



Bullet & Broadhead Backpacker Instruction Booklet - 2004

You MUST also view the enclosed DVD BEFORE using your new treestand!!

READ ME FIRST !!!

Please read these instructions carefully and watch the DVD **BEFORE** using your new Summit **Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Climbing Treestand**.

Congratulations! You have purchased the finest commercially available treestand on the market today. Summit Climbing Treestands are designed and built to provide years of trouble-free, successful hunting with a minimum of maintenance and care. They are certified to meet the requirements of the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA) Standards. This booklet is provided to you to outline the recommended use, care and maintenance of your Summit climbing treestand.

BEFORE USING ANY TREESTAND, BE SURE YOU USE A SAFETY HARNESS EVERY TIME YOU CLIMB! ! !

DO NOT USE THIS OR ANY OTHER TREESTAND IF YOU HAVE BEEN USING DRUGS OR ALCOHOL OR ARE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED IN ANY WAY!

FOR YOUR SAFETY, DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND DURING STORMS, WHEN TREES ARE WET OR ICY, OR ON TREES THAT ARE LEANING OR THAT APPEAR DEAD OR DISEASED!

DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND IF YOU HAVE NOT FOLLOWED THE MANUFACTURERS CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES!

NEVER ALLOW THE SAFETY HARNESS TETHER TO GET UNDER OR AROUND YOUR NECK!

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU REMEMBER TO BE PREPARED IF YOU HAPPEN TO FALL AND EMPLOY YOUR SAFETY HARNESS WHILE IN A TREESTAND. STAY CALM AND DO NOT PANIC. YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO RECOVER FROM YOUR FALL BY EITHER CLIMBING BACK ONTO YOUR TREESTAND OR USING A DEVICE SUCH AS THE "TREE DESCENDER" (AVAILABLE FROM SUMMIT, 256 353-0634).

DO NOT USE ANY TREESTAND UNLESS YOU ARE IN GOOD PHYSICAL SHAPE. THE ABILITY TO DO SEVERAL PUSH-UPS, CHIN-UPS, SIT-UPS, ETC. IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR SAFETY! FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!!

PRIOR TO HUNTING: YOU MUST NOTIFY SOMEONE OF YOUR HUNTING LOCATION AND WHEN YOU WILL RETURN!

Before each use of your Summit treestand, **ALWAYS** inspect the treestand for any structural damage, cracks, cable wear or abrasion that may have occurred in transporting your treestand. The only assembly required is the attachment (where applicable)

of the comfort pads, RapidClimb stirrups, backpack straps, or footrest described in the *Attachments* section of this booklet.

Part 1. Assembling the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker for Climbing

All of these steps should be practiced at ground level **BEFORE** using your treestand in a hunting situation.

Separate the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker top section (Climber) from the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker bottom section (Platform). For Climber and Platform, fold down the pivoting V-brace and lock it into position as shown in **Figure 1**. Secure it with the large knob as shown in **Figure 2**. **YOU MUST** do this for the Climber and Platform and **YOU MUST** make sure that the large knob is securely fastened.

You should now have an assembled Climber (seat) and an assembled Platform (bottom) section.

Part 2. Use of the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Climbing Treestand

Attachment to the tree.

A. Attach the base platform to the tree first. To do this, pull on the QuickDraw cable spring, as shown in **Figure 3**. This will release the locking tab from the cable, allowing you to remove it from the cable bracket.

B. Take one end of the cable and begin to slide it down into the tubing, as shown in **Figure 4**. Once the cable is easily sliding into the tubing (it helps to bend the cable upward while pushing down on it), you are ready to place it in its final position.

C. Pull the cable towards the back of the tree and "seat" one of the cable stops against the back of the bracket, as shown in **Figure 5**. The QuickDraw cable spring will "lock" into place behind one of the cable stops.

Your cable bracket should now look like **Figure 6**. **IMPORTANT:** If the QuickDraw cable spring does not lock into place behind the cable stop, you must contact Summit immediately to obtain the proper corrective action.

