

Important Safety Information for Users of

Bashlin Arborist Saddles



- WARNING -



For your personal safety, this booklet must be read and all of the information completely understood before using these products.



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Se habla Español, (Para una versión española de este folleto de la seguridad, contacta las Industrias de Bashlin S.a. por favor.)

Nous parlons Français (Pour une version française de ce livret de sûreté, contacter les Industries de Bashlin Inc s'il vous plaît.)

Other languages upon request.

Important Safety Information

This information is intended for the use of the products indicated. It must be included with the product, read and understood by the user prior to placing this product into service. This equipment is to be used by properly trained, professional workers. The information in this booklet, manufacturer's demonstrations, sales seminars, catalog information or other promotional materials may be a part of but does not constitute proper or complete training in the use of these products.



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Lack of proper training or the incorrect use and/or abuse of these products may cause accidents, injury or death.

The user must inspect this equipment before each use. Any equipment found to be worn out, damaged, subjected to shock load or in any way questionable, must immediately be removed from service or accident, injury and even death could result. Specific guidelines for inspection are included in this information booklet.



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Bashlin equipment must not be altered. Do not remove product labels. Altering or modifying these products voids all warranties, may affect performance, and could cause accident, injury or death to the user.

Applicable Standards for Bashlin Climbing Equipment

These products are fabricated from leather and synthetic woven materials and rated metal hardware. They are assembled by riveting and/or sewing.

The thread used in assembly is of a contrasting color to permit easy inspection. These products are manufactured in accordance with OSHA, ANSI, and ASTM F887 standards and are labeled as such. Please contact us for information regarding specific applicable standards for each product. Product capacity is 350lbs. unless otherwise noted on label.



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Shock loading is extremely damaging to climbing equipment. OSHA Standards require that any harness, lanyard, anchorage, or belt that has been shock loaded must be removed from service.



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Exposing the equipment to chemicals may produce a harmful effect. Avoid using the equipment around moving machinery, electrical hazards, sharp edges or abrasive surfaces.

General Use Information



POSITIONING



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These products are not intended for fall arrest and should be used for work positioning and suspension only.



SUSPENSION

- Follow ANSI Z133-17 Standard for Arboriculture Operations
- This product is for positioning and suspension only.
- Use of independent fall arrest equipment as a backup is recommended.
- Only positioning and suspension products that meet industry standards should be connected to D-Rings
- Only connect suspension devices to D-Rings on seat strap or bridge.
- Anchor points for suspension and positioning must be able to support users full body weight and additional job related load.
- 350 lb. total load capacity
- 20 lb. maximum capacity for tool snaps and rings.
- Never use tool snaps or rings for human support.
- Products with aluminum D-Rings will provide best service life when paired with the appropriate aluminum connectors.

Tips for Using Bashlin Saddles

- Wear the saddle above the waist making sure the tongue and buckle is securely fastened.
- Never climb or work while engaging both ends of your lanyard into one D-Ring of your saddle.
- Always visually verify that the snaphooks are engaged, and the gates are fully closed and locked before allowing the equipment to support you weight.
- Never let go of the structure while repositioning your lanyard.
- Never carry any wire, tools, or other accessories on the D-Rings of your saddle. Any foreign objects carried on the “D” could interfere with the operation of the snaphook, causing an accidental disengagement resulting in a fall.
- Don't violate safety rules.

Bashlin's 639 and 640 Series Arborist Saddles

Incorporating a two D-Ring upper positioning belt and a two D-Ring lower bridge or two D-Ring seat strap assembly for suspension, these modular saddle systems are designed to provide both comfort and flexibility for the worker. The 639 Series Saddles utilize lightweight aluminum D-Rings and the 640 Series Saddles use durable steel D-Rings.

The upper belt is made using the patented Back-A-Line pad that utilizes a unique "curved and firm" back support within a non-stretch belt. Unlike other back belts, the Back-A-Line works to dynamically correct posture by facilitating spinal muscles to work optimally. The non-stretch belt works to provide a point of resistance to utilize intra-abdominal pressure.

