

Buckingham Mfg. Co.

SADDLES FOR ARBORISTS USE INSTRUCTIONS / WARNINGS

All saddles manufactured by Buckingham Mfg. Co. are made from the finest quality components. They are tested to meet or exceed the ANSI A10.14 (Type II) standard. Buckingham offers a wide selection of saddle designs with models ranging from deluxe to economy. All styles feature the same quality, but vary relative to the comfort features.

SADDLE OPTIONS

- Number of D-rings: 3 or 4.
- Both large and small D-rings available.
- Two types of D-rings: one designed to stop at 90° standard with clip, and the other designed to rotate up to 180°.
- Back support: widths from 3" (76 mm) to 8" (203 mm) wide, (padded or non padded).
- Seat sections: available with individual leg straps, butt strap (with or without leg straps), or with batten seat.
- Waist straps: available in nylon web, nylon web with grommets or 6-ply neoprene impregnated nylon.

SIZING - Fit is important to comfort. Be sure to allow for wear over heavy clothing. In order to obtain an optimum fit, the work positioning D-rings should be positioned slightly forward of the hip bones. Below are typical fits given according to waist size.

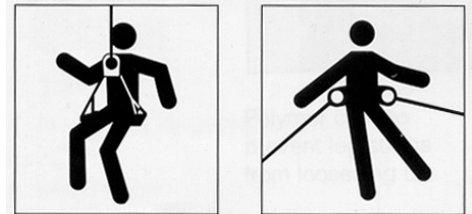
X-Small = 24 -28" (610 - 711 mm) waist size
Small = 28 -32" (711-813 mm) waist size
Medium = 32-36" (813-914 mm) waist size

Large = 36-40" (914-1016 mm) waist size
X-Large = 40-44" (1016-1118 mm) waist size

GUIDELINES FOR USE

- Know and follow the ANSI Z133.1 standard for tree care operations. To obtain a copy of the ANSI Z133.1 Standard, call NAA at 1-800-733-2622 or ISA at 1-888-ISA-TREES.
- Use these products for positioning and suspension only. **Not Intended for Fall Arrest.** (see Fig. 1).
- The use of fall arrest equipment is highly recommended in addition to the use of saddles and belts.
- Only compatible connecting devices that meet industry standards should be connected to circle D-rings.
- Attach only positioning connecting devices to the waist strap circle D-rings.
- Positioning and suspension anchor points must support your weight plus any job related load.
- User weight not to exceed 350 lbs. (158.7 kg.) when fully equipped.
- Maximum load capacity for accessory hooks and rings is 25 lbs. (11.3 kg.).

Fig. 1



Suspension
All Saddles

Work Positioning
3 & 4 D-ring
Saddles Only

WEARING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Thoroughly inspect saddle and all related equipment before each use.
2. Unbuckle the waist strap and each leg strap (if applicable).
3. Pull the saddle up around the waist with the waist strap connecting buckle in the front (leg straps, butt strap or batten seat towards the back).
4. Adjust the saddle until the work positioning D-rings are centered just slightly forward of the hip bones.

5. Fasten the waist strap :
 - a. If tongue buckle style; fasten in the same manner as you would fasten an ordinary belt buckle (see Fig 3).
 - b. If friction buckle style; follow the steps in Fig. 4.

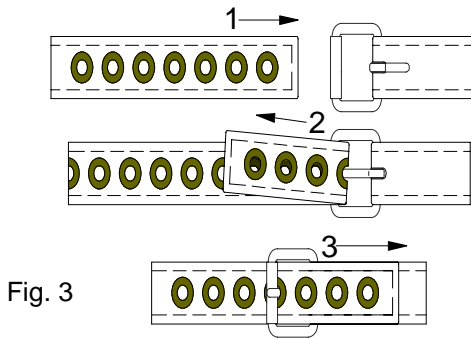


Fig. 3

1. From the rear of the friction buckle insert the billet end of the waist strap through the center slot of the friction buckle as shown in step 2.
2. Push the slide bar of the friction buckle to the left then loop the waist strap around the slide bar and pull back through the rear of friction buckle.
3. Grasp the billet end of the waist strap and pull snugly to remove slack.