D. If necessary, go to the other side of the tree and position the

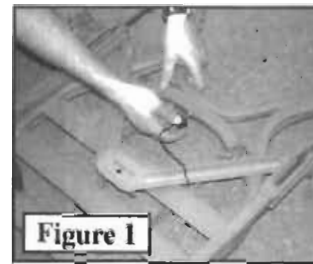


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

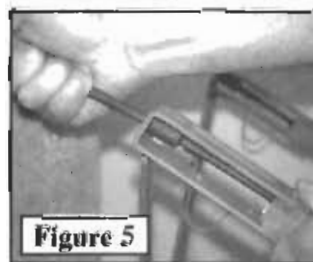


Figure 5

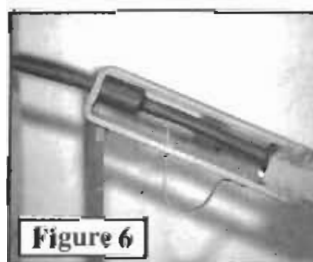


Figure 6

other end of the cable by repeating the steps of pulling the QuickDraw cable spring, sliding the cable into the tubing, and assuring that the QuickDraw cable spring has locked into position.

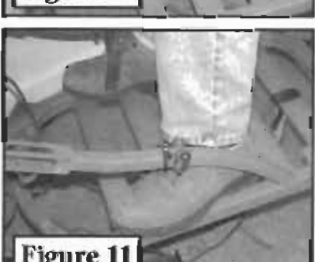
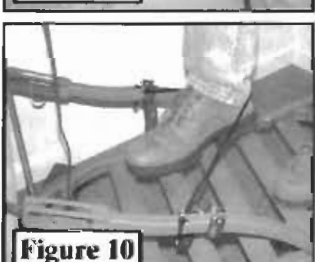
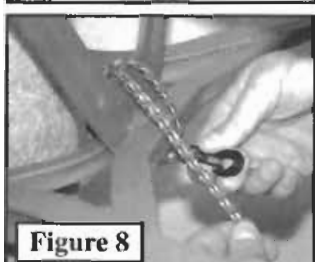
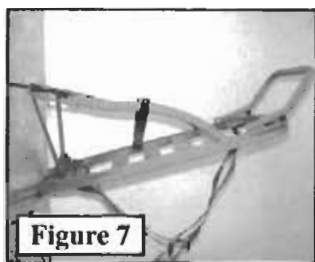
NOTE: The sole purpose of the plastic coating on the cable is to eliminate noise. After some use you may notice some abrasions, peeling or possibly cuts in the coating. This coating does not affect the performance or safety of your treestand. It is there to eliminate unnecessary noise when sliding the cable down into the tubing. **DO NOT USE THE CABLE IF IT HAS BROKEN OR DAMAGED METAL STRANDS!** Call immediately to order a replacement.

To ensure that your Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker is level at the height at which you will be hunting, observe the relative change in the tree diameter between the base of the tree and the final treestand height. It is very important to adjust the Platform and Climber at the base of the tree such that the treestand base platform will be level at the height you hunt. Trees commonly found in swamp or marsh areas have a tendency to swell at their base, and these may require a greater starting angle in order for your treestand to be level at the same hunting height as compared to a normally tapered tree.

Usually, the front edge of the treestand (the edge away from the tree) should be 4-6 inches higher than the edge against the tree (See Figure 7). The Climber attaches above the Platform. The Climber should also have the same basic angle as the Platform before you begin to climb. The Platform and Climber **MUST BE** attached to each other with the tether rope provided, as shown in Figure 8. Wrap the rope around twice before attaching the hook.

Part 3. Climbing with the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker.

Step 1. Now that your Platform and Climber are attached to the tree, you are ready to climb. It is **MANDATORY** that you use a safety harness as you climb. Be sure to read the safety harness instructions for proper use of your safety harness. Simply attach the safety line to the tree above the Climber and



secure it to the harness for climbing, as shown in Figure 9.

