear and tear, unauthorized modifications or alterations, improper use, improper maintenance, accident, misuse, negligence, damage, or if the Product is used for a purpose for which it was not designed. This Warranty gives you specific legal 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 merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose (some states do 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).

Scan with your smart phone camera app to visit:

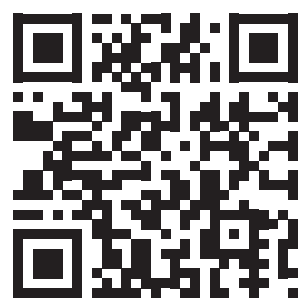
www.TethrdNation.com



www.YouTube.com/TethrdNation



TMA Safety Guidelines



INSTRUCTIONS – SAFETY WARNING – READ BEFORE USE

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PUTTING ON YOUR SADDLE

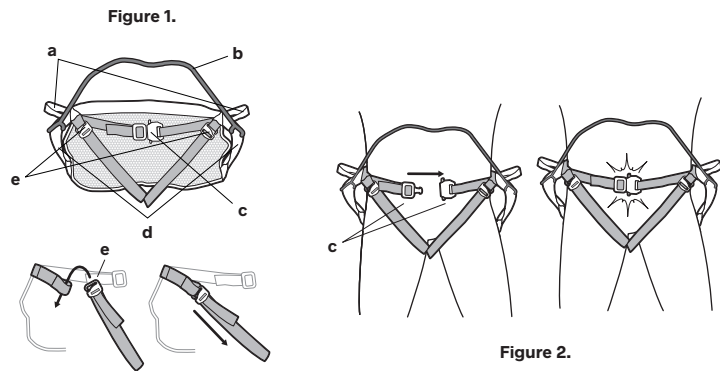


Figure 2.

1. Hold the waistbelt (c) around your waist (figure 2).
2. Buckle the waistbelt (c) around the waist and adjust snugly.
3. At least 3 in of webbing tail must extend from the waistbelt buckle after the waistbelt has been adjusted correctly.
4. Pull the leg loop center between your legs and up to the waistbelt, then secure the adjustable hook buckles (e) and adjust for comfort (figure 3). 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 but shouldn't restrict movement.

ATTACHING YOUR TETHER

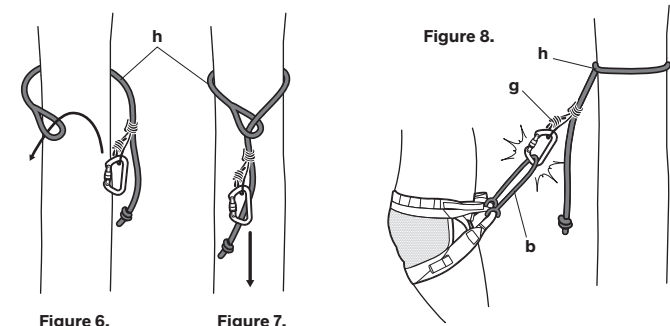


Figure 8.

1. Always attach your tether (h) when you have reached the top of your climbing method BEFORE climbing onto your Predator platform.
2. While you are safely connected to the tree with your lineman belt, pass the tether (h) loop around the tree at forehead height (figure 6).
3. Pass the free end of the rope, prusik knot (g), and carabiner through the fixed eye loop and cinch the tether tight to the tree. This is commonly known as a girth hitch or a larkshead knot (figure 7).
4. Attach the carabiner to your Amsteel fixed bridge (b) and tighten your prusik knot (g) so the tether is taut and holding your weight (figure 8).
5. Once the saddle and tether is secure, adjust your tether height for comfort. After all adjustments are complete, you may safely remove your lineman belt.

USING YOUR LINEMAN BELT

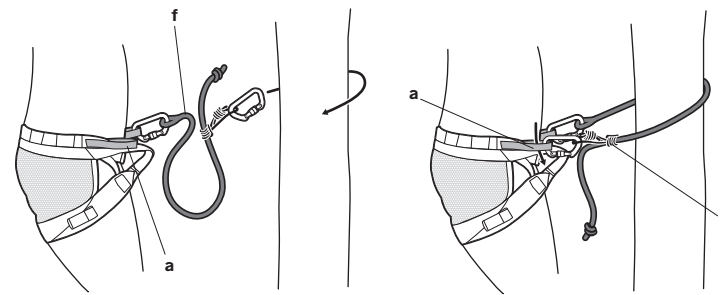


Figure 4.

