

A close-up photograph of a honeybee on a purple flower. The bee is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing left towards the flower's stamens. The flower is a dense cluster of small purple blossoms. The background is a soft, out-of-focus yellow-green.

# WAYS OF WORKING ON TREES FOR TRADITIONAL TREE BEEKEEPING

Original and modern types

André Wermelinger

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# Climbing up trees the original way

Bashkir style from Russia



Quite easy, quite safe  
Needs steps in the tree

Polish style



Difficult, safe only if used/trained regularly.  
No steps needed.  
Possible only with original ropes (not enough resistance  
between the lines with modern ropes)



# Forester climbing with steel climbers

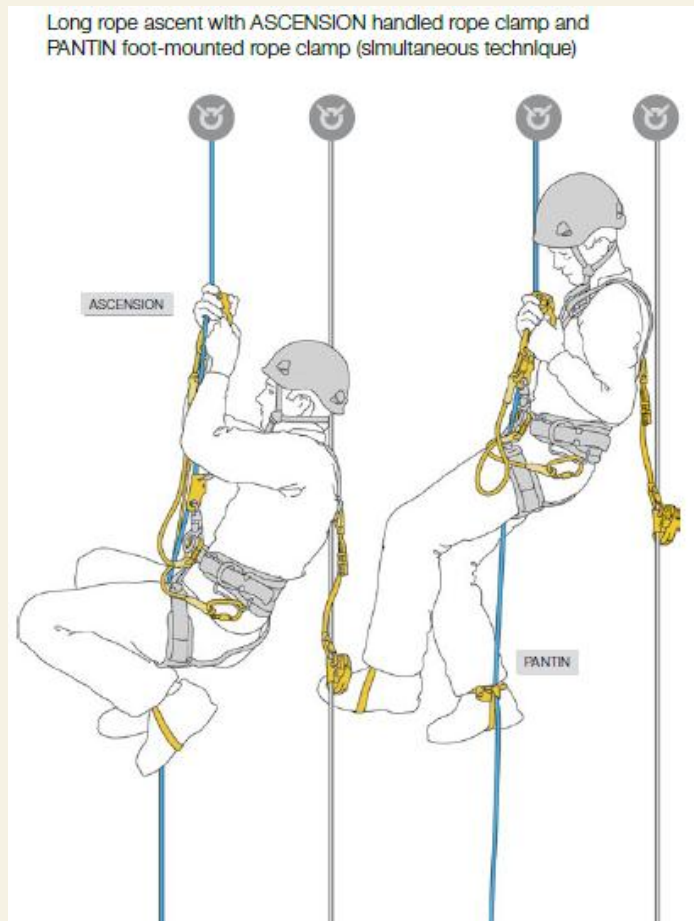


Very easy, very safe, but more expensive equipment (>300EUR)  
Might damage the tree if used regularly!