Step 2. Your RapidClimb stirrups and bungee heel cords should already be attached to your treestand. If they are not, proceed to the attachments section of this booklet for the correct assembly procedure. To climb, back your heel into the bungee heel cords (Figure 10) then simply slide your boot under the RapidClimb stirrup, making sure that your boot is secure under the stirrup, as shown in Figure 11. At this point **IT IS REQUIRED THAT YOU** attach your safety harness to the safety line around the tree. Hook the seat back elastic cord (bunge) hooks as shown in Figure 12 to keep secure during the climb. At this point, if you purchased the Broadhead Backpacker (open-front design), proceed to the section in these instructions titled **Part 3-A. Climbing with the Broadhead Backpacker.**

Step 3. To begin climbing, raise your Bullet Climber up to just below waist height, re-engage the climber, sit on the padded bar and grasp the upright arms very firmly as shown in Figure 13.

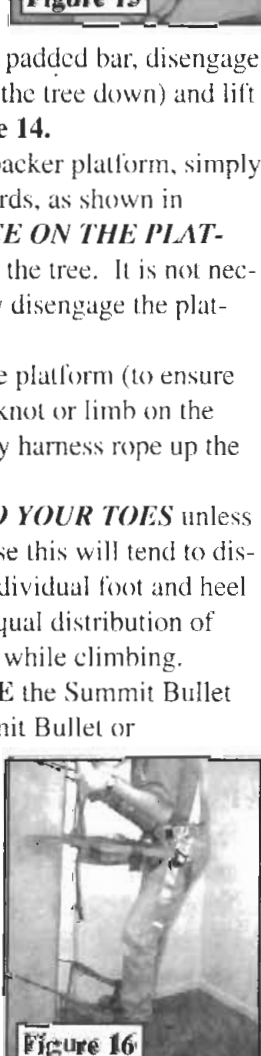
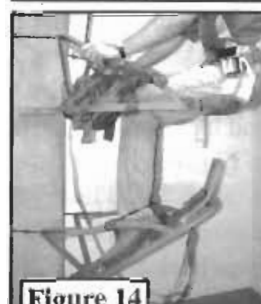
Step 4. With all of your weight on the padded bar, disengage the platform (by rotating the edge against the tree down) and lift the treestand platform, as shown in Figure 14.

Step 5. To re-engage the Bullet Backpacker platform, simply rotate the edge back against the tree upwards, as shown in Figure 15. **DO NOT JUMP OR BOUNCE ON THE PLATFORM** to attempt to cause it to "dig" into the tree. It is not necessary and may cause you to inadvertently disengage the platform.

Step 6. Now ease your weight onto the platform (to ensure that you have not placed it on an unseen knot or limb on the backside of the tree), then slide your safety harness rope up the tree and repeat steps 3-6.

DO NOT TIP YOUR WEIGHT ONTO YOUR TOES unless you are ready to move the platform because this will tend to disengage the platform from the tree. The individual foot and heel straps are located in such a position that equal distribution of weight will secure the platform to the tree while climbing.

IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT USE the Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker without a Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat climber. A climber, especially the Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat climber, is designed to aid you in the correct operation of the treestand while climbing by keeping your weight away from the tree. The Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat is also built so that it fits securely with the platform of the treestand for carrying.



Part 3-A. Climbing with the Broadhead Backpacker.

Step 1. To begin climbing, raise your Broadhead Climber up to just below chest height, re-engage the climber, and grasp the upright arms very firmly as shown in **Figure 16**.



Step 2. With all of your weight on the padded bar, disengage the platform (by rotating the edge against the tree down) and lift the treestand platform, as shown in **Figure 17**.



Step 3. To re-engage the Broadhead Backpacker platform, simply rotate the edge back against the tree upwards, as shown in **Figure 18**. **DO NOT JUMP OR BOUNCE ON THE PLATFORM** to attempt to cause it to “dig” into the tree. It is not necessary and may cause you to inadvertently disengage the platform.

Step 4. Now ease your weight onto the platform (to ensure that you have not placed it on an unseen knot or limb on the backside of the tree), then slide your safety harness rope up the tree and repeat steps 3-6.

