

Seat-O-The Pants Harness Instruction Booklet - 2008

Please read carefully **BEFORE** using your new Summit Safety Harness.

Congratulations! You have purchased the finest commercially available hunting harness on the market today. Summit Harnesses 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 Safety Harness.

WARNING

You must fully read, understand and follow these warnings, expiration date and instructions! Failure to follow these instructions may cause serious injury or death!!

MAKE SURE YOUR PRUSSIC HITCH LOOKS LIKE THIS PICTURE BEFORE USING!

DO NOT USE unless your prussic hitch has 6 (six) loops!

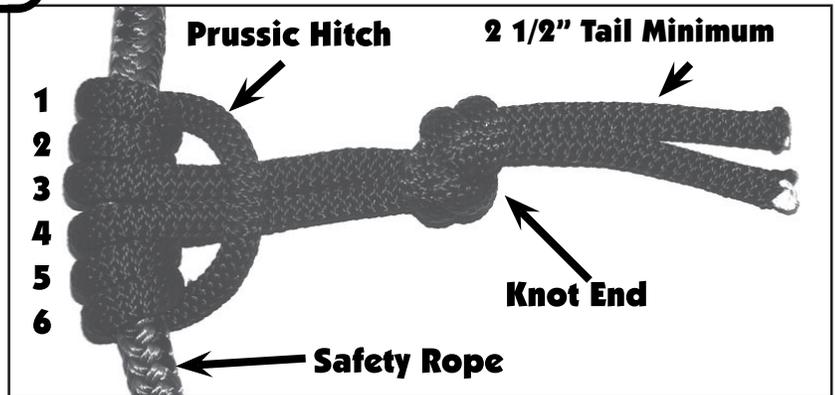
DO NOT USE unless your prussic hitch has a 2 1/2" long tail (minimum) beyond the knot end!

Pull on the knot end of the prussic hitch and make sure it locks to the safety rope. **DO NOT USE** your harness unless your prussic hitch looks like the one pictured here. In addition, **MAKE SURE** the hitch locks to the safety rope when you pull on the knot end.

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

WEIGHT LIMIT: 300 LBS.

CUB: 200 LBS.



WHEN TO REPLACE YOUR SAFETY ROPE / HARNESS:

- **AFTER 5 (FIVE) YEARS FROM MANUFACTURE DATE (LOCATED ON HARNESS WARNING LABEL).**
- **THE SAFETY ROPE / HARNESS HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO SEVERE SHOCK LOADING.**
- **THE SAFETY ROPE / HARNESS HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO THE KIND OF OVERLOAD FOR WHICH IT WAS NOT DESIGNED, SUCH AS TOWING A VEHICLE.**
- **THE SAFETY ROPE / HARNESS SHOWS SIGNS OF FRAYING FROM SUBSTANTIAL USE.**
- **THE SAFETY ROPE / HARNESS WAS USED IN PREVENTING A FALL.**
- **BEFORE USING ANY TREESTAND, BE SURE YOU MAINTAIN FULL BODY SAFETY HARNESS ATTACHMENT TO THE TREE AT ALL TIMES AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND!!!**
- **READ AND UNDERSTAND THE MANUFACTURER'S WARNINGS, EXPIRATION DATE AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO USE AND HOW TO PROPERLY ADJUST THE HARNESS.**
- **PRACTICE THE USE OF A FULL BODY HARNESS AT GROUND LEVEL IN THE PRESENCE OF A RESPONSIBLE ADULT TO EXPERIENCE THE FEELING OF HANGING SUSPENDED BEFORE USING IN A HUNTING ENVIRONMENT.**
- **THE LENGTH OF THE HARNESS TETHER MUST BE MINIMIZED AT ALL TIMES. IT SHOULD BE ADJUSTED SO THAT IT IS ABOVE THE HEAD WITH NO SLACK (SNUG) IN THE SITTING POSITION AND YOU SHOULD HAVE THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF SLACK POSSIBLE WHEN CLIMBING.**
- **A FALL CAN OCCUR AT ANY TIME AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND! 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.**
- **HUNT FROM THE GROUND WHEN SELF-RECOVERY/ESCAPE ABILITY IS ABSENT.**
- **IN THE EVENT OF A FALL - DON'T PANIC!! - THERE IS TIME TO MAKE A CORRECT DECISION ON WHAT ACTION TO TAKE IF A FALL OCCURS WHILE WEARING A FULL BODY HARNESS.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS FALL ARREST SYSTEM OR ITS USE, CALL OR
E-MAIL US BEFORE USE! (256) 353-0634 -- WWW.SUMMITSTANDS.COM**

WARNING FOR CUB HARNESS USERS!!

