rock exotica
GEAR FOR THE Z AXIS

Instructions for Use

rockGrab
Rope Clamp/Grab
9-13mm Rope Size
#RG2: Conventional Jaw
#RG2-90: 90 Degree Jaw

13-16mm Rope Size
#RG4: Conventional Jaw
#RG4-90: 90 Degree Jaw

Manufactured in **USA** using domestic & foreign materials

WARNING!

For expert use only!

- These activities are inherently dangerous and carry a significant risk of injury or death that cannot be eliminated.
- It is the user's responsibility to obtain specific training and to use it safely. These instructions DO NOT tell you everything you need to know.
- Do not use unless you can and will understand and assume all risks and responsibilities for all damage/injury/death that may result from use of this equipment or the activities undertaken with it.
- Any device is subject to failure-carefully check before and after each use.
- You must always have a backup-never trust a life to a single tool.
- Everyone using this equipment must be given and thoroughly understand the instructions and refer to them before each use.
- You must have a rescue plan and the means to implement it. Inert suspension in a harness can quickly result in death!
- Do not use around electrical hazards, moving machinery or near sharp edges or abrasive surfaces.
- We are not responsible for any direct, indirect or accidental consequences or damage resulting from the use of our products.

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Rock Exotica rockGrab

Thank you for purchasing this Rock Exotica product. The rockGrab is a compact rope clamp/grab designed to be semi-permanantly attached to the rope, or to be used when it is possible to thread the end of the rope into the device.

Construction: The body and jaw are CNC machined from solid aluminum alloy and anodized. The axle is stainless steel. It features the Curved Cam Interface which we pioneered to clamp the rope over a larger surface area than traditional rope grabs.

History: This is an advanced version of our original compact rope grab design sold by us and others for many years. Using advanced CNC machining equipment and techniques this new design is much lighter and has a flush axle instead of a screw and nut.

Versions with Conventional Jaw or 90 Degree Jaw: The conventional jaw is the traditional design and works well for a variety of uses including vertical use and for some positioning situations. But when employed for some horizontal positioning uses the 90 degree jaw works better without binding or needing a swivel.

The 90 Degree Jaw is Normally Not for Vertical Ascent: This is because in a vertical situation the carabiner can bind up in the 90 degree jaw and thus be incorrectly loaded. The conventional jaw usually works better for this use.

RG2 Rope Size: 9-13mm, 3/8"-1/2", single kernmantel rope. If there is the risk of a fall, minimum 10mm rope must be used.

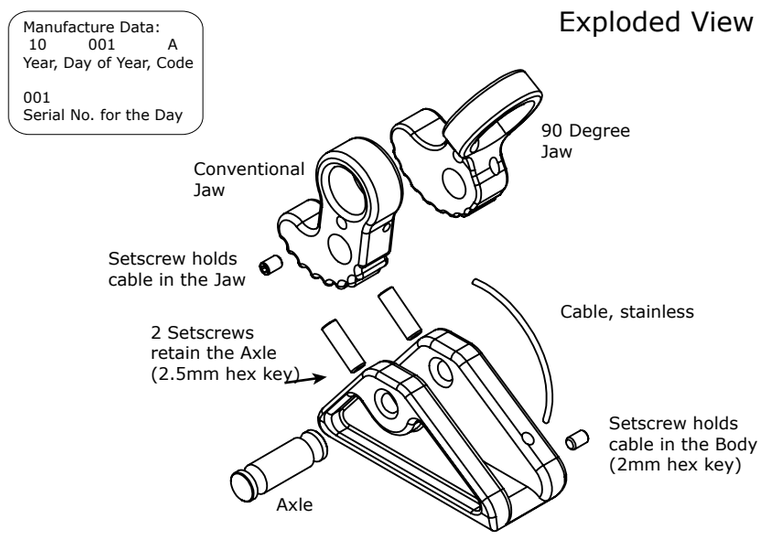
RG4 Rope Size: 13-16mm, 1/2"-5/8", single kernmantel rope.

Falls: This device is not designed to hold severe falls. The rope from the anchor to the grab must always be under tension and slack must not be allowed to develop because that will greatly multiply the force of any fall. In case of a fall you must be able to release the device.

Do Not Grab the Device or Rope!: If you grab the device or the rope above the device in a fall you will pull it down the rope and it will not catch. Similarly, if you are holding it or the rope and a fall occurs you will probably pull it down and it will not catch. You must guard against this at all times.

