



SUMMIT
EST. 1981
TREESTANDS

Summit Harness Instruction Booklet

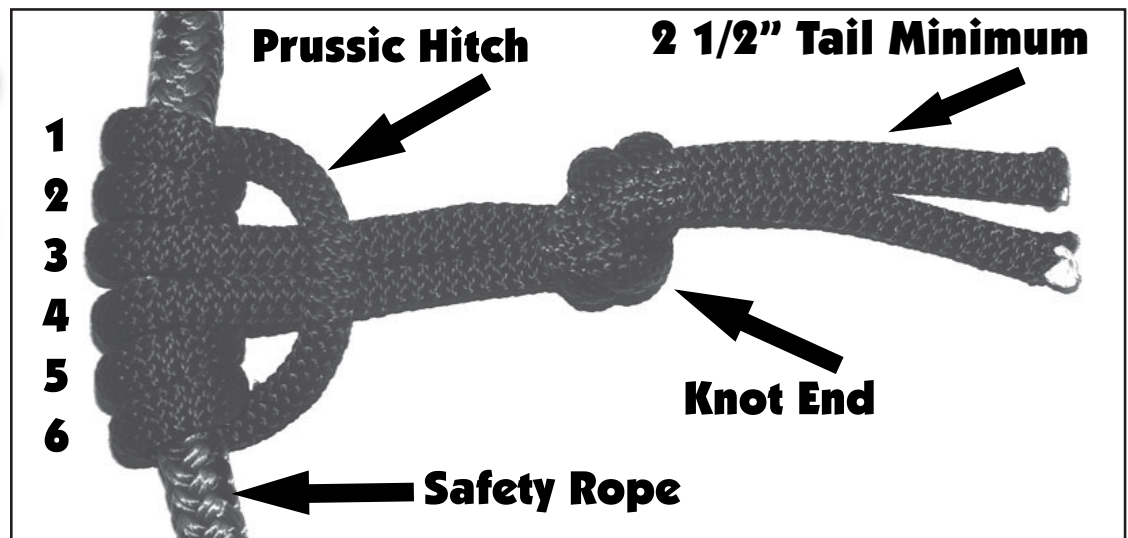
⚠ WARNING ⚠

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.



The Summit Treestand, LLC safety line has the ability to adjust tether length while attached to the tree. **NEVER** exceed 24 inches of total tether length (Safety rope and tether strap combined). **Minimize tether length 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. The prussic hitch slides along the safety rope until loaded, at which point it locks securely into place.

WHEN TO REPLACE YOUR SAFETY ROPE:

The safety rope has been subjected to severe shock loading.

The safety rope has been subjected to the kind of overload for which it was not designed, such as towing a vehicle.

The Safety rope shows signs of fraying from substantial use.

The Safety rope was used in preventing a fall.

If you have any questions about this harness or its use, please call or e-mail us!

(256) 353-0634

www.summitstands.com

READ ME FIRST!!!

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.

- **YOU MUST FULLY READ, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND EXPIRATION DATE! FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!!**
- **WEIGHT LIMIT: 300 LBS. IF YOU PURCHASED A GOLIATH TREESTAND, THE WEIGHT LIMIT IS 350 LBS.**
- **BEFORE USING ANY TREESTAND, BE SURE YOU MAINTAIN FULL BODY SAFETY HARNESS ATTACHMENT TO THE TREE AT ALL TIMES AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND!!! A FALL CAN OCCUR AT ANY TIME AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND! 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.**
- **DO NOT USE THIS OR ANY OTHER TREESTAND IF YOU HAVE BEEN USING DRUGS OR ALCOHOL OR ARE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED IN ANY WAY!**
- **NEVER ALLOW THE SAFETY HARNESS TETHER TO GET UNDER OR AROUND YOUR NECK!**
- **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. WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS AND THE INTERNET ARE SOURCES FOR THESE PLD'S.**
- **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 BY 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.**
- **PRACTICE THE USE OF THIS 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!**
- **BE WELL RESTED AND NEVER GET IN A HURRY. HURRYING CAUSES ACCIDENTS!!**
- **IF YOU LOAN OR SELL THIS TREESTAND, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FURNISH THE BUYER A COPY OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND THE VIDEO THAT CAME WITH THE TREESTAND. MAKE SURE THEY WATCH THE VIDEO AND READ / UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS!**
- **FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!!**

Warning!