If you purchased the Fastback Cub harness, you MUST to read this warning section!

- **THE CUB HARNESS IS NOT A TOY!**
- **THE CUB HARNESS SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY INSPECTED EVERY TIME IT IS USED.**
- **THE HARNESS INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ AND UNDERSTOOD FULLY.**
- **THE CUB HARNESS SHOULD NEVER BE USED WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION!**
- **THE CUB HARNESS IS DESIGNED FOR TREESTAND USE AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED FOR ANY OTHER APPLICATION.**
- **IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE ADULT AND YOUTH TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE CUB HARNESS PROPERLY.**
- **THE CUB HARNESS WILL NOT COME WITH THE STANDARD SAFETY LINE, IT WILL HAVE THE SOP CLIMBING SYSTEM. THE CLIMBING SYSTEM WILL ALLOW THE YOUTH TO ALWAYS BE ATTACHED TO THE HARNESS. THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SOP CLIMBING SYSTEM ARE INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE.**

Harness Packaging:

The harness package contains one (1) harness, one (1) Treestand Safety Rope, one (1) Attached pouch with Suspension Relief Strap, one (1) locking clip, one (1) lineman's clip, instructions and DVD. The Cub comes with a 30' safety rope.

⚠ WARNING

- **Always check to make sure leg straps are secure around legs and buckled before climbing the tree!!!**
- Be sure the harness tether strap is attached to safety rope!!
- **NEVER ALLOW THE TETHER STRAP TO GET UNDER OR AROUND YOUR NECK** as shown in *Figure 1*.
- If wearing harness under hunting clothes, make sure your hunting clothes are not tight around your neck. The harness will slip up if you fall as shown in *Figure 2*.
- Always check harness webbing and hardware before every use for any damaged or worn stitching, webbing or hardware. If you find a problem, **DO NOT** use the harness until the problem has been resolved by Summit Treestands, LLC.

⚠ WARNING

If you fall, you must replace the harness by contacting Summit Treestands, LLC.

This harness has been designed to be used only as a safety device for hunting from elevated treestands and ladder stands. Any other use is **PROHIBITED!**

Section 1 - Harness Instructions:

Part 1. Putting on the Harness:

Step 1. If you have the SOP Supreme, Fastback Deluxe or Fastback Lite, simply put the harness on like a jacket. D-Rings should be facing out on both sides. Slip your arms through the shoulder straps. With the SOP Fastback and Fastback Lite, pick the harness up by the tether strap to put it on.

Step 2. For all SOP harnesses - buckle the main belt around your waist. Thread the buckle as shown in *Figure 3 - Steps 1-4*. Adjust belt strap by pulling on tag end until comfortably snug as shown in *Figure 4 and Figure 5*.

Step 3. For the **SOP Original**, rotate the pouch to your front. Unsnap the pouch and pull out the black tether strap (this strap will act as a pull cord to pull out the shoulder straps). Once the straps are out, rotate the pouch back behind you. Slip your arms through the shoulder straps as you would a jacket. Be sure the shoulder straps do not cross each other and that they are not twisted.

Step 4. For all SOP models adjust the 3-bar slide on each shoulder strap until the shoulder straps and waist belt are comfortably snug as shown in *Figure 6 and Figure 7*.