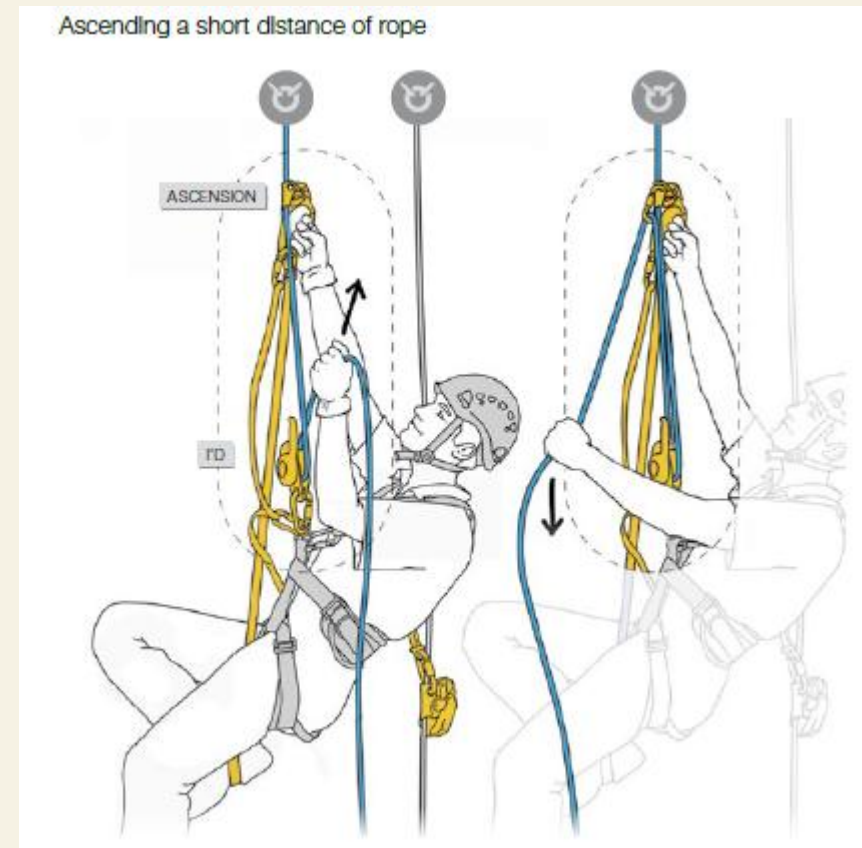


# Climbing up trees by free hanging ropes

## Long ascent



## Short ascent (good enough for tree beekeeping)



# Climbing with ladders

Very easy way, if you don't have to carry your ladder and if your ground is good.

Don't forget about tightening the ladder against the tree!





# Working on trees the traditional way

## Traditional Polish way

Comfortable seat



## Polish tree beekeeper

Working on a simple platform at the beginning of XX century



## Traditional Bashkir way

Mobile platform



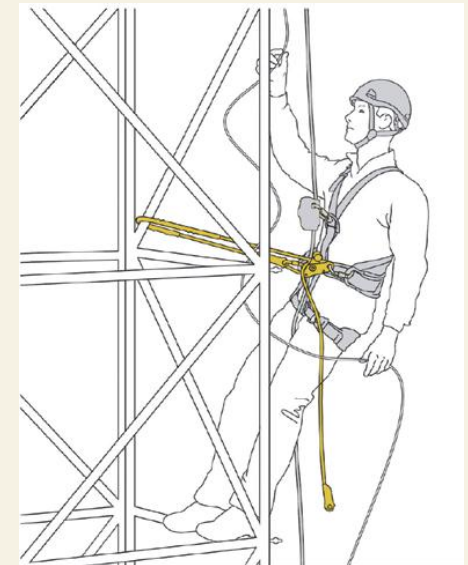
# Working on trees the modern way

## Simple platforms

Very easy alternatives to be built with only 2 bars (8x8cm) and 2 clamping sets (Spanset)



## Professional forester way





# Original climbing items produced in Russia

Very interesting tools for preserving the old traditional way. Still produced in Russia, some types in Poland.

[See the original Bashkir pictures](#)

## Price indication

- Leather rope: 175€-200€ (one entire cowhide needed)
- Bast rope: no price given for the moment
- Mobile platform wood/rope: 85€-100€
- Honey basin out of linden tree: 100€-125€
- Delivery-time: 3-6 Month

Please note: You only need either the bast rope or the leather rope. The leather rope is more expensive, but also more durable.





# Original climbing items produced in Poland

Hand-made ropes for climbing trees with a seat used by a beekeeper during opening tree hives.

Costs around: **200 EURO**

Please note: This is the difficult way of climbing only for experience users exercising regularly. But the most beautiful one, also!



# Professional climbing items

Known professional supplier: <http://www.petzl.com/>

Download catalog: <http://www.petzl.com/en/pro/catalogue/login>



~370EUR

**SEQUOIA C690F0**  
Seat harness for arborists using traditional footlock ascent techniques



~60EUR  
**ASCENSION**



~250EUR

**GRILLON HOOK**  
Adjustable work positioning lanyard with HOOK connector



~2.8EUR / m

**AXIS 11 mm**  
Semi-static, extremely wear-resistant rope with sewn termination



~80EUR

**ID L**  
Self-braking descender with anti-panic function



**PANTIN®**  
Foot ascender - right and left

~60EUR

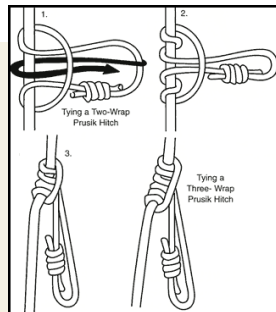
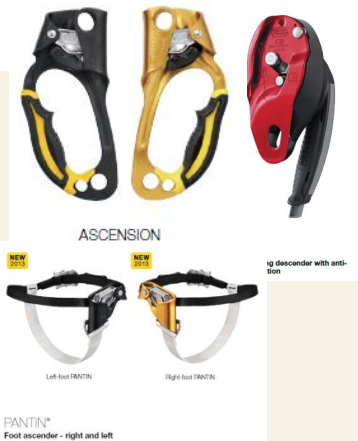
NEW 2013