1. Always check to make sure leg straps are secure around legs and buckled before climbing the tree!!!
2. Be sure tether strap is attached to safety rope!!
3. Never allow the tether strap to get under or around your neck as shown in **Figure 1**.
4. If wearing harness under hunting clothes, make sure your hunting clothes are not tight around your neck. The harness will ship up if you fall as shown in **Figure 2**.
5. 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.

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

Harness Packaging:

The harness contains one (1) harness, one (1) Safety Rope with Prussic hitch attached, one (1) locking clip and instructions.

Section 1 - Harness Instructions:

Part 1. Putting on the Harness:

Step 1. Buckle the main belt around your waist. Thread the buckle as shown in **Figure 3**. Adjust belt strap by pulling on tag



Figure 1



Figure 2

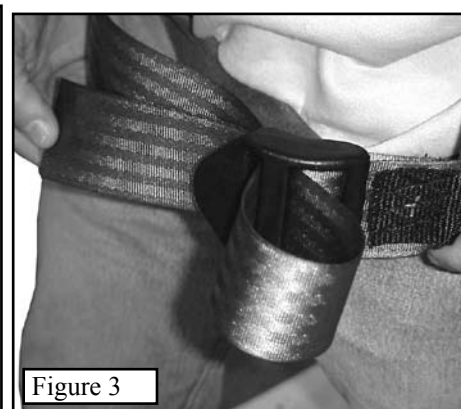


Figure 3

end until comfortably snug as shown in **Figure 4** and **Figure 5**.

Step 2. Slip your arms through the shoulder straps as you would a jacket. Be sure the shoulder straps do not cross each other and are not twisted. 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 3. 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 8**.

Step 4. Thread leg strap through leg buckle as shown in **Figure 9**. Pull tag end of leg strap to adjust fit. Leg strap should be comfortably snug (see **Figure 10** and **Figure 11**). Pull the tag end of the leg strap back through the buckle as shown in **Figure 12** and on the **Buckle Threading Diagram**.



Figure 4

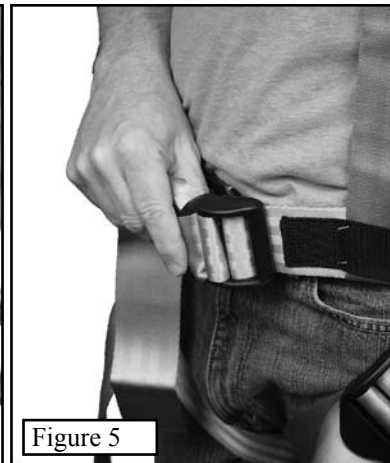


Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

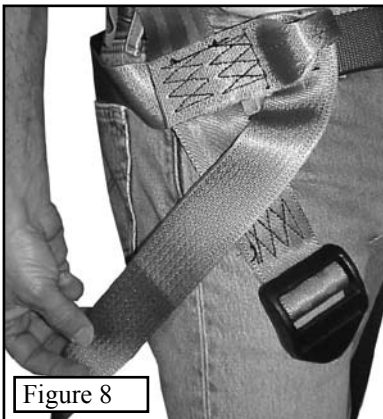


Figure 8

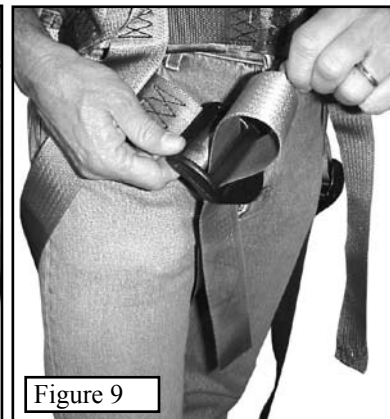


Figure 9

Part 2. Attaching the 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. Always check safety rope to be sure all knots are secure and tight. The prussic hitch should have six loops around the 7/16" camo rope. The end of the prussic hitch has an overhand knot, be sure it is tight and it has at least a 2 1/2" tail beyond the knot.

