

YOUR GUIDE TO PROPER MAINTENANCE OF BUCKINGHAM TREE CLIMBERS

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.

Buckingham Tree Climbers are intended for use by properly trained professionals only.

Your Buckingham Tree Climbers have been designed and manufactured to provide you with security and comfort while you are climbing. Gaffs are machined to very close tolerances and the tips have the proper radius to ensure proper penetration.

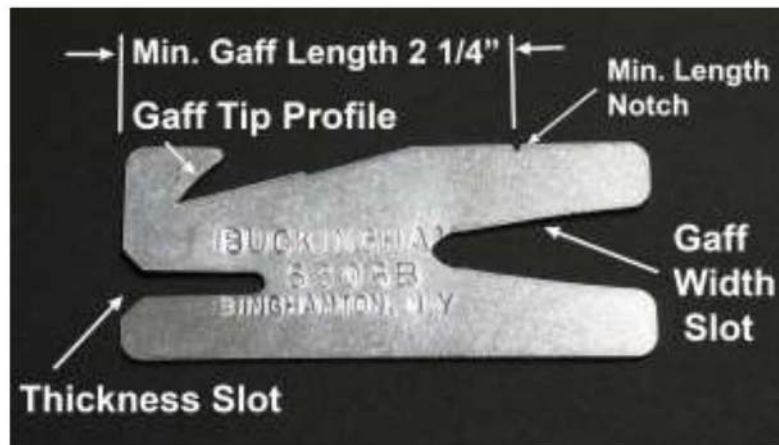
It is **YOUR** responsibility to maintain your climbers properly. The Buckingham Gaff and Stirrup Gauge PN 6306B will guide you. In normal use, your gaffs will need only honing to retain their cutting edges. For this we suggest use of Buckingham Hone PN 6501.

If your gaffs are nicked or otherwise damaged or have been severely worn, they may need re-shaping beyond the capabilities of the hone. We then recommend careful use of the smooth, single-cut file such as Buckingham PN 6058 included in our Tree Gaff Shaping Kit outlined below.

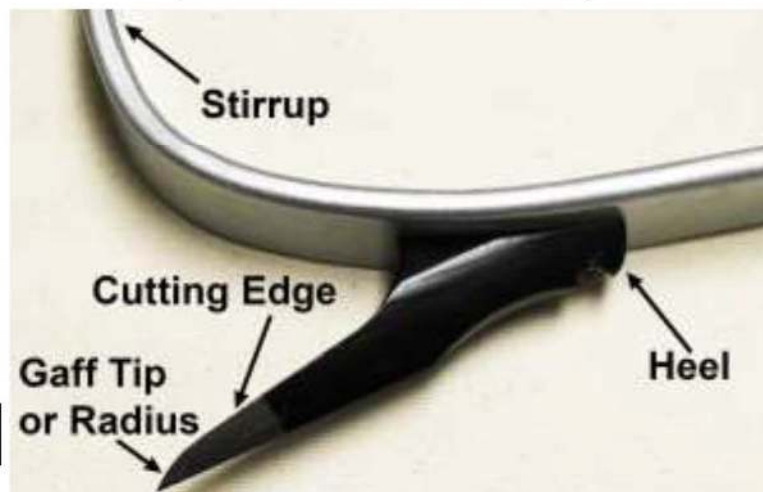
- Buckingham Tree Gaff Shaping Kit PN **6026** includes:
 - Gauge PN 6306B,
 - Hone PN 6501,
 - Smooth Single-Cut File PN 6058
 - complete illustrated guidance on Proper Climber Maintenance.

Maintenance steps are described and illustrated to show "PROPER" conditions and those considered "UNSAFE". READ and FOLLOW these GUIDES to maintain your climbers.

TREE GAFF AND STIRRUP GAUGE



LEG IRON WITH TREE GAFF



USING THE 6306B GAFF & STIRRUP GAUGE

STEP 1

PROPER



GAFF TIP PROFILE
Slot should be your GUIDE to proper shaping of the gaff tip. A reasonable snug fit with the tip radius closely matching that of the slot may be considered proper. A gaff tip that fits loosely and ends in a sharp point without the radius is unsafe for climbing. Such a gaff should be re-shaped gradually, as shown in the Reshaping Instruction section.