DO NOT TIP YOUR WEIGHT ONTO YOUR TOES unless you are ready to move the platform because this will tend to disengage the platform from the tree. The individual foot and heel straps are located in such a position that equal distribution of weight will secure the platform to the tree while climbing.

IMPORTANT NOTE: DO NOT USE the Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker without a Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat climber. A climber, especially the Summit Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat climber, is designed to aid you in the correct operation of the treestand while climbing by keeping your weight away from the tree. The Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat is also built so that it fits securely with the platform of the treestand for carrying.

Part 4. Using the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat.

When you get to your hunting height (do not climb higher than 15 feet; it is unnecessary) and have assured that your treestand is level, position your Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat slightly below waist level (slightly lower will be more comfortable but higher makes for less movement when you stand.).

A. Wrap the supplied strap with the spring lever buckle around the tree and seat frame, as shown in **Figure 19**. Securely tighten the strap to prevent the notched v-bar from losing contact with the tree.



B. Unhook the bungee cord that held the seat back rest secure while you were climbing. Position the seat back rest by



wrapping each end of the bungee cord around the climbing cable and hooking the two hooks together, as shown in **Figure 20**. The bungee cord will prevent the seat backrest from falling forwards if you stand up.

C. With your safety harness attached to the tree above the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat, simply pull your feet, one at a time, from their secured position under the RapidClimb stirrups. Position your safety harness as shown in the harness instructions and carefully sit down. The Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat will provide maximum comfort when the seat pad is near horizontal rather than tipped down in the front. The seat height can be easily raised (for bowhunting) or lowered (for gun hunting) by adjusting the metal 3-bar slides under the seat cushion (See **Figure 21**).



NOTE: This adjustment should be made while on the ground. Both sides must be adjusted equally so the seat is level side to side. Sliding the two seat-support straps forward or backwards gives additional comfort adjustment.



Part 5. Climbing Down with the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker.

To climb down the tree after hunting, follow these steps:

Step 1. Reattach your treestand platform to your feet (keep your safety harness securely attached to the tree until reaching the ground) by using the procedure in **Part 2, Climbing with the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker**.



Step 2. Disconnect the elastic cord that has been holding the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat in place and fold the seat up. Secure the backrest and seat as shown in **Figure 22**. Disconnect the strap that has held the seat in place against the tree.



Step 3. Place the Bullet Backpacker Seat at about knee level, sit on the padded bar, and grasp the upright arms as you did in climbing (see **Figure 23**). For the Broadhead Backpacker, place the seat climber at about waist level, re-engage the climber, and grasp the upright arms very firmly as shown in **Figure 24**.

Step 4. While firmly grasping the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat upright arms, disengage the platform by lifting and tipping the top edge closest to the tree downward and then lower the platform (see **Figure 17** again).

Step 5. To re-engage, rotate the top edge of the treestand closest to the tree upwards. Now carefully place your weight back on the treestand. **DO NOT JUMP OR BOUNCE ON THE PLATFORM** to attempt to cause it to “dig” into the tree. It is not necessary and may cause you to inadvertently disengage

the platform.

Step 6. Slide your safety harness rope down to about chest height and repeat **steps 3-6** until you have reached the bottom of the tree.

Part 6. Carrying the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker.

The Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker and Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat are lightweight and easy to carry as one unit. You must first fold the pivoting V-brace down flat on the seat and platform. To do this, simply unscrew the threaded knob that held the pivoting V-brace in place as shown in **Figure 25**. Now rotate the pivoting V-brace towards the front edge of the platform as shown in **Figure 26**. Slight repositioning of the RapidClimb stirrups may be required so that they nest in between two platform channels. Lay it flat and screw the threaded knob back onto the bolt. You must fold the pivoting V-brace on the seat and platform prior to packing.

A. To combine the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat and Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Platform, place the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker seat on its' end as shown in **Figure 27**.

