

READ ME FIRST !!!

Please read carefully BEFORE using your new Summit MegaSampson Ladder Treestand. You must also watch the enclosed DVD BEFORE using your new ladder.

Congratulations! You have purchased the finest commercially available treestand ladder on the market today. Summit ladders 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 ladder treestand.

BEFORE USING ANY TREESTAND LADDER, BE SURE YOU USE A SAFETY HARNESS AT ALL TIMES AFTER LEAVING THE GROUND! !!

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 LADDER 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 OR LADDER. 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 LADDER 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!

IMPORTANT! Before each use of your Summit treestand ladder, ALWAYS inspect the treestand ladder for any structural damage, cracks, cable wear or abrasion that may have occurred. **DO NOT USE IF ANY DAMAGE IS FOUND!** The only additional assembly required is the attachment (where applicable) of the comfort pads described in the *Attachments* section of this booklet.

Part 1. Use of the MegaSampson Ladder Treestand
Weight Limit for this ladder stand is 300 lbs.

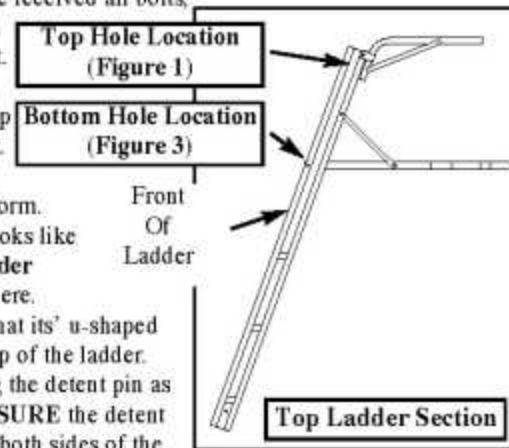
Part 1. Top Section Assembly

First, make sure you have received all bolts, nuts, bushings, parts, etc. as shown on the parts list.

You will assemble the top section of the ladder first.

This will include attaching the seat bar and platform. The top ladder section looks like the one in the "Top Ladder Section" figure shown here.

Position the seat bar so that its' u-shaped bracket "captures" the top of the ladder. Pin it on both sides using the detent pin as shown in Figure 1. BE SURE the detent pin ball extends through both sides of the bracket completely.



Insert 8 long flanged bushings into the pre-punched holes on the platform (Item 3) as shown in Figure 2 and 4 long flanged bushings into the bottom holes on each side of the ladder top section as shown in Figure 3 (see also "Top Ladder Section" figure on the next page). Bolt the platform to the top ladder section using 2

1/4" diameter, 2 3/4" bolts (Item 8) into the described holes as shown in Figure 4.

Make sure the ribbed side of the platform beams are facing the top end of the ladder.

Tighten the bolts securely using the supplied 1/4-20" lock nuts. DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN.



Figure 2



Figure 3

Insert 4 long flanged bushings into the remaining holes on the top ladder section as shown in Figure 5. Insert a short flanged bushing (Item 13) into both ends of the flat support bar (Item 4) as shown in Figure 6. Make sure the bushings are inserted into opposite sides. Using a 1/4" diameter, 1-3/4" bolt (Item 10) connect the flat support bar to the inside of the top ladder section using the remaining hole as shown in Figure 7. Connect the other end of the flat support bar to the remaining hole in the platform as shown in Figure 8. Make sure the bushings are still in place. Tighten securely using supplied 1/4-20" lock nuts. AGAIN, DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN. Repeat for the flat support bar on opposite side of the top ladder section.

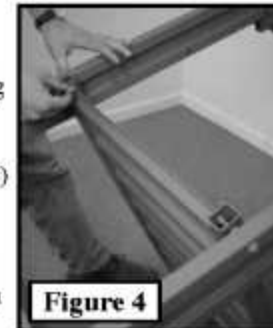


Figure 4



Figure 5

Part 2. Remaining Assembly & Ladder Set-Up
Position the ladder sections on the ground/floor as shown in Figure 9. Position the coupler plates

(Item 1) on the joints of the ladder sections so that the holes match as shown in Figure 10. Place the 5/16" diameter, 3/4" long carriage bolt (Item 6) through the coupler and ladder section as shown in Figure 11. No bushings will be used for this connection. Tighten the bolts securely using the supplied 5/16" lock nuts (Item 11) as shown in Figure 12. Perform this operation for all four joints. Attach the tie off strap (Item 5) to the ladder column just above the top rung on the top ladder section as shown in Figure 13. Run the end of the strap around the column (Figure 14) and then back through the sewn loop and pull tight as shown in Figure 15. Perform same operation for the other tie off strap.

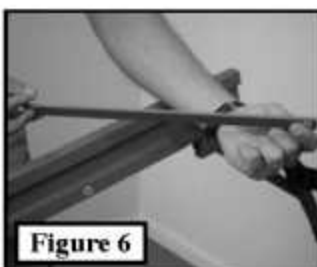


Figure 6

Attach ratchet buckle strap (Item 14) to the ladder column just below the third rung from the ground on the bottom ladder section as shown in Figure 16. Run the ratchet buckle around the column (Figure 17) and back through the loop and pull tight as shown in Figure 18. Perform same operation for the other ratchet buckle.



Figure 7

Lean the ladder against the tree. The bottom of the ladder should be positioned so that the platform section is level as shown in Figure 19. Also make sure that the back of the seat frame is not touching the tree. Once the platform is level, position the tie off straps around the tree such that they make an X on the back of the tree (connect the left strap to the right buckle and right strap to the left buckle). Pull the strap to the ratchet buckle and thread as shown in Figure 20. Tighten ratchet strap until the strap becomes tight as shown in Figure 21. Repeat with the other strap. It is best to tighten one buckle slightly, then tighten the opposite buckle slightly, going back and forth until both buckles are secure. Be careful not to over-tighten. Before climbing, you must have two people holding the ladder for you!