Always adjust the safety rope to minimize the slack. **WARNING: NEVER** allow more than **24 inches total** combined slack in the rope and tether strap. The more slack you have in the safety rope, the farther you will fall. This may result in injury or prevent you from returning to the treestand after falling.

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 12** again).

Step 3. Open the prussic hitch loop and insert the harness tether safety clip through this loop as shown in **Figure 14**. Screw the locking collar **COMPLETELY** closed to secure the safety clip.

Step 4. Slide the adjustable prussic hitch up the safety rope to a comfortable hunting position and pull on the end of the prussic hitch to secure it to the safety rope. See **Figure 15**.



Figure 10

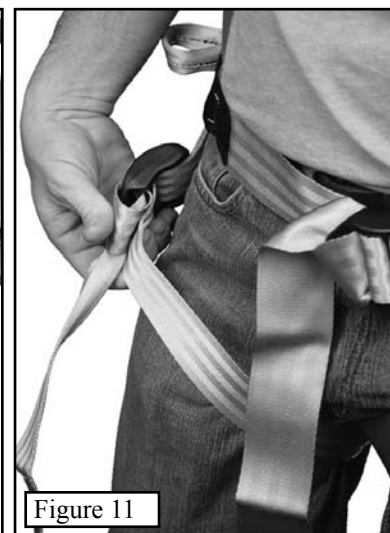
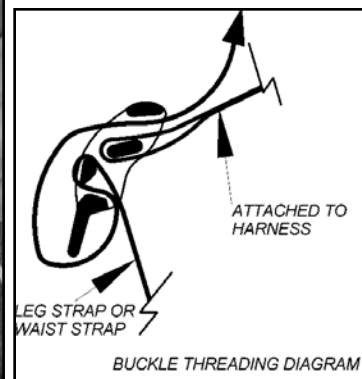


Figure 11



Figure 12



BUCKLE THREADING DIAGRAM

Step 5. Tie and 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**. **NOTE:** This is an adjustable safety rope. Always adjust the safety rope to minimize the slack needed for hunting. **WARNING:** NEVER allow more than 24 inches total combined slack in the rope and tether strap (See **Figure 17** again).

Part 3. Using the Supplied Climbing belt:

If you purchased the Copperhead Compact, Basic/Trophy/Comfort System, Deer Deck or Deer Deck Like non-climbing treestand, you received a lineman's style climbing belt. Your harness has loops sewn on the sides of the harness belt. These loops allow you to use the harness as a lineman's-style climbing belt. This will assist you while ascending and descending, installing climbing sticks and installing your hang-on treestand.

Step 1. Insert the sewn end of the strap through one of the loops on the Summit Harness belt as shown in **Figure 18**.

Step 2. Bring the strap around your back and thread it through the other loop on the Harness belt. See **Figure 19**.

Step 3. Run the belt around the tree and thread it through the buckle as shown in **Figure 20**.

Step 4. To adjust the climbing belt, pull on the loose tag end to tighten and lift up on the buckle to lengthen. See **Figure 21** and **Figure 22**.

Step 5. As you ascend and descend the tree you will be able to stay attached to your safety harness by using the extra climbing strap as a lineman's climbing strap. You will alternate from climbing strap to safety rope as you encounter branches or as you maneuver above your hang-on treestand. Attach the safety rope as explained in **Section 1, Part 1: "Attaching the Safety Rope to the Tree."** Once on the platform of your treestand, move your safety rope above your head and secure the safety rope by pulling on the prussic hitch.

WARNING: When using a climbing treestand, **DO NOT** remove your safety rope or harness from the tree until you have reached ground level. **NEVER** disconnect your safety rope or climbing belt from the tree while you are off of the ground.