Figure 5.

1. You should always ascend and descend the tree using your lineman belt (f). This allows you to safely affix your climbing method, and your tree tether while remaining attached to the tree at all times.
2. At the base of the tree, pass the free end of your lineman belt (f) around the tree (figure 4) and attach it via a carabiner at the opposite lineman loop (a) (figure 5).
3. Adjust your lineman belt with a prusik knot (g) to safely climb the tree.
4. At hunting height, DO NOT remove your lineman belt until you are safely tethered to the tree with your tree tether.
5. At the end of the hunt connect your lineman belt to the tree before removing your tree tether and starting your descent.

ATTACHING THE PREDATOR PLATFORM

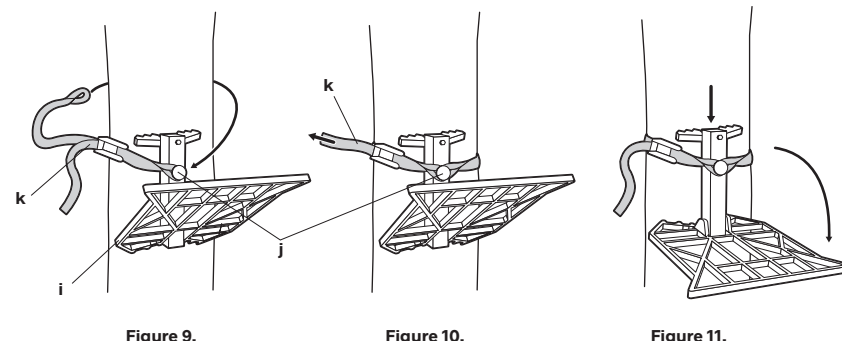


Figure 9.

Figure 10.

Figure 11.

1. Place the back of the Predator (i) against the tree at the desired hunting position with the tree bracket firmly against the bark.
2. With one loop attached to the ZipCam Button (j), pass the free end of the ZipCam attachment strap (k) around the tree, and attach the second loop to the ZipCam button (j) (figure 9).
3. Tighten the ZipCam attachment strap (k) as tightly as you can with the platform base in the upright position (figure 10).
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 (figure 11).
5. Attach your Tether BEFORE climbing onto the Predator platform.

PROPER METHOD OF USE OF YOUR TETHER

1. NEVER Climb above your tether (figure 1).
2. The carabiner and friction knot (a) should ALWAYS be below the girth hitch (b) or knot of your tether (figure 2).
3. ALWAYS ensure you have a stopper knot (c) tied in the tag end of your tether (figure 1 & 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.

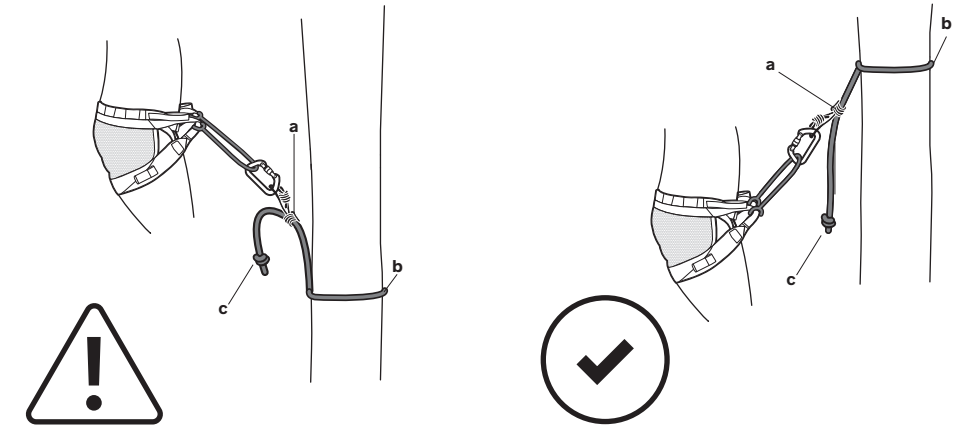


Figure 1.

Figure 2.

