

# BUCKINGHAM MFG.

## TreeSqueeze™ Adjustable Choking Device Instructions / Warnings

MODEL 7+L08T18+J shown in Fig. 1.  
Other models may have varying lengths, colors,  
options & hardware from figures shown.  
PN 7+L08T18+J – 8' Length  
PN 7+L08T110+J – 10' Length  
PN 7+L08T112+J – 12' Length

The TreeSqueeze is intended for Fall Restriction and Work Positioning applications allowing for accents 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.

**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 contribute to the ropes strength. If either is worn, the rope will naturally be weakened.
- Do not use rope that has the red warning center / core exposed. (see Fig. 2).
- 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, or rope crimp and all ends are free of defects.
- If ice or snow build-up is noted, remove build-up prior to use by running the prusik along the length of the rope. Ensure the coils of the prusik are clean and free of packed snow or ice.

### Ring and Rope Crimp Inspection:

- Inspect to ensure rings and rope crimps are free of cracks, distortion, corrosion, or nicks.
- Terminations of TreeSqueeze extends through the crimp. Before each use, ensure the crimp is secure and tight. (see Fig. 3).

### Use Instructions:

The Adjustable prusik loop is intended to be attached to the double rope construction device to create adjustable choking device.

**NOTE: Double rope cross sectional area of the device must be equal to or greater than that of the material used in the manufacture of the adjustable prusik loop.**

The sketches below illustrate the method of tying the adjustable prusik loop to the TreeSqueeze. The terminating loops of the adjustable prusik loop are permanently attached to the small aluminum rings.

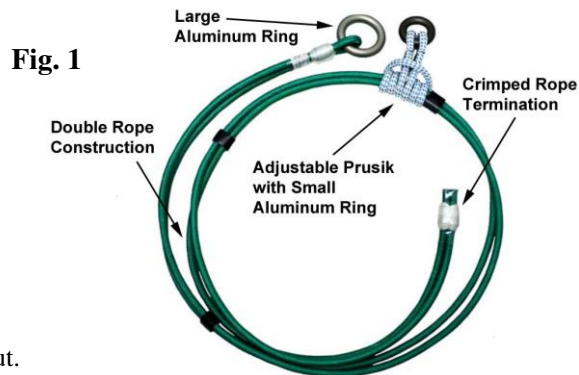


Fig. 4

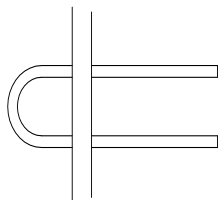


Fig. 5

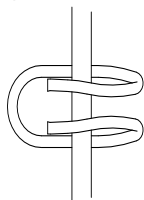


Fig. 6

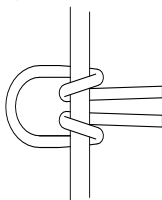


Fig. 7

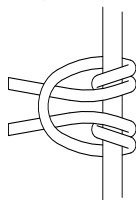


Fig. 8

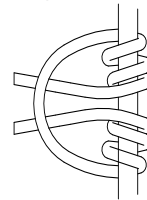
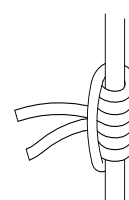


Fig. 9



## Tying the Prusik Loop 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 Bend the prusik loop in half and pass the loop behind the rope of the TreeSqueeze as shown in Fig. 4.
- Step 2 Pass the ring over the TreeSqueeze and back down through the opposite end of the loop (Fig. 5 & 6).
- Step 3 Continue to make two more turns around the TreeSqueeze (Fig. 7 & 8).
- Step 4 Tighten the prusik loop around the TreeSqueeze as shown (Fig. 9).

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

## To attach the TreeSqueeze:

1. Attach the prusik loop (as previously shown) to the crimped termination end of the TreeSqueeze.

**Fig. 10**

2. Place the TreeSqueeze around the back side of the tree.
3. Feed the climbing line through the small aluminum ring of the prusik and then through the large aluminum ring of the TreeSqueeze (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.

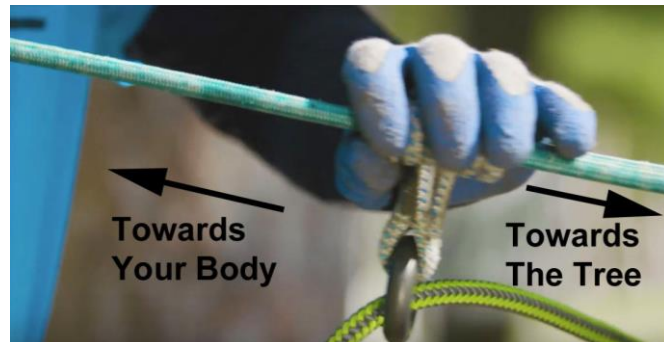
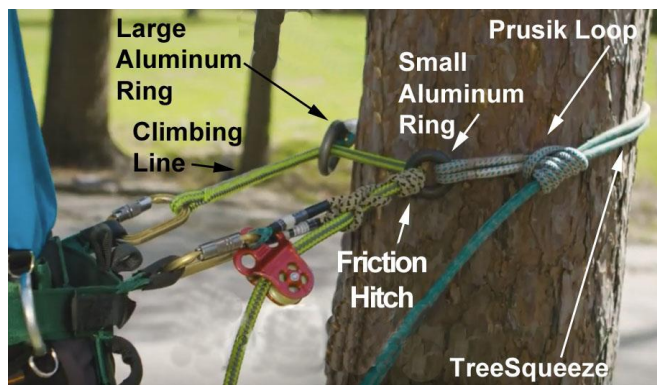
**Fig. 11**

Fig. 11 shows the TreeSqueeze with prusik loop 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 prusik loop, Grasp free end of the TreeSqueeze with one hand and the coils of the prusik loop with the other hand. Slowly slide the prusik towards the tree (Fig. 12). When properly positioned release your grasp on the coils and lean back slowly to put tension back on the prusik loop.
3. To lengthen Device, slightly lean into the tree, to relax tension on the prusik loop. Grasp the coils of the prusik loop 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 prusik loop.
4. While climbing above or below obstructions adjust TreeSqueeze to minimize fall distance to under two feet (2').

**Fig. 12**



## 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 devices 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 prusik along the length of the rope to remove the build-up and then ensure the prusik 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.
- 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.

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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.