Step 5. It is easier to adjust the leg straps before they are

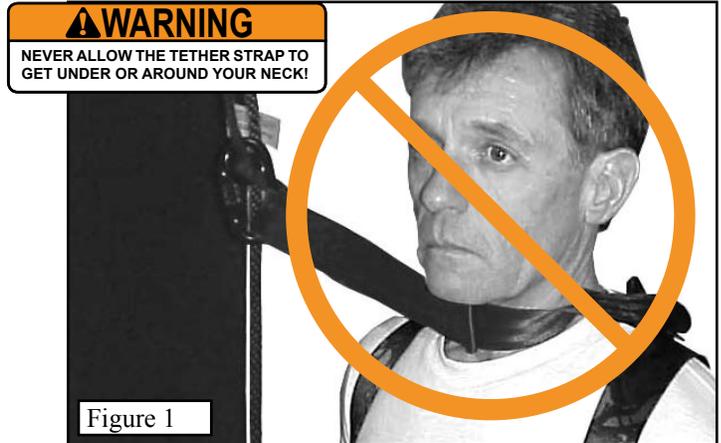


Figure 1



Figure 2

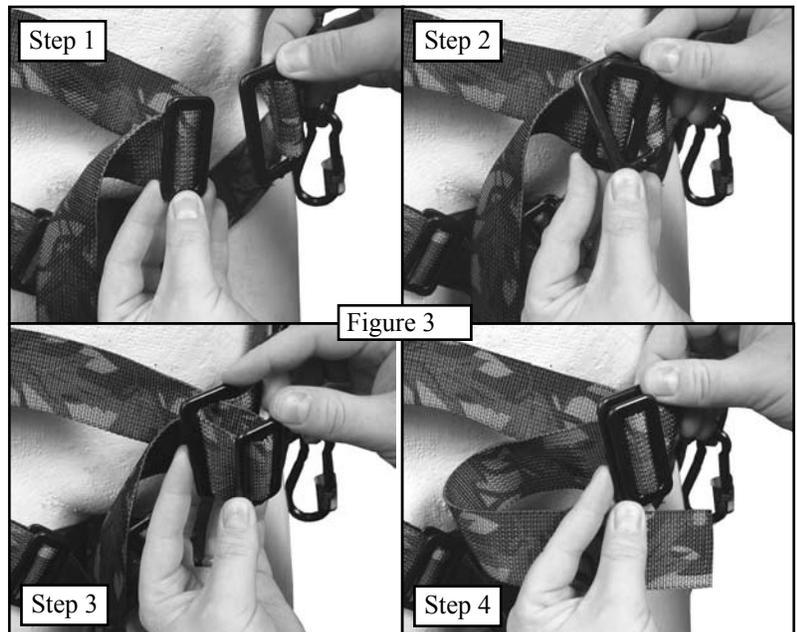


Figure 3

buckled. The adjustable, non rubber coated 3 bar slide closest to the waist strap controls the overall length of your leg straps. (See *Figure 8.*) Slide this 3 bar slide up or down the webbing and then pull the slack through the rubber coated buckle as shown in *Figure 9.*

Step 6. For all SOP models, bring leg strap **BEHIND** the leg then between the legs to the front. Leg straps can cross over or under the leg buckle strap as shown in *Figure 10.*

Step 7. Thread the male part of the leg buckles through the female part as shown in *Figure 11.* If the leg straps are loose you must unbuckle and readjust the strap length. Leg strap should be comfortably snug (see *Figure 12.*) You should only have to adjust the strap length once as you initially fit the harness.

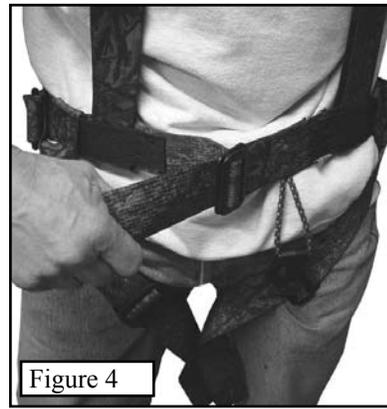


Figure 4

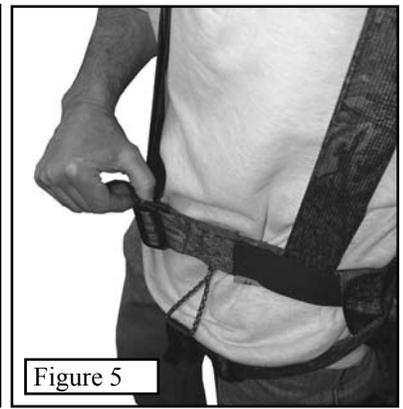


Figure 5

Part 2. Attaching the Treestand Safety Rope to the Tree.

⚠ WARNING

When attaching the safety rope to the tree, be sure the adjustable prussic hitch has been completely fed through the loop at the end of the safety rope as shown in *Figure 13.* Do this **BEFORE** you begin to climb with a climbing treestand.

⚠ WARNING

ALWAYS ADJUST THE SAFETY ROPE TO MINIMIZE THE SLACK WHILE YOU ARE CLIMBING.