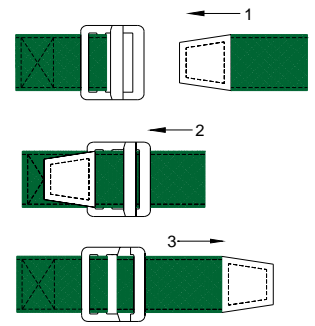
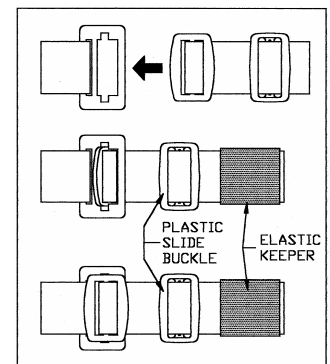


Fig. 4

6. Ensure the waist strap is snug, but comfortable. Use the waist strap keeper to contain any excess strap.
7. Adjust individual leg straps, butt strap, or batten seat to a snug but comfortable position.
8. Wrap the leg straps (if applicable) around the legs so that the padded portion is behind the leg and the buckles are in front.
9. Fasten the leg straps :
 - a. If tongue buckle style; fasten in the same manner as in figure 3.
 - b. If interlocking buckle style; follow the steps in figure 5.
10. Contain excess strap with the leg strap keepers.
11. Before climbing make final adjustments of all hardware to ensure the saddle has a snug but comfortable fit ensuring that all hardware is properly connected.

Fig. 5

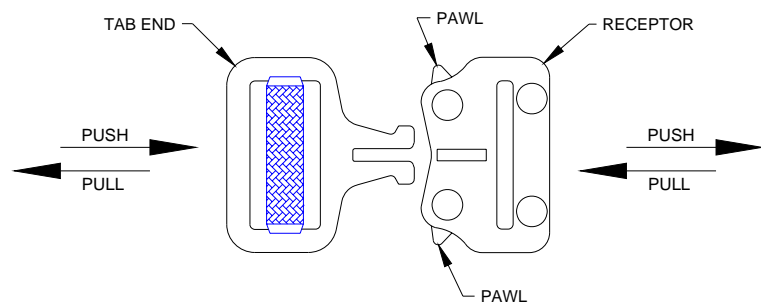


WARNINGS

- Read, understand, and follow all instructions, warnings, and cautions before using this equipment. Failure to do so could result in your serious injury or death.
- KNOW and FOLLOW ANSI Z133.1 for Tree Care Operations.
- Buckingham tree saddles are manufactured in accordance with ANSI A10.14 and are intended for use as personal protection equipment only, not for towing or hoisting.
- This product is designed to be used by a person with a maximum weight of 350 lbs. when fully equipped.
- 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 can not be granted that a used product meets criteria of applicable standards and is safe for use to a subsequent user.
- Do not use without proper training.
- Before use the first time, the user should carry out a suspension test in a safe place to ensure that the equipment is the correct size, has sufficient adjustment and is of an acceptable comfort level for the intended use.
- Before use of the equipment, consideration should be given as to how any necessary rescue could be safely achieved.
- This product is to be used for positioning and suspension only, **NOT FOR FALL ARREST**. Therefore, it may be necessary to supplement arrangements for work positioning / suspension with collective means (i.e. safety nets) or personal means of protection against falls from a height (i.e. fall arrest system).
- This equipment must only be used for the specific purpose for which it is designed and intended.
- Destroy any and all equipment subjected to impact loading.
- Never work without independent fall arrest protection if there is danger of a fall.
- Keep equipment from coming into contact with sharp edges, extreme temperatures, excessive ultra violet rays and chemical agents. Exposure to these elements may have a detrimental effect on the integrity of the equipment.
- Always visually check that all buckles are properly closed before use.
- Attach only locking connecting devices meeting standards / regulations for intended use for positioning and suspension to belt D-rings and attachment points.
- Only positioning connecting devices should be attached to side D-rings, as side D-rings are not intended for fall arrest.
- Do not connect any tools, accessory loops / snaps, etc. to the positioning circle D-rings. D-rings are for attachment of connecting device locking snap hooks only .
- Position and / or adjust the work positioning lanyard in such a manner that the anchorage point is maintained at or above waist level, the lanyard is kept taut and free movement is restricted to a maximum of

- Positioning and suspension anchor points, as a minimum, must support user's weight plus all additional job related loads. Fall arrest anchor points must support a minimum of 5000 lbs. (2268 kg) per attached worker and be independent of worker support.
- As a minimum, the materials used in the manufacture of this product are acceptable for use under all normal environmental conditions tolerable to humans.
- Always visually check that each snap hook / carabiner freely engages D-ring 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 engaging.
- Inspection before each use should include, but not be limited to checking that: 1) fabric or belt strap is free of burns, cuts, broken stitches or excessive wear, 2) rivets are not bent, loose or missing, 3) buckles and D-rings are not distorted or cracked, 4) if there is a tongue buckle, that the tongue does not bind on the buckle and buckle holes are not damaged. Always remove from service, destroy and discard belt or harness if it fails inspection.
- Never attach a non-locking ladder or rebar hook to D-ring.
- During use, all fastening and adjusting elements must be regularly checked to ensure adjustment and closure.
- Snap hooks shall not be engaged to a D-ring to which another snap hook or other connector is attached unless the snap hook is the locking type.
- Never disable locking keeper on snap hook or carabiner.
- Never punch additional holes in or alter any saddle, belt or harness in any way.
- This equipment should be a personal issue to the employee using it.
- Product covered under these instructions / warnings should not be resold / redistributed or re-used after use by original user.
- Employer - instruct your employees as to proper use, warnings and cautions before use of this equipment.