UNSAFE



STEP 2

PROPER



GAFF LENGTH
Minimum safe gaff length for tree climbing is 2 1/4". This is measured on the flat under side of the gaff. Gaff tip must extend past Minimum Length notch. Gaffs shorter than 2 1/4" are too worn to be used safely.

UNSAFE



STEP 3

PROPER



GAFF WIDTH
Do not use as a precise measurement but as a guide to prevent shaping the gaff too narrow. When gaff tip is inserted in gauge as shown, the gaff should not pull through the slot. If gaff pulls through the slot the gaff has been shaped to narrow to be used safely.

UNSAFE



STEP 4

PROPER



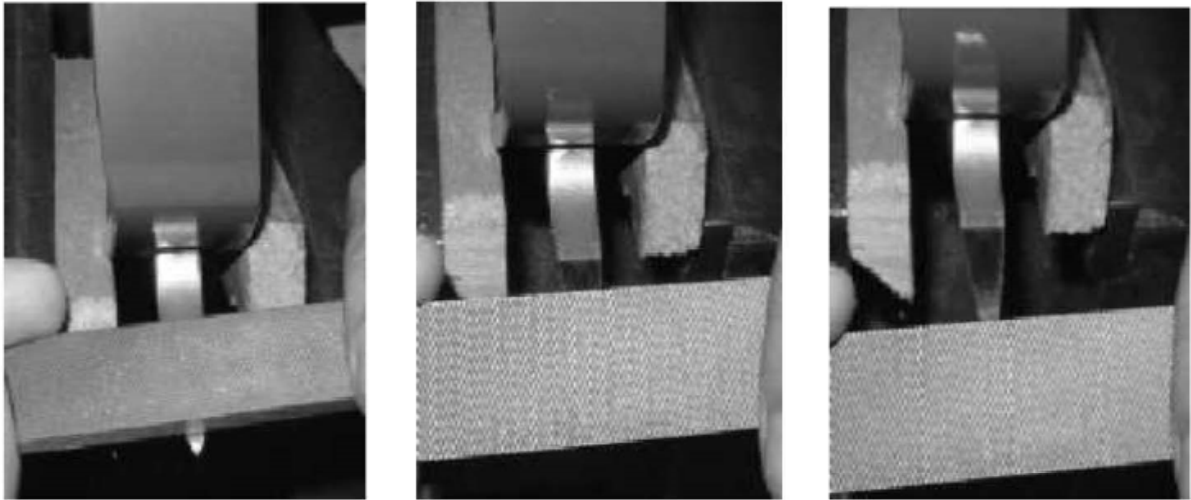
STIRRUP THICKNESS
If at any point along either edge, the stirrup portion of the climber fits into the Stirrup Thickness Slot, the climber is too worn to be used safely.

UNSAFE



RESHAPING INSTRUCTIONS

If your gaffs need filing to restore them from damage or major wear, place gaff in a vise as shown, cushioned by blocks of wood to avoid scarring the leg iron. Use only a smooth, single-cut file such as Buckingham PN 6058. Use light strokes from heel to tip being careful not to scar the leg iron at the heel junction. Keep file flat on the gaff and clean file frequently. Gauge your progress frequently being careful not to remove too much metal. Correct filing action of the gaff tip is a smooth "over-and-down" motion as shown.



Keep file flat, push away from the gaff heel toward the tip and roll the file "over-and-down" at the tip to maintain proper tip radius 1.100" from the tip. This radius is the key to proper tree penetration. It forces the gaff deeper into the tree with less effort. Gauge your work frequently. Touch up with the hone PN 6501 and climb with assurance.



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.

Contact Buckingham should you have questions regarding the aforementioned or our product.

BUCKINGHAM MFG. CO.
BINGHAMTON, NY
www.buckinghammfg.com
1-800-937-2825

Information contained in these written instructions supersedes all other information (written, audio, video etc.) produced by Buckingham Mfg. prior to the revision date of this document.