Rope Slippage/Damage: The rockGrab will, in some cases slip on the rope to absorb energy which will lesson rope damage. In general, smaller ropes will slip at a lower level than larger ropes. You must test and verify your system and be sure your rope will hold the load you require. Slippage rather than damage should never be relied on because rope friction varies a lot depending on age and condition. A new rope can be much slipperier and more flexible than an old rope that has become stiff and fuzzy. In a hard fall it is possible for a rope grab to damage or cut the rope.

Guard Against Anything That Could Interfere With The Jaw!: Such as clothing, harnesses, rocks, twigs, snow/ice, debris, etc.



Always be sure cable is in good condition & provides a proper spring action & that the jaw operates freely over its whole range of travel.

Before, during & after use, verify that the axle retaining setscrews are tight and the axle is secure - 2 setscrews are used for redundancy and both must be engaged. When tight the setscrew ends are below the body surface.

Installation on the Rope

1) Thread the end of the rope through the device. Make sure the jaw is in the body the correct way.

2) If you remove the axle to install it, use the correct torque when tightening both 5mm setscrews. If too loose, they may come out, if too tight you may not be able to remove them. For a more permanant installation consider using a thread locking agent.

3) Make sure your carabiner/connector is locked and positioned properly at all times.

4) Think carefully about the rope direction and pull on the rope to be sure it locks in the intended direction.

5) Tie a knot in the free end of the rope so it can't accidentally pull through.

Rope Direction

If ascending, the arrow points up towards the secured rope end. If hauling, the arrow points to the load being raised. These are usually done with the conventional jaw.

For horizontal positioning, the arrow points to the end of the rope that is secured to what you are using to position yourself.

You must be specifically trained and experienced to use this device.

Leverage Hazard
A rope grab or other equipment can lever against a connector (such as a carabiner) and break it, opening the connector and resulting in catastrophic disconnection. Guard against this at all times!

Pinching Hazard
Rope travelling through a rope grab can suck in hair, fingers, clothing, etc., causing injury & jamming the pulley. Guard against this.

Inspect Before & After Use
Check all parts for cracks, deformation, corrosion, wear, etc. Verify that the jaw rotates normally & that the axle is secure and the axle retaining setscrews are not loose. Verify the cable is in good condition and provides a normal spring action for the jaw.

Inspection During Use
Regulary inspect and monitor your system, confirming proper connections, equipment position, fully locked connectors, etc.

Intended Use
This device is intended for use by medically fit, specifically trained and experienced users.

Thorough and specific training is absolutely essential before use.
Being at height is dangerous and it is up to you to reduce the risks as much as possible - but the risks can never be eliminated. There are many ways to misuse this equipment, too many to list or imagine.
You must personally understand and assume all risks and responsibilities of using this equipment. If you cannot or do not want to do this, do not use this equipment.

Environmental Factors
Moisture, ice, salt, sand, snow, chemicals and other factors can prevent proper operation or can greatly accelerate wear.

Compatibility
Verify compatiblity with other components of your system. Incompatible connections can cause detachment, breakage, etc.

Lifetime
10 years maximum, but will often be much less depending on conditions and use; it could even be a single use in some cases.

Retire from Service & Destroy if it:
1. Is significantly loaded.
2. Does not pass inspection or there is any doubt about its safety.
3. Is misused, altered, damaged, exposed to harmful chemicals, etc.
4. Jaw does not rotate smoothly.
Consult the manufacturer if you have any doubts or concerns.

Maintenance & Storage
Clean if necessary with fresh water, then allow to dry completely.
Store in a dry place away from extremes of heat and cold and avoid chemical exposure.

Principal Material
Aluminum alloy, anodized.

Repairs or Modifications to Equipment
Are only allowed by the manufacturer or those authorized in writing by the manufacturer.

Detailed Inspection
In addition to inspection before, during and after each use, a detailed inspection by a compentent inspector must be done at least every 3 months or more frequently depending on amount and type of use. Make a copy of these instructions and use one as the permanent inspection record and keep the other with the equipment.
It is best to issue new gear to each user so they know its entire history.

Stay Up To Date!

Regularly go to our website and read the latest user instructions.

PURCHASE RECORD	
Model	
Complete Batch #	
Year of Manufacture	
Purchase Date	
Date of 1st Use	
User	

DATE	CONDITION	INSPECTOR