

# BUCKINGHAM MFG.

## TreeSqueeze 2.0™ Adjustable Choking Device

Warning: Do not use this product if you cannot understand and follow the instructions and warnings that come with it and complete all necessary functions.

### Instructions / Warnings

MODEL 7W08T18F7+J1 (8' Length) shown in Fig. 1

Other models may have varying lengths, colors, options & hardware from figure shown.

7W08T110F7+J1 (10' Length)

7W08T112F7+J1 (12' Length)

The TreeSqueeze 2.0 is intended for Fall Restriction and Work Positioning applications allowing for ascents and descents of trees. When properly adjusted and used, the TreeSqueeze acts as a choking device which restricts your fall in the event of a cut-out.

The TreeSqueeze is comprised of one rope doubled back onto itself. The two halves of this continuous rope are bound together using a web cover that is stitched down the center. This cover is intended to only hold the rope in place, not to be a strength component of the TreeSqueeze.

The Steel Passthrough Thimble (Fig. 1) allows the TreeSqueeze to be midline attachable. The thimble creates enough room for most carabiners used on the climbing line to pass through the thimble, allowing the climbing line to be disconnected from the saddle without removing the carabiner entirely when passing an obstruction. The carabiner will only pass through the thimble when oriented with the gate of the carabiner towards the large end of the thimble (Fig. 1).

**Inspect Prior to each use:** inspection should include but not be limited to the following:

### Rope Inspection:

- Inspecting your rope should be a continuous process of observation before, during, and after each use.
- Inspect rope fibers for signs of excessive wear, burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, hockling, ice buildup, broken strands in any given area of the rope.
- Both outer and inner fibers of each length of rope contribute to the rope's strength. If either is worn, the rope will naturally be weakened.
- Fig. 2a shows a product beginning to show signs of wear to the web cover, but not to the outer fibers of either lengths of inner rope. This type of wear indicates the need for closer attention be paid at each inspection, and to the consideration of this product being removed from service and replaced.
- Fig. 2b shows a product that has been worn through the outer web cover and through the outer layer of rope fibers. The red warning core of one section of rope is showing. Do not use rope that has the red warning center / core exposed. This type of wear indicates that the product must be discarded and replaced. (See Fig. 2b).



Fig. 2a

Allowable Wear



Fig. 2b

Unacceptable Wear

- Inspect the rope for frayed strands and broken yarns. Check for pulled strands. A pulled strand should be re-threaded into the rope, if possible, otherwise it may snag on a foreign object during use.
- Inconsistent texture or stiff areas can indicate excessive dirt or grit embedded in the rope or shock load damage.
- Inconsistent diameter (flat areas, bumps, or lumps). This condition indicates core or internal damage from overloading or shock loading.
- With use, all ropes become dirty. Inspect for areas of discoloration that could have been caused by chemical contamination and may result in the rope becoming brittle or stiff.
- Glossy or glazed areas that generally indicate signs of heat damage.
- Rope, and rope ends are free of defects.

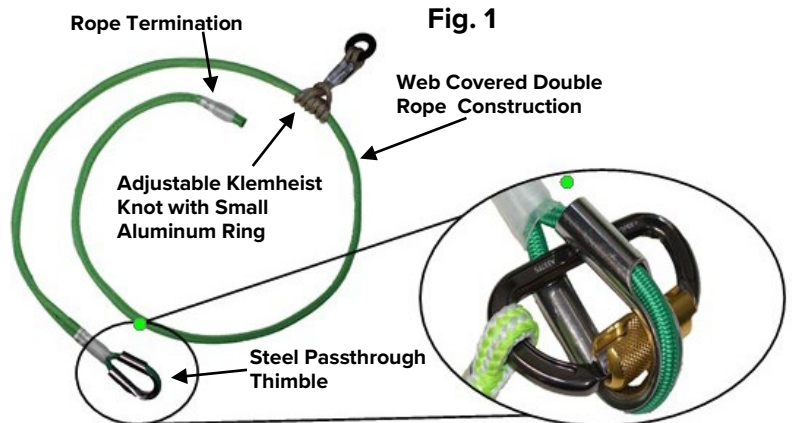


Fig. 1

- Terminations of TreeSqueeze extends through the whipping twine ends. Before each use, ensure clear plastic protective cover of the whipping is not damaged and the whip is secure and tight. (See Fig. 3).
- If ice or snow build-up is noted, remove build-up prior to use by running the Klemheist Knot along the length of the rope. Ensure the coils of the Klemheist Knot are clean and free of packed snow or ice.