B. Take the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker platform and begin sliding it into the seat comfort pads as shown in **Figure 28**. The platform will "lock" into position between the padded bars of the seat as shown in **Figure 29**.

C. Pull the seat back rest bungee cords around the sides of the unit and hook the s-hooks together as shown in **Figure 30**. **MAKE SURE** that the back pack straps are over, not under, the bungee cords. Secure the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker seat to the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker platform with the green strap with the tourniquet buckle (**Figure 31**.) This will prevent the Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker and Bullet or Broadhead Backpacker Seat from making noise as you hike to your hunting location.

D. Use the backpack straps to carry the unit as shown in **Figure 32**. To tighten the backpack straps, simply pull down on the tag

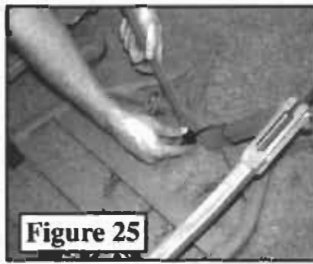


Figure 25

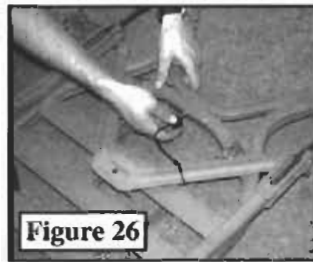


Figure 26



Figure 27

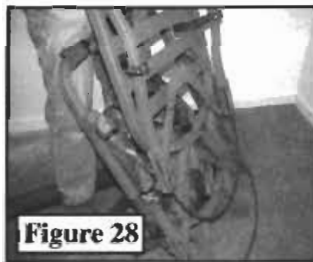


Figure 28



Figure 29



Figure 30



Figure 31

ends of the backpack straps. To loosen, just lift up on the thumb tabs.

Part 7. Maintenance and Care

Because of the quality construction techniques used in manufacturing, your Summit treestand is very durable under normal hunting conditions. However, since all hunting equipment that is exposed to the elements requires some maintenance and care, the following guidelines for caring for your treestand should be used.

DO NOT leave your treestand outdoors when it is not being used. **ANY TUBING THAT IS ALLOWED TO FILL WITH RAINWATER AND FREEZE WILL RUPTURE OR BURST.** **DO NOT** use your treestand if this happens. If your treestand is exposed to the elements, it is necessary to cover the seat to prevent rain and moisture from saturating the material. This will extend the life of the seat material as well as make it more comfortable the next time it is used.

The powder coat finish that is applied at the factory is very durable and should need touch ups only in areas of heavy wear or accidental impact.

Should you damage any part of your Summit treestand, contact your nearest authorized Summit dealer or the factory to obtain the proper corrective action procedure and/or replacement parts for the treestand. Unauthorized repairs, modifications, or alterations will void the warranty and could degrade the integrity of the treestand.

You must perform periodic inspections of the treestand for damage. **DO NOT** use the treestand if **ANY** obvious or suspected damaged is observed. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** to inspect the cable on your climbing treestand to ensure that there is no sign of frayed, damaged or broken strands. If **ANY** such damage is noticed, you must replace your cable **IMMEDIATELY**.

Replacement covers for the cable are also available. **NOTE:** The plastic coating on the cable serves **ONLY** as a noise reducer. Over time your cable cover may begin to wear. This is normal.

Look for nicks gouges, cuts, cracks, bends, corrosion or similar damage that can be the result of improper use or accidental damage. For instance, this could occur if someone else used the treestand without knowledge of its proper use, or if the treestand were dropped, or hit by a motor vehicle, or subjected to corrosive conditions, etc. Summit treestands have the highest structural integrity by design, material selection and manufacturing techniques, but as its owner, only your continued care will assure trouble free performance.

When the above-mentioned guidelines are followed, your Summit treestand will provide years of successful hunting.

Part 8. Adjustments

The seat height can be adjusted by means of the 3-bar slides on the seat straps. This adjustment should be made while on the ground and both sides must be adjusted equally so the seat is level side to side. (See **Figure 21** in earlier sections of these instructions for details).