639BBL Tree Saddle with Bridge

- Light weight aluminum D-Rings
- Quick-Release buckles on leg straps
- Step thru bridge design with floating D-Rings provides added comfort
- 8" wide lumbar support with nylon mesh pad
- Leather faced nylon tongue and buckle
- Soft padding at hips
- Padded leg straps
- Contrasting orange stitching
- 2 tool snaps and 2 accessory rings
- Wt. 5.15 lb.



639BBL



639BBS

639BBS Tree Saddle with Seat Strap

- Light weight aluminum D-Rings
- Quick-Release buckles on leg straps
- 3.5" padded seat strap with D-Rings
- 8" wide lumbar support with nylon mesh pad
- Leather faced nylon tongue and buckle
- Soft padding at hips
- Contrasting orange stitching
- 2 tool snaps and 2 accessory rings
- Wt. 5.20 Lb.



640BBL

640BBL Tree Saddle with Bridge

- Durable steel D-Rings
- Pass thru buckles on leg straps
- Step thru bridge design with floating D-Rings provides added comfort
- 8" wide lumbar support with nylon mesh pad
- Soft padding at hips
- 2 tool snaps and 2 accessory rings
- Wt. 5.75 lb.

640BBS Tree Saddle with Seat Strap

- Durable steel D-Rings
- Pass thru buckles on leg straps
- 3.5" padded seat strap with D-Rings
- 8" wide lumbar support with nylon mesh pad
- Soft padding at hips
- 2 tool snaps and 2 accessory rings
- Wt. 5.9 lb.



640BBS

**Each saddle will be tagged with the following labels.
Do Not Remove Tags From Saddles.**





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An improperly sized belt will be uncomfortable and could cause an accident, injury, or even death.

Sizing

- For best comfort and performance, it is important to make sure the arborist saddle fits you correctly.
- The upper set of positioning D-Rings should be positioned slightly forward of the hip bones.
- Be sure to take into consideration the types of clothing you will be wearing when using this product.

Belt Size	Waist Size
Small	28-32
Medium	32-36
Large	36-40
X-Large	40-44



Donning Arborist Saddle with Bridge 639BBL and 640BBL



- Unbuckle the waist belt and leg straps.
- Open the hook and loop closure on the Back-A-Line Support Belt.
- Step into the saddle and pull the saddle up around your waist **(A)**.
- Position the lumbar pad in the center of your lower back and secure it just below your ribs using the hook and loop closure **(B)**.
- Secure the tongue and buckle as you would an ordinary belt **(C)**.
- Adjust the leg straps and secure any excess webbing with the elastic keepers. See page 8.
- Make sure saddle is fit correctly and verify all connections.



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Proper training is required before using these products.

Donning Arborist Saddle with Seat Strap 639BBS and 640BBS

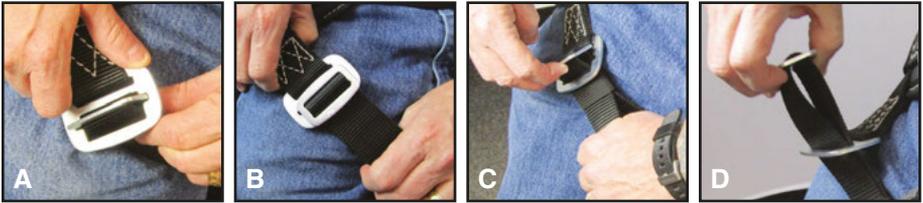


- Unbuckle the waist belt and leg straps.
- Open the hook and loop closure on the Back-A-Line Support Belt **(A)**.
- Position the lumbar pad in the center of your lower back and secure it just below your ribs using the hook and loop closure **(B)**.
- Secure the tongue and buckle as you would an ordinary belt **(C)**.
- Adjust the leg straps and secure any excess webbing with the elastic keepers. See page 8.
- Make sure saddle is fit correctly and verify all connections.



Interlocking Pass-Thru Buckles

- Connect these buckles by sliding the smaller frame through the slotted hole on the larger frame (**A**).
- Verify that the buckle is secure (**B**).
- Adjust the leg straps by lifting up on the smaller frame and pull down on the tail of the webbing to tighten (**C**).
- Pull up on the smaller frame to loosen leg straps (**D**).