**Fig. 3**

**Hardware Inspection:**

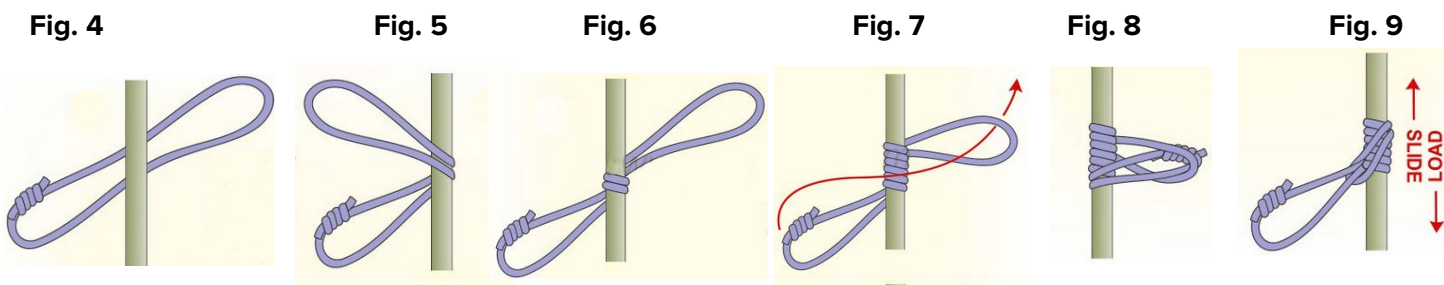
- Inspect the hardware to ensure all surfaces are free of cracks, sharp edges, burrs, distortion, corrosion, nicks and excessive wear.



**Use Instructions:**

The TreeSqueeze is supplied from the Manufacturer with an Adjustable Klemheist Knot tied to the double rope construction of the device to create adjustable choking device. If the Klemheist Knot needs to be re-tied or replaced, follow the steps outlined below. Use only approved Friction Hitch Cord supplied by Buckingham as a replacement.

The sketches below illustrate the method of tying the adjustable Klemheist Knot to the TreeSqueeze. The terminating loops of the adjustable Klemheist Knot are permanently attached to the small aluminum ring.



**Tying the Klemheist Knot to the TreeSqueeze:**

For clarity purposes, the terminating loops, small aluminum ring and one rope of the double rope construction TreeSqueeze are not shown in above sketches.

- Step 1 - Pass the loop of Prusik cord behind the rope of the TreeSqueeze as shown in Fig. 4.
- Step 2 - Make a wrap around the TreeSqueeze Rope with the loop on the right (opposite of the aluminum ring) {Fig. 5 & 6}.
- Step 3 - Continue to make two more turns around the TreeSqueeze working from bottom to top. (Fig. 7).
- Step 4 - Feed the left hand loop (aluminum ring side) through loop on right (Fig 7 & 8).
- Step 5 - Pull the left (ring side) loop back over to the left side of the TreeSqueeze and pull down hard to set the knot (Fig. 9). Grasp the entire knot and slide up the TreeSqueeze rope. Grip and load the knot to the TreeSqueeze rope by sharply pulling down on the aluminum ring (Fig. 9).

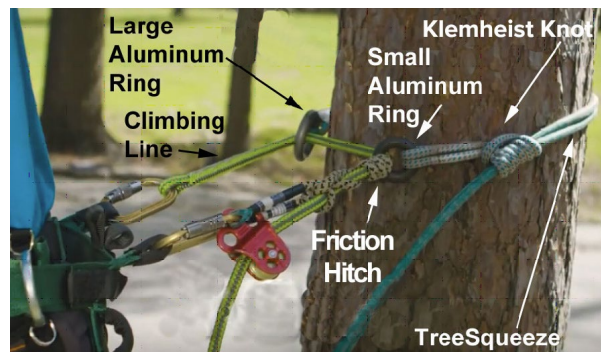
**Note:** The Klemheist Knot must be wrapped around the TreeSqueeze a minimum of three wraps to give six coils as shown (Fig. 9).

**To attach the TreeSqueeze:**

1. (If needed) Attach the Klemheist Knot (as previously shown) to the termination end of the TreeSqueeze.
2. Place the TreeSqueeze around the back side of the tree.
3. Feed the climbing line through the small aluminum ring of the Klemheist Knot and then through the large aluminum ring or steel passthrough thimble of the TreeSqueeze (Fig. 10).

**Fig. 10**

Use an approved carabiner connecting device to attach the climbing line to the suspension D-ring on one side of your saddle or harness (Fig. 10).