Figure 32

Part 9. Attachments

Comfort Pads. The camouflaged foam comfort pads for the bars can be easily attached for additional comfort.

On the Bullet and Broadhead Backpacker, attach the short comfort pads to the angled upright bars as shown in **Figure 33**. Two cable ties per pad is sufficient. The cable ties should be attached as shown: Note the right and wrong ways of attaching. Pull the cable ties snug, cut off the excess, and rotate the clasp to the underside of the pad. The Bullet Backpacker has an additional comfort pad that fits the front bar of the seat climber. Slide the pad over the bar and attach it with cable ties in the manner listed above.

Backpack Straps. Locate the backpack straps in the instruction bag included with your treestand. Place the looped end of the backpack straps around the middle of the second platform rung from the front of the stand as shown in **Figure 34**.

Now push all of the remaining straps through the loop, as shown in **Figure 35**. Now locate the two 1-inch wide straps remaining in the instruction bag. They will attach to the treestand at the end that contacts the tree. Position the looped end of one of the straps and push the remaining strap through the loop as shown in **Figure 36**. Now thread the tag (loose) end of the strap through the buckle on the backpack straps as shown in **Figure 37**. The completed assembly should look like **Figure 38**.

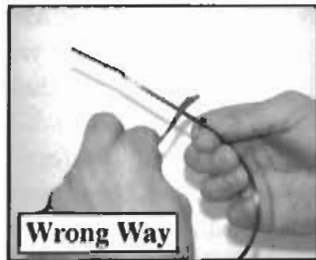
RapidClimb Stirrups. The two (2) RapidClimb stirrups fit on the upright (curved) arms of the platform. Simply slide one stirrup on each side of the platform such that they are on the inside of the platform and facing down as shown in **Figure 39**. Once positioned, secure with the bolt and wing nut provided as shown in **Figure 40**. Occasional readjustment may be required as your footwear needs change. Wrap the supplied bungee cord around one side of the curved platform upright bars and push the s-hook through the loop as shown in **Figure 41**. Hook the s-hook



Figure 33



Right Way



Wrong Way

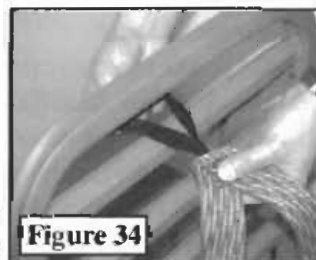


Figure 34



Figure 35



Figure 36

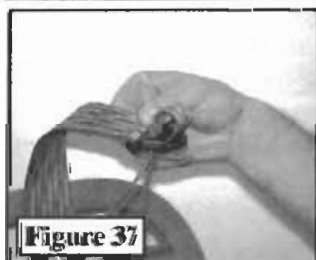


Figure 37

around the opposite curved platform upright bar and back onto itself as shown in **Figure 42**.

Part 10. Tips

You will easily learn how to use your Summit treestand more efficiently and make it more effective for your hunting.

With proper practice you can learn to level your platform without climbing down to re-position the cable.

Pulling the cable against the back-side of the tree while you're supporting the platform with your legs can do this. While the cable is against the tree, position the platform level and engage the front edge against the tree. This puts a slight bend in the cable while keeping the platform level. Only minor level adjustment, however, can be made using this technique. (The DVD shows this technique).

Sometimes on a cold, dry, hard bark tree a rubbing noise can be produced at the scalloped edge that engages the tree. This comes from friction forces. It can be eliminated a couple of ways. First, simply re-positioning your platform slightly will in most cases eliminate the noise. Second, a liquid or candle/bowstring wax can be applied at the intersection of the tree and the scalloped edge to reduce the friction. Also, using a file to remove the finish and slightly upset (roughen) the smooth metal surface contact points on the scallops can eliminate the noise.

