



TCI® BASIC TREE CLIMBING COURSE PROGRAM CONTENT AND OUTLINE

Gear (taught throughout the program)

Rope
Saddle and saddle accessories
Helmet
Eye Protection with straps
Throw lines and throw bags
Double-auto-locking carabiners
Non-locking carabiners
Foot cam
Cambium saver (sleeve)
“Yella” grapnel
3-hole swivel pulley (for rope-bridge saddle)

Knots (taught throughout the program)

Modified Blake’s hitch
(closed Moving Rope System, MRS)
6-wrap Prusik hitch
Single Figure 8
Girth hitch using sewn loop
Safety knot (slip knot)
Basket hitch
Daisy chain
Anchor hitch

DAY 1: TRADITIONAL CLIMBING SYSTEM using the Blake’s Hitch (“Closed system”)

Throw line use

Entry throws:

Pinch grip throw
Pointing finger throw
Single cradle throw
Cradle throw

Canopy throws:

Forward arch throw
Reverse arch throw
Hand pitch throw

Rope placement

Placing throw line over branch
Cambium saver installation
Tying the climbing knots
Pull test

Preparing to climb

Warmups
Saddle set-up
Gear check
Clipping in
B.A.C.K. check (system check)

Climbing demonstration

Double rope end climbing
Setting a new pitch (anchor point)
Testing the knot system (B.A.C.K. check)
Climbing higher

Foot work demonstration

Foot lock
Foot wrap
Double foot wrap
Foot cam

DAY 2: APPLICATION OF CLIMBING TECHNIQUE

Advanced anchor point isolation using the
“Yella” grapnel hook for long-distance
anchor setting

Monkey fist

Closed fist
Open fist
Self release fist
Getting the monkey fist back to you

Climbing practice

Double rope end climbing
Low climb using 4 foot work methods
Split grip method

Tree inspection

The Four Zone Assessment Method
Tools: mallet, soil probe, binoculars,
blunt screwdriver