~15EUR

**FOOTAPE**



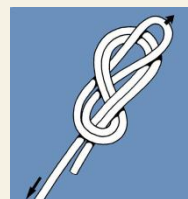
# Low-cost climbing, useful alternatives and «do it yourself»



Prusik Knot



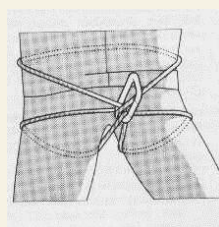
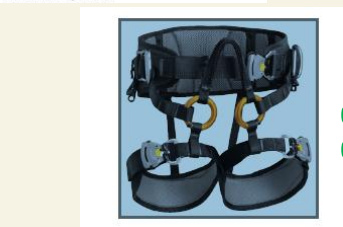
Bachmann Knot/Hitch



Very useful  
Figure 8 Loop Knot



Climbing only with ropes and loops around the tree



# What you need to know about ropes

Low elongation ropes (EN 1891) are generally called static ropes. They are used for the safety of persons working at heights, for rescue work, for caving and for other similar activities. It is important for such ropes to have minimal elongation and maximum strength.

Mountain climbing ropes – dynamic ropes (according to EN 892) – are made to break climbers' falls, so a certain degree of elongation is important, as it is related to the resultant impact force absorbed by the climber's body and the system that breaks the fall.

- Use dynamic ropes for security issues, if a fall can occur
- Use static ropes for technical things like the mobile platforms, mobile seats, etc.

Source: [mytendon.eu](http://mytendon.eu)



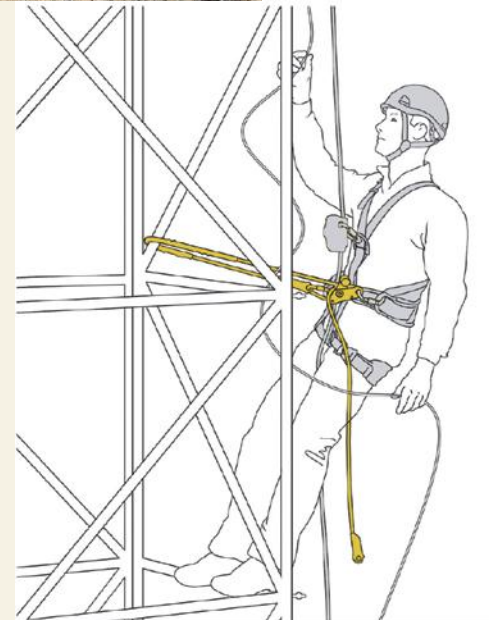
# Security issues

Cutting holes into trees with a motor saw is dangerous, needs a lot of force and is recommended only for experienced users. Never work without you cut protective trousers nor without your helmet

Climbing on trees needs a good climbing and security knowledge, that can be learnt in climbing and professional courses. Your material needs to be checked regularly.

Working on trees with a motor saw is especially dangerous. The security rope (see picture on the right hand side) can easily be cut by a single second of inattention. That's why professional pole climbers and woodworkers use ropes with a metal core.

**Please ask for help, if you don't feel very sure about this issues!**



# Where to find the material

## Buy professional tools

- <http://www.petzl.com/>
- Climbing shops
- Professional forester equipment shops (normally more expensive)

## Buy original tools in Russia

- Mikhail Nikolaevich Kosarev (Director of Zapovednik Shulgan-Tash) Zapovednik it is a strictly protected nature area – the highest rank in Russian nature conservation system
- E-Mail: [mnkos@mail.ru](mailto:mnkos@mail.ru)
- Tel. (007-347-55) 3-37-37

## Buy original tools in Poland

- Przemek Nawrocki
- E-Mail: [przemeknawrocki2002@yahoo.ca](mailto:przemeknawrocki2002@yahoo.ca)
- Tel. +48 608 384 242

## Borrow

- Foresters
- Electricians, pole climbers
- [FreeTheBees](#) organisation (for example for organizing courses)



# Further creative ways of climbing and working on trees

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-fQeTZ\\_kpM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-fQeTZ_kpM)