Changing your sitting position can relieve muscle stress and reduce fatigue. This will allow a longer hunt and perhaps an opportunity for a shot. Although it must be done slowly and quietly, repositioning and changing the height of your seat by raising or lowering the seat frame just a couple of inches could make a difference. This changes the hip to knee angle. Moving the seat straps, again slowly and quietly, forward or backward on their support bar will alter the sitting position also. Being comfortable will result in no movement and reduce being detected by game either from sight or from sound.

Good Hunting and Hunt Safe.

HUNT TOMORROW...

...USE YOUR SAFETY HARNESS TODAY

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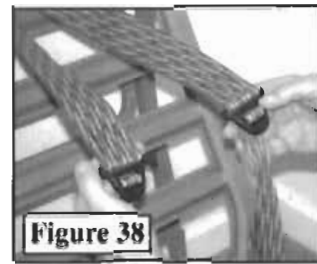


Figure 38

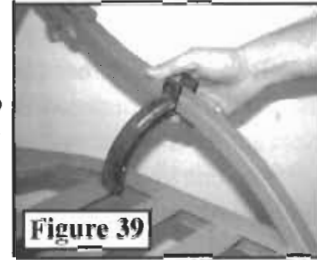


Figure 39

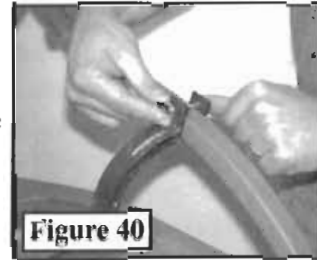


Figure 40

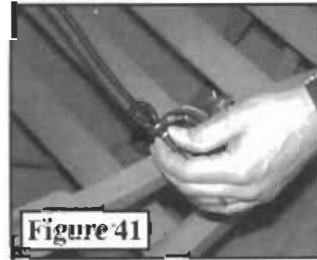


Figure 41

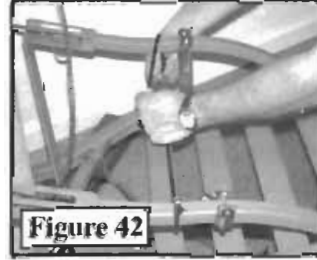


Figure 42

LIMITED WARRANTY

(A) Warranty

Summit Treestands, LLC (Summit) warrants to the original retail purchaser that all products manufactured by it are free from defects in material and manufacture at the time of shipment for sixty (60) months from the date of purchase. Summit will repair or replace any part found defective if the unit claimed to be defective shall be returned to Summit, postage prepaid, within the warranty period.

This warranty shall not apply to any product which has been subjected to misuse; misapplication; neglect (including but not limited to improper maintenance); accident; improper installation; modification (including but not limited to use of unauthorized parts or attachments), adjustment, or repair. **THE FOREGOING IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED (INCLUDING THOSE OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS OF ANY PRODUCT FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE), AND OF ANY OTHER OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY ON THE PART OF THE COMPANY.**

(B) Limitation of Liability

It is expressly understood that Summit's liability for its products, whether due to breach of warranty, negligence, strict liability, or otherwise, is limited to the repair of the product, as stated above, and Summit will not be liable for any other injury, loss, damage, or expense, whether direct or consequential, including but not limited to loss of use, income, profit, or damage to material, arising in connection with the sale, installation, use of, inability to use, or the repair or replacement of, Summit's products.

Summit reserves the right to make alterations or modifications in its products at any time, which in its opinion, may improve the performance and efficiency of the product. It shall not be obligated to make such alterations or modifications to products already in service.

Please fill out the warranty card below and return to:

SUMMIT TREESTANDS, LLC
715 Summit Drive
Decatur, AL 35601
www.summitstands.com
256-353-0634

.....
Cut Along Dotted Line

.....
Cut Along Dotted Line

Warranty Card for Summit Treestand

Please complete and return within 15 days from date of purchase

Treestand Purchased: Bullet Backpacker Broadhead Backpacker

Owners Name _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone (____) _____

Date Purchased _____ Purchased From (Dealer Name) _____ Price \$ _____

You heard about us through: Magazine Advertisement Video Friend I purchased your catalog

Other- Please explain _____