

# Multi-pitch climbing tech tips

Basics

## 1 Analyze conditions of the route

Get information about equipment, rock quality, about how wet the route gets and about the risk of a storm. Identify escape routes and the descent.

## 2 Put on your helmet when you get near the route

Climbers or animals can cause rock fall from above while you are walking along the base.

## 3 Plan your communication strategies before you start climbing

For example, when the leader says "off belay" he has installed the belay station and is clipped in.

## 4 Place a directional piece of gear after leaving the belay station

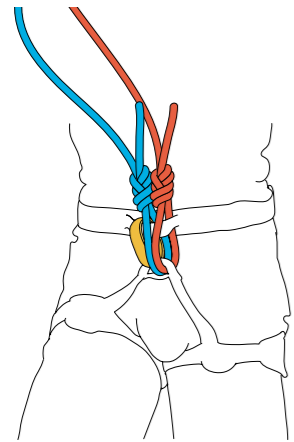
After leaving the belay station, the leader must place a first piece of protection as quickly as possible to reduce the fall factor. Be careful to not place this piece on the station when it is "delicate"

## 5 Back up your rappel

Descend with a self-belay (SHUNT or Prusik). Always tie a knot at the end of the rope. Throw a headlamp into your pack in case you descend late.

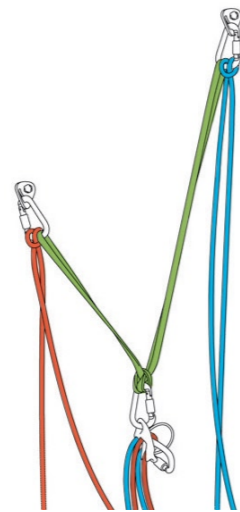
### A. Tying in with double ropes

A figure-8 knot on each end of the rope.

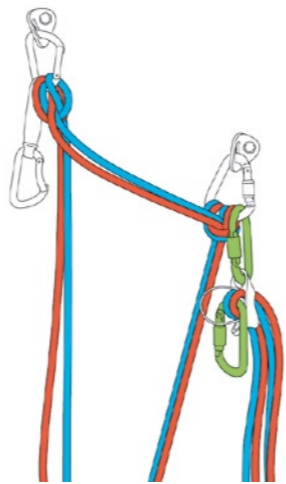


### B. Belay station for swapping leads

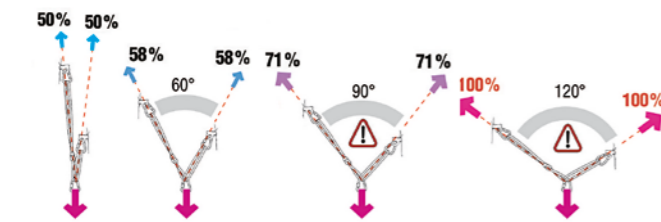
Station with one sling. Tied in with each of the ropes on each point (clove hitch). Equalizing with clove hitch onto carabiner of belay device. Distribution of load onto each anchor.



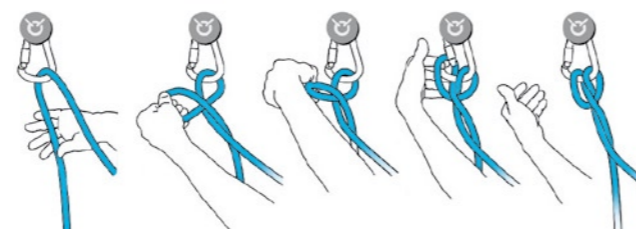
Belay station with rope and two clove hitches, only when both anchor points are considered solid.



Effect of the angle on a load-sharing anchor.

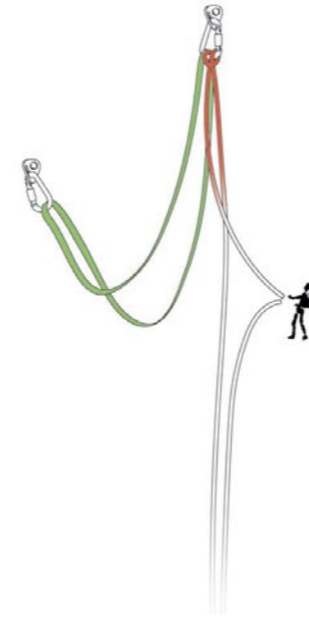


Clipping in with a clove hitch.