Additional Instructions / Warnings for Quick Connect Buckle



For your information and attention:

Quick Connect Buckles on those Full Body Harnesses and Arborist's Tree Saddles that include this style of buckle may unintentionally disengage under the condition outlined below:

If the pawls of the buckle do not freely rotate, proper engagement of the tab end to the receptor end of the buckle will be hindered / restricted. If as a result of the users movements or through contact with an obstruction during the course of his/her work, one of the two pawls of the receptor end of the buckle is depressed while tension is induced on the strapping attached to the buckle, the potential exists that disengagement of the tab end of that side from the pawl may occur. If that position is maintained and again through the users movements or contact with an obstruction the opposite side pawl is depressed, the tab end of the buckle may totally disengage from the receptor end.

To eliminate the potential for this condition, you the user should:

1. Inspect your equipment before each use as you would for all safety equipment. Equipment should be replaced if you have any question / doubt about it being safe for use.
2. Always position the buckles of your equipment so that contact with obstructions is avoided.
3. Test the pawls on your Quick Connect Buckles to ensure they freely rotate and return back to their original position. If any pawl does not freely rotate, the buckle should be (a) cleaned as outlined below to ensure there are no obstructions inside the buckle hindering its intended function and (b) lubricated with a lightweight lubricant such as WD-40^o as recommended for locking snaphooks. If the pawl still does not freely rotate, you should contact Buckingham Mfg. at the telephone number outlined below and request a Returned Goods Authorization Number for immediate return of your harness or Arborists tree saddle for our inspection and/or buckle replacement.
4. Ensure the receptor end and tab end of the Quick Connect Buckle is fully connected with both locking pawls engaged. When the two halves are properly attached together, a clicking sound should be heard. Complete by pulling the adjuster strap through the buckle and tighten until it is snug but comfortable, thus ensuring complete engagement.

Cleaning Instructions: The Quick Connect Buckle may be cleaned by using a cotton swab, limited air pressure or dipping it into a container of water to remove fine particles and any foreign matter which may enter the receptor end of the buckle and preventing proper engagement and function. The exterior of the buckle should be dried with a clean cloth. The inside of the receptor end of the buckle should be air-dried and re-lubricated.

Maintenance: Lubricate pawls weekly or as often as required to maintain smooth operation (no binding) with a light-weight lubricant such as WD-40^o. Wipe any excess lubricant off with a clean dry cloth.

Buckingham's primary concern is to provide a quality product to its customers to enable them to carry out their profession in a safe manner. However, we always require our customer's assistance in proper equipment operation, inspection and maintenance.

INSPECTION

Prior to each use, carefully inspect this equipment for indications of wear or deterioration. The inspection should include, but not be limited to inspection for:

- webbing cuts, kinks, abrasions, burns, excessive swelling, excessive wear, discoloration, cracks, charring, broken fibers, loose stitching, chemical or physical exposures and buckle holes in strap are not damaged.
- loose, bent or pulled rivets, bent grommets, and broken, cut, or burned threads
- tongue of buckle does not bind on buckle frame
- nicks, cracks, distortion or corrosion of hardware (buckle, D-ring, etc.)

If any evidence of wear or deterioration as outlined 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. (1-800-937-2825) for clarification.

Failure to carefully and completely inspect your equipment could result in serious injury or death.

CLEANING, STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION

Proper maintenance, storage and transportation of your equipment will prolong its useful life and contribute toward its performance. Nylon and polyester should be cleaned and disinfected with water and mild soap and be allowed to air dry thoroughly without using excessive heat. Your equipment should be stored and transported so that it does not come into contact with moisture, ultra violet rays, extreme temperatures, or chemical agents. Warnings pertaining to cleaning, storage and transportation should be strictly adhered to.

NOTE: Ensure proper fit / size of product before use. This product can not be returned unless it is in new unused condition.

NOTE: For a COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM, contact ARBOR MASTER TRAINING™ at (860)-429-5028

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