⚠ WARNING

NEVER disconnect from your safety harness or your safety line once you are off the ground!

The adjustable prussic hitch should be snug to the safety rope. It should be tight when sliding it on the safety rope. If necessary, gently pull on the prussic loop to increase the tension of the prussic on the safety rope.

Step 1. Put the loop end of the safety rope around the tree.

Step 2. Thread the knot end and the adjustable prussic hitch all the way through the loop end of the safety rope (See *Figure 13* again).

Step 3. Open the prussic hitch loop and insert the harness tether safety clip through this loop as shown in *Figure 14.* Be sure the knot at the end of the prussic hitch is tight and that it has at least 2 1/2" of rope as a tail (See *Diagram on first page of this instruction book.*) Screw the locking collar **COMPLETELY** closed to secure the safety clip.

Step 4. Pull on the end of the prussic hitch to secure it to the safety rope. See *Figure 15.*

Step 5. Tie an overhand knot in the safety rope approximately one foot under the prussic hitch as shown in *Figure 16.* This will help maintain your position on the safety rope in the event of a fall.

Step 6. Slide the prussic hitch up the safety rope to a comfortable hunting position as shown in *Figure 17.*

⚠ WARNING

NEVER allow more than 24 inches total combined slack in the rope and tether strap (See *Figure 17* again).

⚠ WARNING

ALWAYS confirm the carabiner locking collar has been completely screwed closed to secure the safety clip

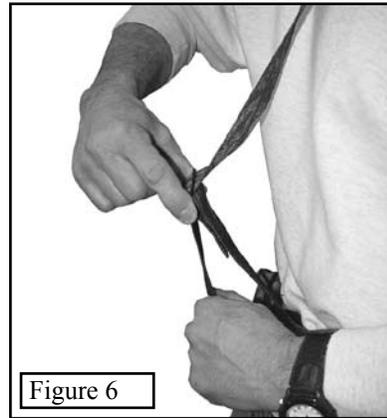


Figure 6

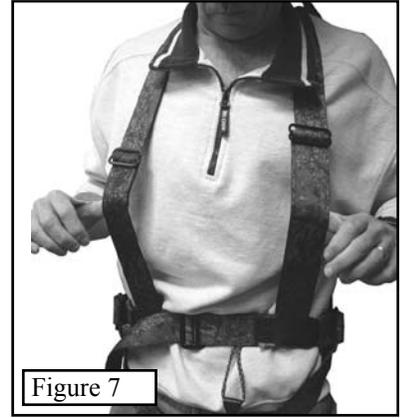


Figure 7



Figure 8

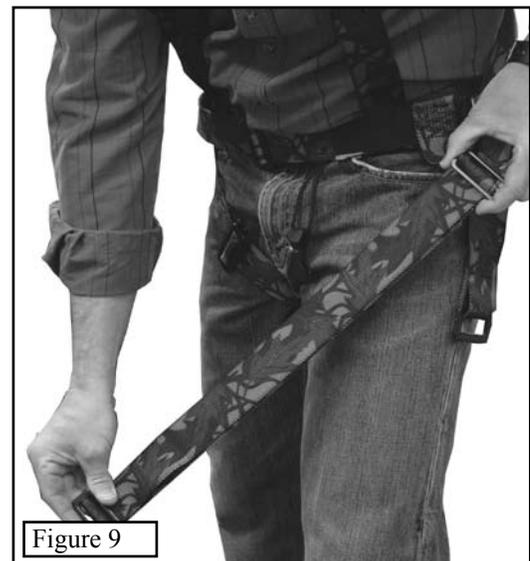


Figure 9

Part 4. Using the Harness with a Climbing Treestand:

Step 1. Attach the safety rope to the tree, follow “Attaching Safety Rope to Tree” in Section 1, Part 2 of these instructions.

Step 2. Slide the safety rope up the tree as you climb. While climbing, adjustments to the harness attachment to the tree (tether/tree belt) should be frequent and coordinated with treestand movement to maintain the least amount of slack in the tether that will allow for climbing.

Step 3. When you are at your hunting height, position safety rope above your head (See Figure 17).

⚠ WARNING

NEVER disconnect your harness system from the tree after leaving the ground!

Part 5. Converting the Safety Rope to a Climbing Belt:

Step 1. Clip the locking safety clip to the loop end of the safety rope.