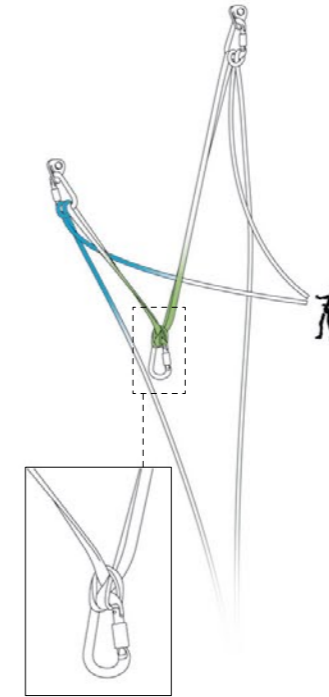


### C. Swapping leads

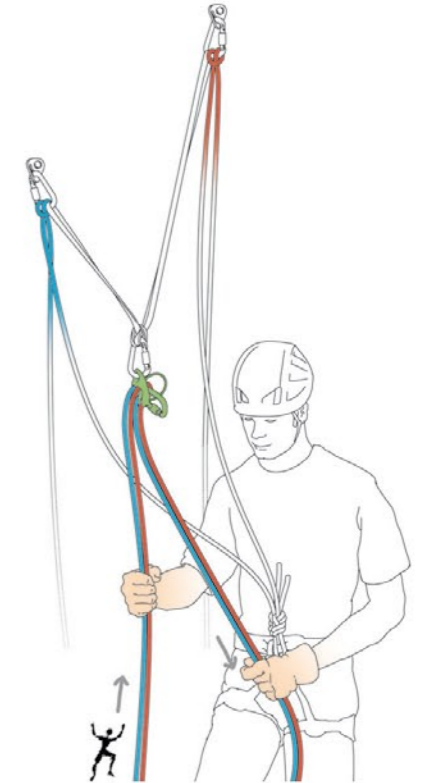
1. At the station: check the anchors and tie in.



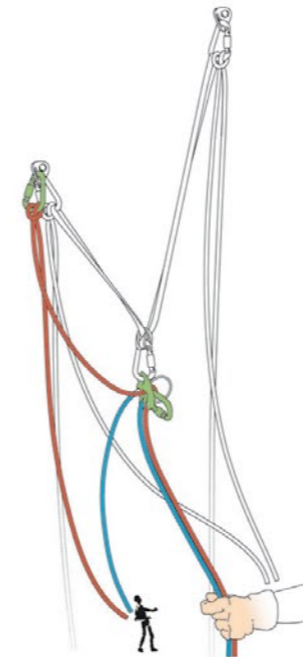
2. Install the belay carabiner on the sling with a clove hitch.



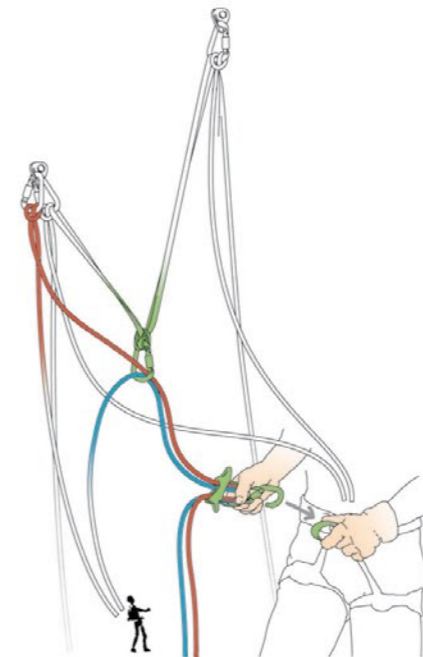
3. Belaying the second.