Quick-Release Buckles

- Connect these buckles by inserting the male end into the female section until both tabs “click” and the buckle is locked (**A**).
- Verify that the buckle is secure (**B**).
- Adjust the leg straps by lifting up on the male end and pulling the tail of the webbing to tighten (**C**).
- Pull up on the male end to loosen leg straps (**C**).
- Both tabs must be depressed to release the buckle (**D**).
- If the buckle releases when only one tab is depressed the product should be removed from service immediately (**E**).





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Saddle must be inspected before each use.

Inspection Criteria

- D-Rings and buckles are free from cracks or deformations.
- Loose or missing rivets or broken stitching on hardware attachment points.
- Degraded or torn nylon strength members, as well as other physical, chemical, heat, or age related damage.
- Dry or cracked leather.
- Elongated holes in tongue.



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Any saddle showing signs of excessive wear or damage must be removed from service immediately.

Cleaning and Maintaining Bashlin Saddles

Regular cleaning of your saddle will improve its appearance, make it last longer, and keep your clothes cleaner. Dirt can get into the leather and nylon fibers and break them down.

The cleaning process will also help you to spot any worn components that could negatively impact the function of the saddle.

These saddles consist primarily of leather and nylon components. The leather should be cleaned using saddle soap, while the nylon is cleaned better with mild soap and water. Avoid petroleum based cleaners that may damage the nylon. After the dirt is removed, oil the leather using a commercial leather preserver such as mink, Neatsfoot, or bee oil. The leather should be cleaned and oiled as needed or at least every 90 days. After cleaning and oiling the leather, let it dry overnight. Afterwards wipe off any excess oil, as it will stain clothing and attract dirt. Regular maintenance of the saddle will extend its lifespan. Once leather begins to crack, no amount of oil will repair the damage.



Bashlin has been using the patented Back-A-Line Pad in Blair Arborists belts successfully for over 20 years. This belt utilizes a unique “curved and firm” back support within a non-stretch belt.

Unlike other back belts the Back-A-Line works to dynamically correct posture by facilitating spinal muscles to work optimally. The non-stretch belt works to provide a point of resistance to utilize intra-abdominal pressure to strengthen the trunk.

This non-stretch design can help correct poor postural habits, promote healthy spinal mechanics, and strengthen the back.



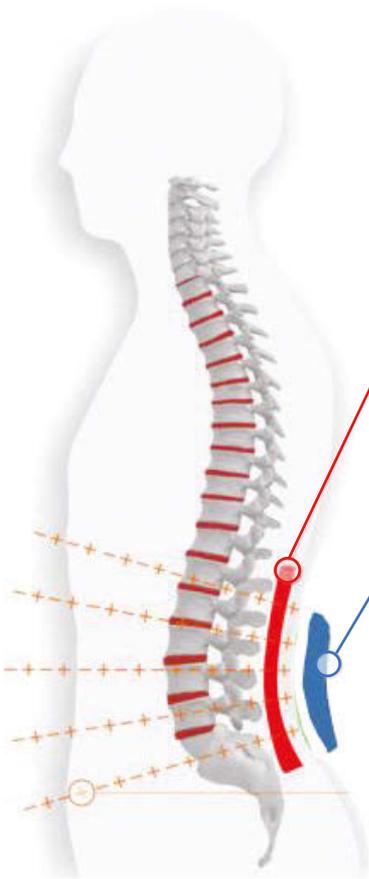
Patented "firm and curved" lumbar pad in a non-stretch belt.

An **anatomic lumbar pad** dynamically stabilizes the lumbar spine in a neutral lordosis and simultaneously stimulates proprioceptive feedback to correct spinal mechanics and train muscle memory.



A **non-stretch compression belt** coerces the spine to adjust to the curved lumbar pad and provides an isometric moment to build core strength.

The postural correction facilitated by a **Back-A-Line** belt reduces risk of re-injury and provides an ideal environment for healing.



Muscles

Muscle activation relieves and prevents back pain.

Lumbar PAD

Unique patent helps re-align back posture.



Correct Spinal Posture

Trains healthy postural habits. Firm, anatomic lumbar pad helps preserve the neutral lumbar lordosis through compression and proprioceptive feedback.