Step 2. Clip the extra snap clip to the adjustable prussic hitch on the safety rope.

Step 3. Attach one of the clips to one of the D-Rings on the waist belt. Put the safety rope around the tree and attach the other clip to the other D-Ring. The lineman style belt should now look like Figure 18.

Step 4. To adjust the climbing belt, simply slide the adjustable prussic hitch forward or backward. **NOTE:** To slide the hitch forward you will need to hold onto the tag end of the rope as shown in Figure 19.

⚠ WARNING

When using a fixed position stand, DO NOT DISCONNECT YOUR LINEMAN’S BELT UNTIL YOU HAVE SECURELY CONNECTED THE REAR TETHER SYSTEM TO THE TREE!”

When using a fixed position stand, we recommend using the “Climbing System” or secondary safety rope to increase your safety during the ascend and descent. You can see the Summit Climbing System (Summit PN 83014) in our catalog or on the web at www.summitstands.com.



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15



Figure 16

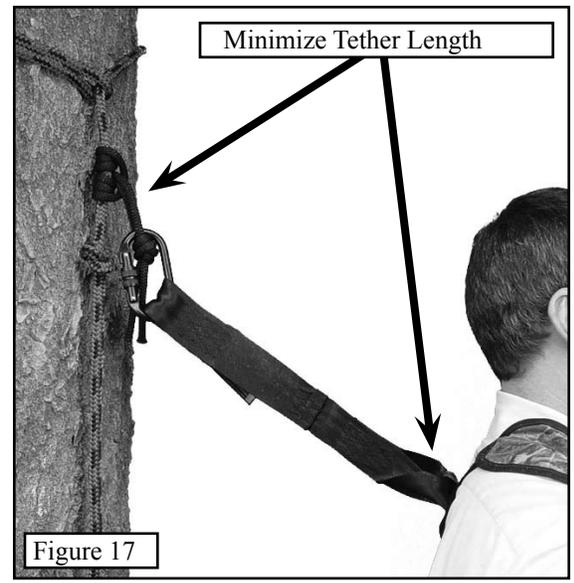


Figure 17

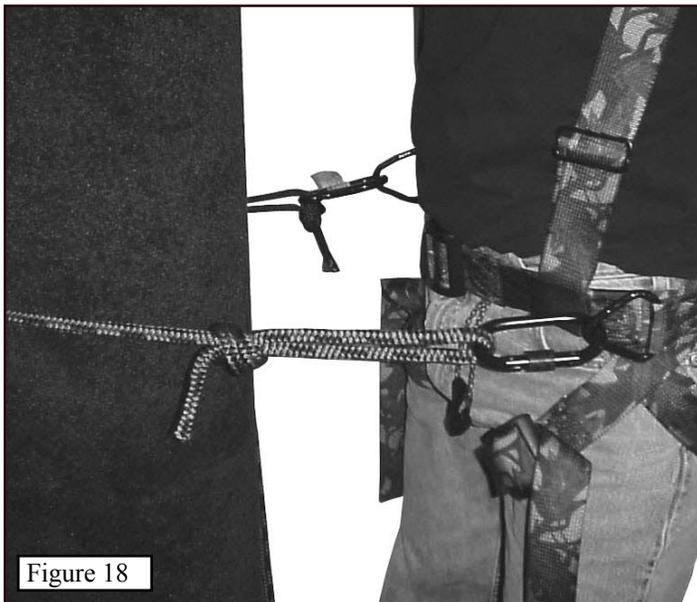


Figure 18



Figure 19

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 OF 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.

Section 2 - Harness Suspension / Use of Suspension Relief Strap:

It is necessary and very important that someone knows your hunting location and time of return. It is also very important that you carry (on your person) emergency communication devices such as a cell phone, two-way radio, whistle, signal flare or preferably a PLD (Personal Locator Device - FCC approved July, '03). When triggered, a PLD will transmit an emergency signal to local rescue teams identifying your location via satellite GPS coordinates. PLD's may be purchased at Wilderness outfitters or on the internet.

Suspension trauma or blood pooling can occur when suspended motionless in a harness for periods of time. This can lead to unconsciousness and death.

⚠ WARNING

If you fall and are suspended in your harness before help arrives, you need to exercise your legs by pushing off from the tree and relieve pressure by using the attached suspension relief strap.