PROPER METHOD OF USE OF YOUR LINEMAN BELT

1. NEVER allow your lineman belt (c) to angle downward away from your waist. (figure 3).
2. The Lineman belt (c) should ALWAYS be angled upwards from your waist. (figure 4).
3. NEVER allow yourself to be more than 14" (d) away from the trunk of the tree (figure 4).
4. ALWAYS ensure you have a stopper knot (e) tied in the tag end of your lineman belt (figure 3 & 4).

⚠ Climbing above a horizontal lineman belt is dangerous. Doing so can cause serious injury or death. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should your lineman belt angle downward away from your waist.

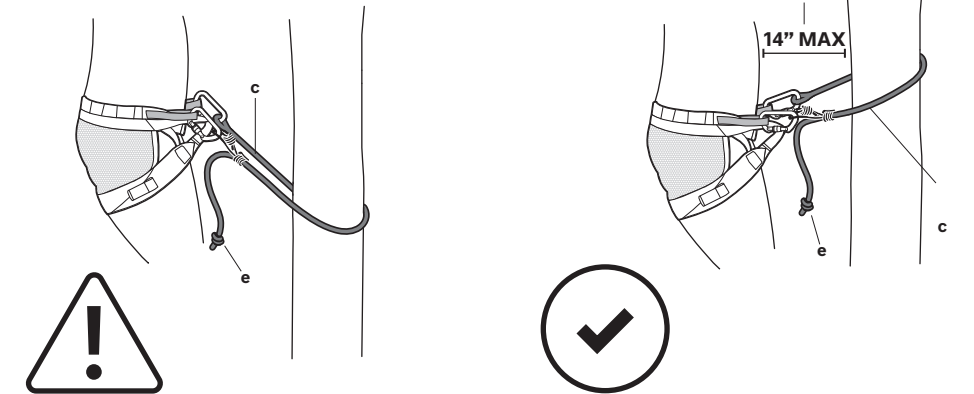
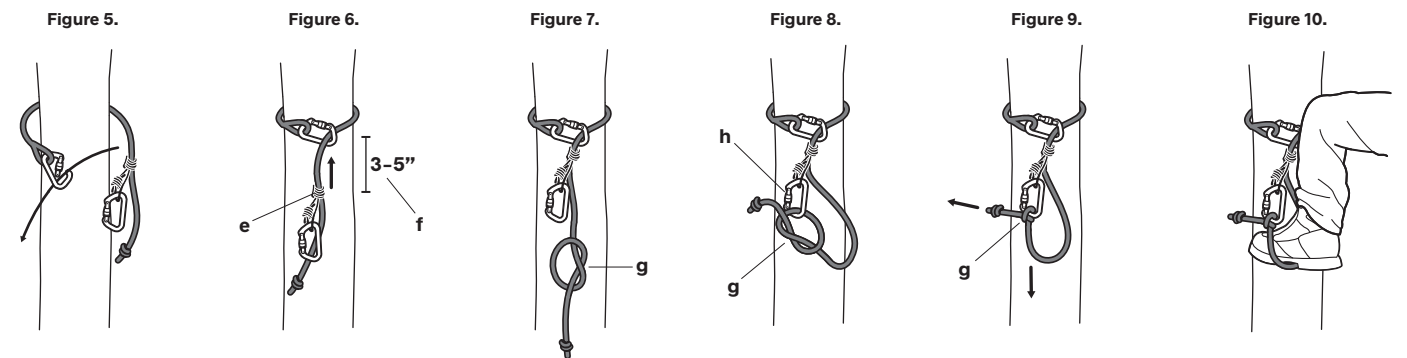


Figure 3.

Figure 4.

PROPER METHODS OF SUSPENSION RELIEF



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 on your person and 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), or 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 (figure 5).
2. Pull the rope tight and adjust prusik loop or friction knot (e) so it is approximately three to five inches below the girth hitch (f) (figure 6).
3. Tie and overhand knot (g) in the rope but do not cinch tight (figure 7).
4. Clip the overhand knot (g) into the carabiner (h) (figure 8).
5. Tighten the overhand knot (g) by pulling both ends of the rope on either side of the carabiner (figure 9).
6. Step into the loop for suspension relief (figure 10).

For further instruction and video illustration, visit www.TethrdNation.com or www.YouTube.com/TethrdNation

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