Build Muscle Memory

Anatomic lumbar pad coerces the spine to conform it, providing ideal training for spinal mechanics and core muscles.



Increase Core Strength

Unlike elastic supports, a non-stretch belt provides the necessary resistance to activate core muscles with activity.

User Inspection, Maintenance and Storage of Equipment

Users of personal fall arrest systems shall, at a minimum, comply with all manufacturer instructions regarding the inspection, maintenance and storage of equipment. The user's organization shall retain the manufacturer's instructions and make them readily available to all users. See ANSI/ASSE Z359.2, *Minimum Requirements for a Comprehensive Managed Fall Protection Program*, regarding user inspection, maintenance and storage of equipment.

1. In addition to the inspection requirements set forth in the manufacturer's instructions, the equipment shall be inspected by the user before each use. The equipment shall also be inspected by a competent person, other than the user, at intervals of no more than one year for:
 - **Absence** or illegibility of markings.
 - **Absence** of any elements affecting the equipment form, fit or function.
 - **Evidence** of defects in or damage to hardware elements including cracks, sharp edges, deformation, corrosion, chemical attack, excessive heating, alteration and excessive wear.
 - **Evidence** of defects in or damage to straps or ropes including fraying, unsplicing, unlaying, kinking, knotting, roping, broken or pulled stitches, excessive elongation, chemical attack, excessive soiling, abrasion, alteration, needed or excessive lubrication, excessive aging and excessive wear.
2. Inspection criteria for the equipment shall be set by the user's organization. Such criteria for the equipment shall equal or exceed the criteria established by this standard or the manufacturer's instructions, whichever is greater.
3. When inspection reveals defects in, damage to, or inadequate maintenance of equipment, the equipment shall be permanently removed from service or undergo adequate corrective maintenance by the original equipment manufacturer or their designate before return to service.

Maintenance and Storage

1. Maintenance and storage of equipment shall be conducted by the user's organization in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Unique issues, which may arise due to conditions of use, shall be addressed with the manufacturer.
2. Equipment which is in need of, or scheduled for, maintenance shall be tagged as unusable and removed from service.
3. Equipment shall be stored in a manner as to preclude damage from environmental factors such as temperature, light, UV, excessive moisture, oil, chemicals and their vapors or other degrading elements.

Anchorage Connectors

Bashlin anchorage connectors provide a temporary point to attach a lanyard for fall protection purposes, and have been tested in compliance with the requirements set forth by ANSI/ASSE Z359.7. ANSI compliance and testing covers only the hardware and does not extend to the anchorage and substrate to which the anchorage connector is attached.

Anchor Number	Description	Usage	Length Dimensions	Z359.18 Type
2011P	Anchor Strap with D-Ring		36 to 48 in.	A
2012P	Anchor Strap with Loops		36 to 48 in.	A
703/703R	Anchor Strap with D-Ring		55 in.	A
703R-2D	Anchor Strap with 2 D-Rings		55 in.	A

Verify ratchet binder is folded and secure before using the 703R or 703R-2D.

****Only ONE WORKER may be attached to the 703R-2D at any time and one D-Ring shall be kept free at all times.****

Manufactured with nylon web and steel components.

Minimum service temperature -30°F.

When affixed to an anchorage, the eye of the anchorage connector should be positioned on the side of the anchorage in which the user is working. For 2012P straps, pass one eye of the strap through the other and on 2011P straps, pass the small O-Ring through the large O-Ring. All slack should be removed from the line so that the anchorage connector is tight against the anchor. Slack left in the line may increase free fall distance in the event of a fall. Connect to the eye of the anchorage connector using a self-locking carabiner or self-locking snap hook only. When using 2011P straps, never connect hooks to the large O-Ring. Connections should not be made in a manner that would result in a load on the gate.

Tips for Using Bashlin Anchorage Connectors

- Always place the anchorage connector as high as possible to reduce the free fall distance.
- Never wrap an anchorage directly to a steel beam or other rigid surfaces (see image). Use padding between the anchorage and rigid anchor point.
- Fall arrest systems, including the anchorage, must have a static load strength of 5,000 pounds in permitted directions for non-certified anchorages, or two times the maximum arresting force for certified anchorages.