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 13



Figure 14



Figure 15

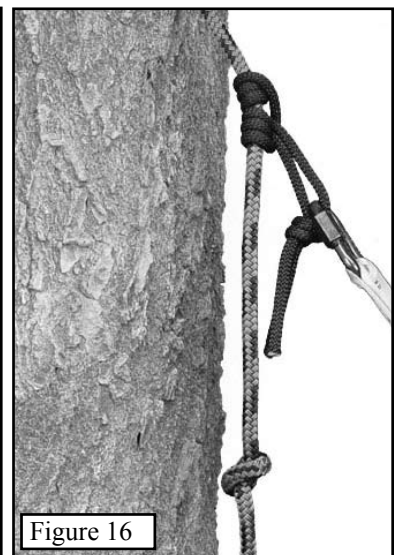


Figure 16



Figure 17

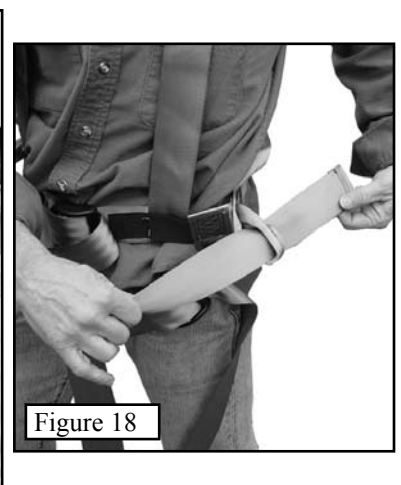


Figure 18

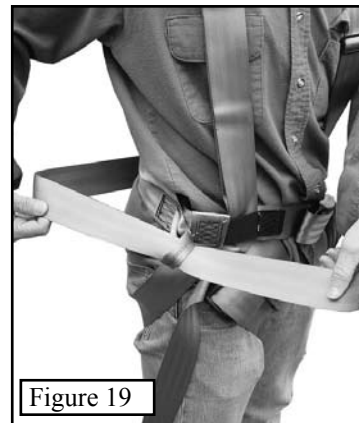


Figure 19

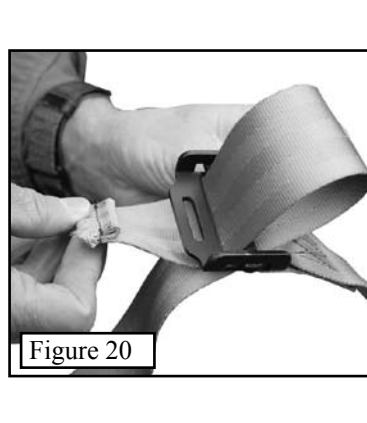


Figure 20



Figure 21

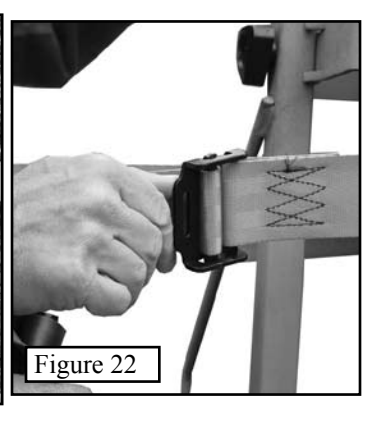


Figure 22

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).

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. Wilderness outfitters and the internet are sources for these PLD's.

Suspension trauma or blood pooling can occur when suspended motionless in a harness for periods of time. This can lead to unconsciousness. **WARNING: IF YOU HAVE TO HANG IN THE TREE BEFORE HELP ARRIVES, YOU NEED TO EXERCISE YOUR LEGS BY PUSHING OFF FROM THE TREE OR BY USING THE ENCLOSED SUSPENSION RELIEF STRAP.**

Use of the Suspension Relief Strap:

Warning!

This Suspension Relief Strap **MUST** be on your person 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 your storage place.

Step 2. Tie one end of the SRS to one of the Climbing Strap loops sewn into each side of the harness belt. See **Figure 23 position A.**

Step 3. Tie the other end of the SRS to the opposite harness belt loop as show in **Figure 23 position B.** Adjust the SRS so the large loop it forms is just above the ankles - **Figure 24.**

Step 4. Put both feet in the loop and stand up to relieve the pressure from the harness leg straps. See **Figure 25 and Figure 26.** **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, and C) You're 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 the ability to recover/escape.