Use of the Suspension Relief Strap:

Warning!

This Suspension Relief Strap **MUST** be on your person and accessible while using your harness!!! The steps below assume you are hanging by your tether line after a fall.

Step 1. Retrieve the Suspension Relief Strap (SRS) from the storage pouch on the side of the harness. *See Figure 20.*

Step 2. Tie one end of the SRS to one of the triangular Climbing Strap metal loops sewn into each side of the harness belt. *See Figure 21 position A.*

Step 3. Tie the other end of the SRS to the opposite harness belt loop as show in *Figure 21 position B.* Adjust the SRS so the large loop it forms is just above the ankles - *Figure 22.*

Step 4. Put both feet in the loop and stand up to relieve the pressure from the harness leg straps. *See Figure 23 and Figure 24.* **NOTE:** Readjust the length of the loop if considerable pressure is still felt on the leg straps.

Self extraction may be necessary in the unfortunate situation that A) No one knows your location, B) Your communication efforts are exhausted, C) You are confident that you have the strength, dexterity and ability to perform self-extraction and D) You decide this is your "absolute last resort". It is necessary to carry a device to assist with this self-extraction. Simple devices such as screw-in steps or a rope "Tree Descender" (available from Summit) will allow you to remove the weight from your harness. This may enable you to return to the treestand/ladder/climbing steps or slowly descend the tree.

⚠ WARNING

Prolonged harness suspension may be fatal. If rescue personnel cannot be notified, you must have a plan to recover / escape before hunting.

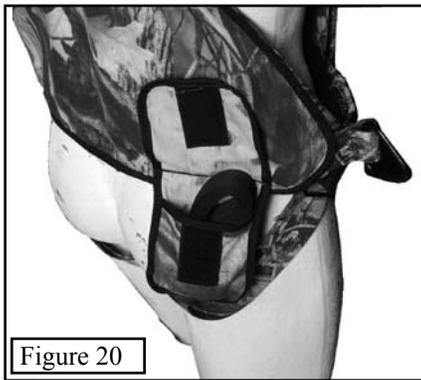


Figure 20

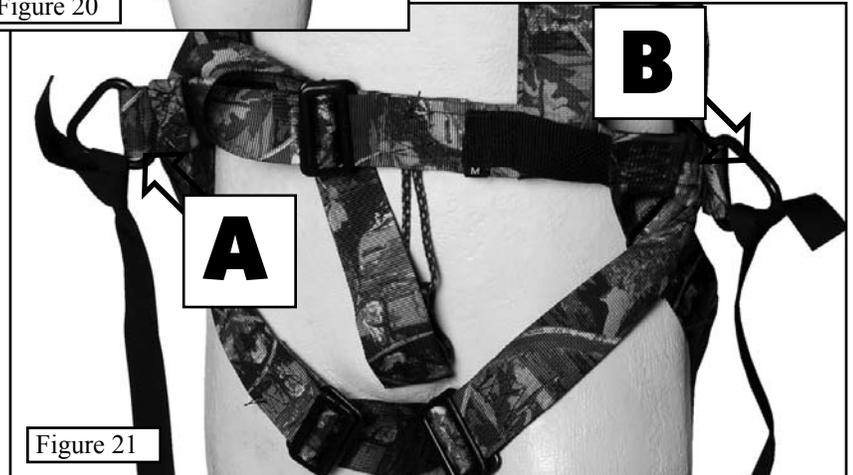


Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23

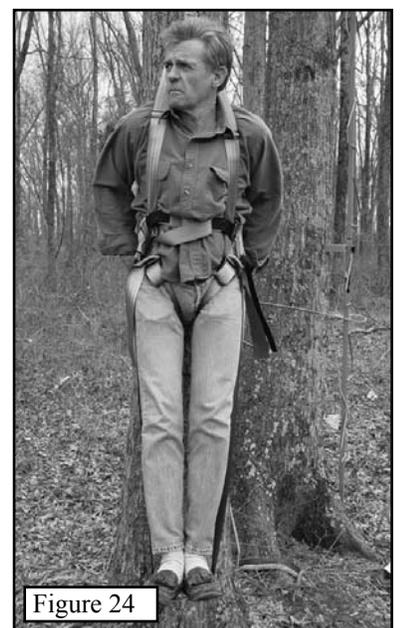


Figure 24