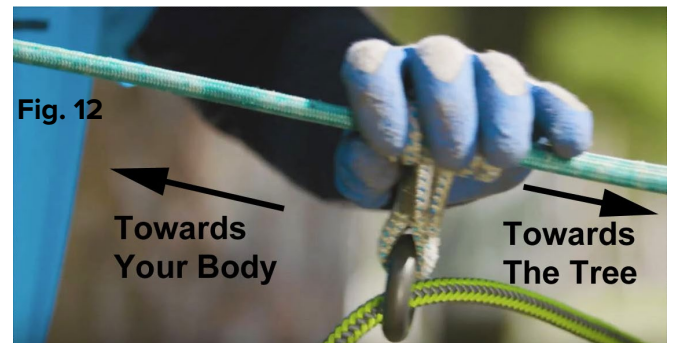
4. Use a friction hitch and an approved carabiner connecting device to tie into the suspension D-ring on the opposite side of your saddle or harness. (Fig. 10). Be sure to perform a trial test while standing on the ground to ensure the TreeSqueeze properly grips the tree prior to climbing.
5. You are now ready to climb using your TreeSqueeze as an Adjustable Choking Device.

Fig. 11 shows the TreeSqueeze with Klemheist Knot attached around a tree with a climbing line and friction hitch connected through both rings and leading back to the D-rings of the user's saddle or harness.



### To Operate:

1. Ensure TreeSqueeze is properly attached by leaning back slowly. Unit should support user.
2. To shorten Device, lean slightly into the tree to relax tension on the Klemheist Knot, Grasp free end of the TreeSqueeze with one hand and the coils of the Klemheist Knot with the other hand. Slowly slide the Klemheist Knot towards the tree (Fig. 12). When properly positioned release your grasp on the coils and lean back slowly to put tension back on the Klemheist Knot.
3. To lengthen Device, slightly lean into the tree, to relax tension on the Klemheist Knot. Grasp the coils of the Klemheist Knot with one hand and slowly slide it back towards your body (Fig. 12). When properly positioned release your grasp on the coils and lean back slowly to put tension back on the Klemheist Knot.
4. While climbing above or below obstructions adjust the TreeSqueeze to minimize fall distance to under two feet (2').



### Warnings:

- Know the job and the regulations governing performance requirements and select the proper equipment.
- Before each use check that your equipment is free of burns, cuts, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands, Cracks, deformation and excessive wear. Remove from service, destroy, and discard equipment if it does not pass this inspection and replace immediately.
- All affixed labels should be left in place and all instructional material kept for future reference.
- This equipment is intended for use by properly trained professionals only.
- This product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- Use PPE equipment only for the specific purpose for which it is designed and intended.
- For personal use only. NOT for towing or hoisting.
- Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, climbers, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance cannot be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- This product is to be used for Positioning and Fall Restriction only, **NOT FOR FALL ARREST**. Therefore, it may be necessary to supplement arrangements for Work Positioning / Fall Restriction with collective means (i.e. safety nets) or personal means of protection against falls from a height (i.e. fall arrest system).
- Use only with saddle or harness meeting standards for intended use.
- As outlined by OSHA 1926.502 (e)(2) positioning devices shall be secured to an anchorage capable of supporting at least twice the potential impact load of an employee's fall or 3,000 lbf. (13.3 kN), whichever is greater versus fall arrest anchor points which must support a minimum of 5,000 lbf. (22.2 kN) per attached worker and be independent of worker support.
- Avoid contact of this equipment with sharp edged or pointed tools, hand saws, chainsaws, hand tools, abrasive surfaces, high temperature surfaces, welding or other heat sources electrical hazards, or chemicals, moving machinery etc.
- Be aware of this device's position / placement at all times in relation to the operations being performed. Use extreme caution when performing operations such as cutting, drilling, sawing, etc. Always perform this type of work well above this device to avoid the potential of tool contact, causing damage which may result in a fall, serious injury or death).
- If ice or snow buildup is noted, run the Klemheist Knot along the length of the rope to remove the build-up and then ensure the Klemheist Knot is clean and free of packed snow or ice.