Figure 23

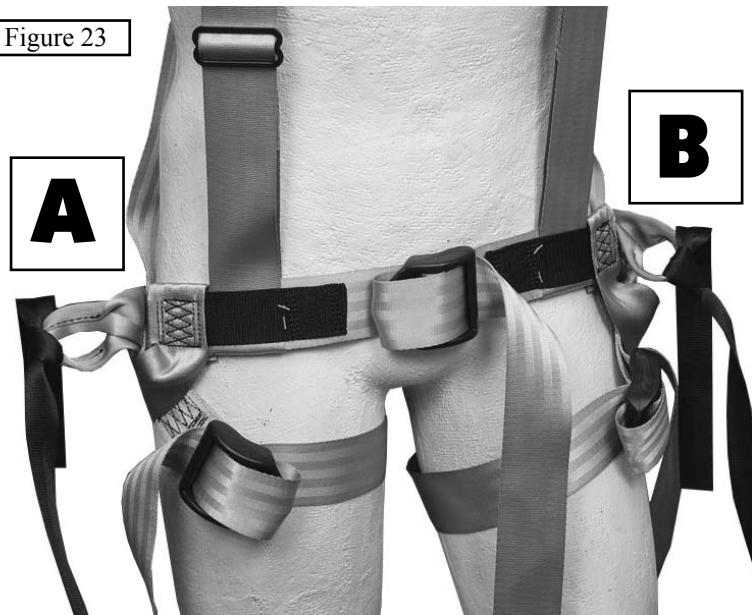


Figure 25



Figure 24

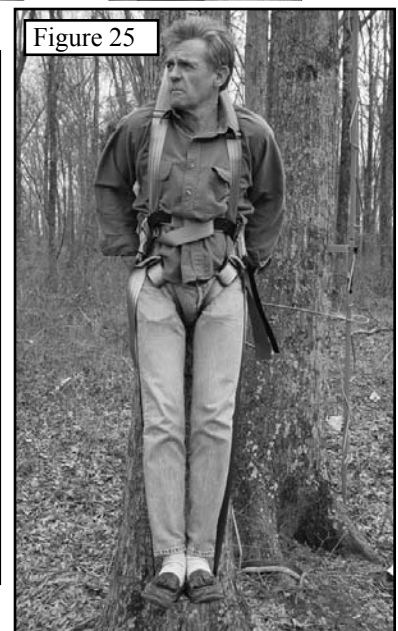


Figure 26



Section 3 - Helpful Hints:

1. In the event of a fall, you must be prepared to recover. If you cannot reach your stand, you may want to carry a Suspension Relief Strap or a Tree Descender rope (both available from Summit Treestands, LLC) or some other device to allow for a controlled descent.
2. If you will be bow hunting, you need to make sure you position the safety rope high enough above your head so the tether strap will not be in the way when you draw your bow.
3. Always pick your harness up by the tether strap. This will help keep your harness tangle-free.

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.

Summit products are manufactured under one or more of the following US Patents: 5,937,969; 5,971,104; 5,975,242; 5,979,603; 6,125,966; 6,182,792; 6,397,973; D,417,011; D,420,147

Summit Bucksteps and RapidClimb Stirrups are Patent Pending

Seat-O-The-Pants Harnesses and Accessories

Available from www.summitstands.com

SOP Climbing System - PN 83014

The perfect accessory for Hang-On stands and Ladder stands. The climbing System consists of a 30 foot long safety rope with prussic knot. Use it like a standard safety rope the first time you climb and then leave it attached once you are up. Simply slide the prussic up or down the next time you climb out of or into the stand. Also sold as a combo pack of 3 ropes - PN 83024.



SOP Tree Descender - PN 83018

BE PREPARED! Carry a Tree Descender on your person to assist you in the case of a fall.



SOP Harnesses - Regular, FastBack, Supreme

Upgrade to one of our SOP harnesses. All three models use the same easy to use safety line. Features include two piece quick silent locking buckles, storage pouch to store harness straps for tangle free use (Regular SOP), sewn in tangle resistant mesh back (FastBack) and our easy to put on, totally tangle free Supreme model.

Harness Replacement Parts

We also carry a complete line of replacement parts for safety harnesses including Locking Carabiners, Extra Safety Ropes, Camo Storage Pouches, and Lineman's Belt Equipment.

Visit us as WWW.SUMMITSTANDS.COM for more information.