Figure 8

Take the supplied Climbing System (the long rope with a prussic knot on it) and carefully climb to the top of the ladder. Wrap the looped end of the Climbing System around the tree (Figure 22), then push the remaining rope and prussic knot through the loop (Figure 23). YOU MUST hook your harness tether onto the prussic knot at this point, as shown in Figure 24. After you are sure that your safety harness is securely hooked to the prussic knot on the climbing system, carefully hook the seat to the tree as shown in Figure 25. Now climb down the ladder, sliding the prussic knot with you as you go. Once you are on the ground, simply tie the bottom end of the Climbing System to one side of one of the ladder rungs close to chest height as shown in Figure 26. It is best to pull the Climbing System tight before tying, as this will make climbing up and down the ladder easier. Each time you climb the ladder, you simply clip your harness tether into the prussic knot and slide it up as you climb.



Figure 9

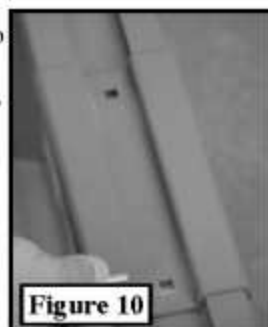


Figure 10



Figure 11

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH!!!

Part 3. Maintenance and Care

Because of the quality construction techniques used in manufacturing, your Summit treestand ladder 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 ladder should be used.

DO NOT leave your treestand ladder 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 ladder if this happens.** If your treestand ladder 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 ladder, 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 ladder. You must perform periodic inspections of the treestand ladder for damage. DO NOT use the treestand ladder if ANY obvious or suspected damage is observed.

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 ladder without knowledge of its proper use, or if the treestand ladder were dropped, or hit by a motor vehicle, or subjected to corrosive conditions, etc. Summit treestand ladders 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 ladder will provide years of successful hunting.

Part 4. Attachments

Comfort Pad. The camouflaged foam comfort pad for the gun rest bar can be easily attached for additional comfort.

Simply attach the long comfort pad to the bar as shown in Figure 27. Two cable ties per pad is sufficient. The cable ties are "in-line cable ties: 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 gun rest is attached by sliding the round ends of the gun rest into the square tubing at the top of the ladder, as shown in Figure 28. It can be rotated out of the way when entering and exiting the stand as shown in Figure 29.

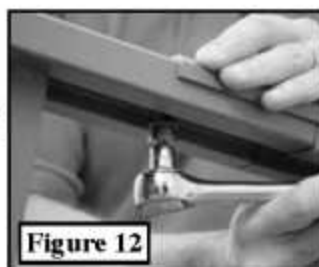


Figure 12

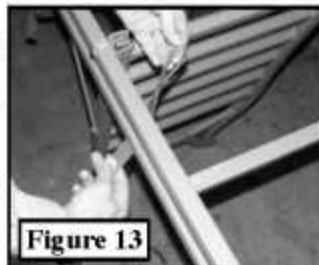


Figure 13

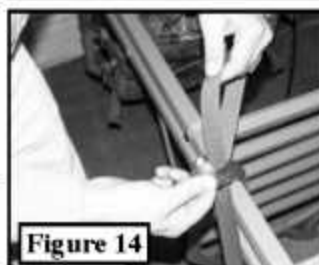


Figure 14

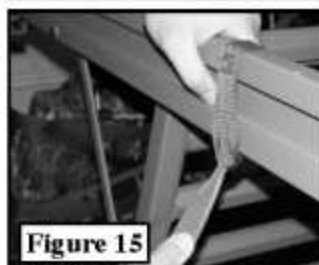


Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 17



Figure 18

Part 5. Tips

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

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. 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.

Harness Suspension

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 some period of time which can lead to unconsciousness. **IF YOU HAVE TO HANG IN THE TREE BEFORE HELP ARRIVES, YOU NEED TO EXERCISE YOUR LEGS BY PUSHING OFF FROM THE TREE OR ANY OTHER MOTION THAT WILL EXERCISE YOUR LEGS.**

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 as your "absolute last resort", you must use extreme caution if you decide to attempt it. It is necessary to carry a device to assist with self-extraction. Simple devices such as screw-in steps or a rope "Tree Descender" (Summit) will allow removing your weight from the harness to enable either A) return to the treestand/ladder/climbing steps or B) slowly descend the tree. There is also a device called the FallGuy Descender introduced in '05 to assist with descending (Phone 866 477-6723 or www.fallguysafety.com).

WARNING: Prolonged harness suspension may be fatal. If rescue personnel cannot be notified, you must have the ability to recover/escape.

Good Hunting and Hunt Safe.

HUNT TOMORROW...
...USE YOUR SAFETY HARNESS
TODAY
©(STLLC 2005)



Figure 19



Figure 20



Figure 21

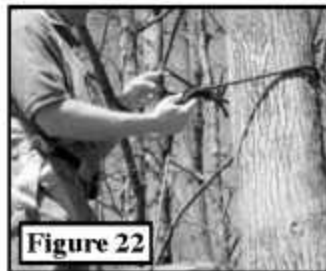


Figure 22



Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25



Figure 26

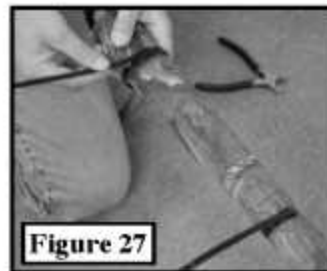


Figure 27



Right Way



Wrong Way



Figure 28



Figure 29