- Only Buckingham Mfg. Co., or those authorized in writing by Buckingham Mfg. Co., may make repairs / modifications to this equipment.
- Use only approved Friction Hitch Cord supplied by Buckingham if Klemheist Knot needs replacement.
- Remove from service and destroy if subjected to impact loading. Even though no visible signs may be present, internal damage may have occurred thus reducing its strength and margin of safety.
- Never wrap device around a sharp member as the material could be cut or damaged.
- Employer - instruct employee as to proper use and warnings before use of equipment.
- Always visually check that snap hook / carabiner connecting device freely engages the TreeSqueeze rings or anchor point and keeper / gate is completely closed with each use. Never rely solely on the feel or sound of a snap hook / carabiner connecting device engaging.
- Make sure each snap hook / carabiner connecting device is positioned so that its keeper / gate is never load bearing.
- When in the work position, ensure there is no pressure on the snap hook locking mechanism sufficient to depress it as this will, due to its length, render it incompatible with currently designed D-rings and make it very susceptible to rollout.
- Fall protection equipment, (i.e. fall arrest, work positioning belts, climbers, retrieval, suspension etc.) should not be resold or provided to others for re-use after use by original user as assurance cannot be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- Completely read, understand, and follow all instructions, warnings, and guidelines pertaining to this and all associated equipment before use. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death. Should questions arise concerning the proper use or condition of your equipment, contact Buckingham Manufacturing Co. at 1-800-937-2825.
- If any evidence of wear or deterioration as outlined above is observed, immediately cease use, destroy the product, and replace it with new equipment. Should any unusual conditions not outlined above be observed, or you have reasonable doubt about a particular condition, remove the equipment from service and notify your Supervisor, Safety Director, or contact Buckingham Mfg. Co. for clarification. Failure to carefully and completely inspect your equipment could result in serious injury or death.

### **Cleaning / Storage Instructions:**

A dirty product should be washed and rinsed in clean water, then dried. Do not store near solvents or corrosive chemicals or at extreme temperatures. Inspect your equipment carefully before use. This product should be stored in a clean and dry environment out of direct sunlight and away from extreme climate conditions. Ropes should be stored on racks or hooks to provide ventilation and should never be stored on concrete or dirt surfaces.

### **STATEMENT of OBSOLESCENCE:**

Precise “useful life expectancy” or “shelf life” for this product is not specified, as the degree of use, conditions of use, and the degree of care and storage determines useful life. All users maintain responsibility to select proper equipment for the job, be properly trained in its use, and ensure all personnel support equipment passes inspection before each use. Upon evidence of defects, damage or deterioration, all equipment shall be removed from service immediately and tagged or marked as unusable or destroyed. Additionally, all equipment shall be inspected on a regular basis not to exceed one year by a Competent Person, as defined by OSHA/ANSI, to verify that the equipment is safe for use. In the event of any question or concern regarding the condition of such equipment, users shall remove the equipment from service for further inspection. All users must comply with OSHA/ANSI/ASTM standards prior to and in using such equipment. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

### **INTERNATIONAL USERS:**

Notwithstanding the above, please know that certain international jurisdictions require manufacturers of equipment to provide customers with a maximum useful lifespan (sometimes referred to as a “Statement of Obsolescence”). To the extent required, Buckingham personal protective equipment manufactured from synthetic fiber materials including but not limited to items such as webbing and/or rope are subject to a maximum useful lifespan of ten (10) years from the date of manufacture. As stated above proper usage, storage, maintenance, and care impacts the useful lifespan of equipment. Extreme circumstances may require that product must be retired after only one use. This statement is made in conformance and compliance with BS EN 365:2004. International users must ensure that product inspections are completed by Competent Persons as defined by international standards including but not limited to British Standard (“BS”). If equipment fails any inspections, it must be immediately withdrawn from service and destroyed. For more information regarding safe and appropriate use of equipment, please contact Buckingham Manufacturing at 1-800-937-2825.

## **OUR GUARANTEE:**

We guarantee the equipment we manufacture to be free from defects in material and workmanship. We will repair any equipment deemed to be defective which is returned to us by the original purchaser. However, this guarantee is void if any product is changed or altered in any way, or if the product is used in a manner other than for which it is intended. This express guarantee supersedes all other expressed or implied guarantees, obligations or liabilities. There are no implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose and as such, all implied warranties are specifically disclaimed.

## **LIMITATION ON LIABILITY:**

In no event will Buckingham or buyer be liable to the other for lost revenues, lost profits or any other indirect, consequential, special or punitive losses or damages, however caused, whether in action for breach of contract, strict liability, tort, or otherwise, even if advised of the possibility of such losses or damages. In no event will Buckingham's liability exceed the total amount paid by the buyer to Buckingham for the product or equipment giving rise to such claim(s).

Please see other terms and conditions relating to this product at <https://buckinghammfg.com/terms-conditions/>

## **REGISTRATION:**

Before use of the product, ensure to register and confirm the product at [www.buckinghammfg.com/register](http://www.buckinghammfg.com/register).

**BUCKINGHAM MFG.**  
**BINGHAMTON, NY**  
**1-800-937-2825**  
**[www.buckinghammfg.com](http://www.buckinghammfg.com)**

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