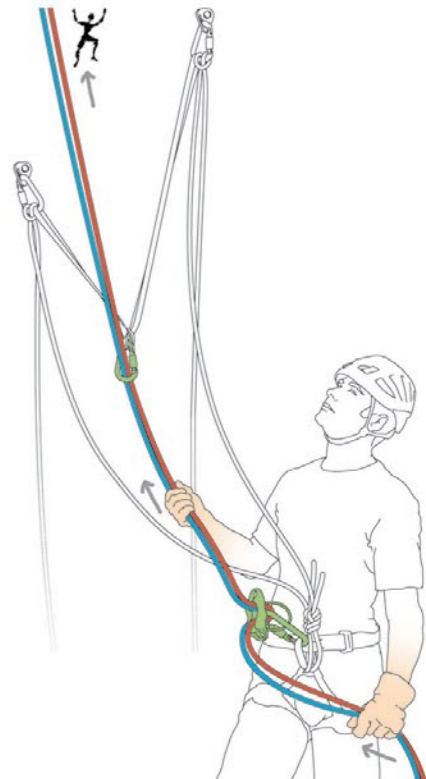
4. The second climber clips and recovers the gear to begin his lead.



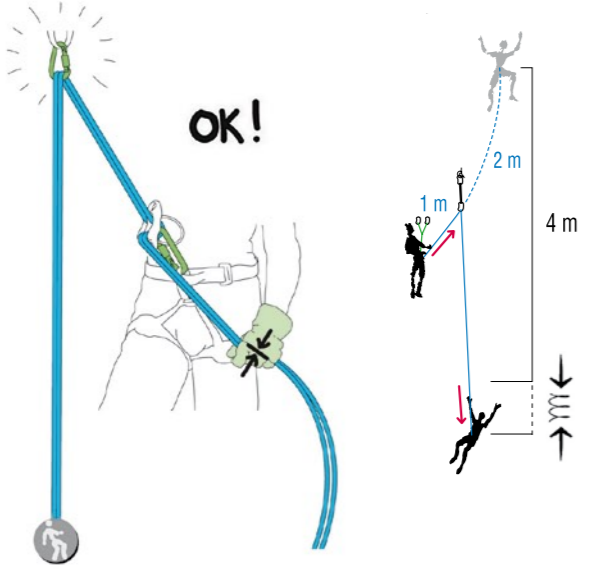
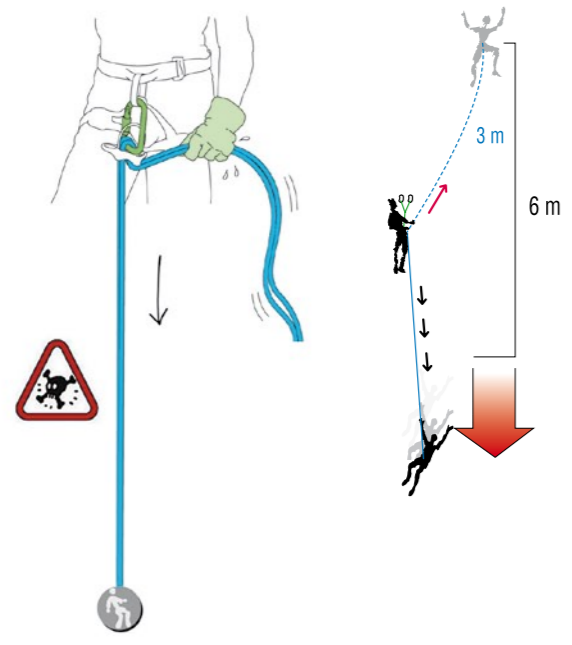
5. Putting in a directional anchor.



6. The second climber becomes the leader.

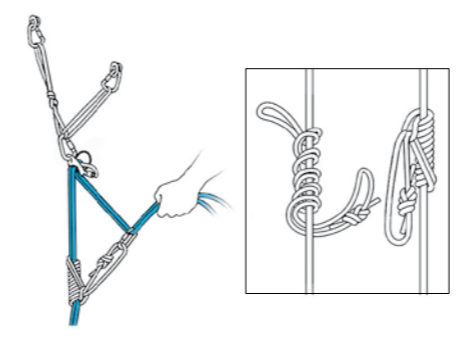


A directional anchor is necessary, either very close to the belay, or on the belay if it is securely bolted.

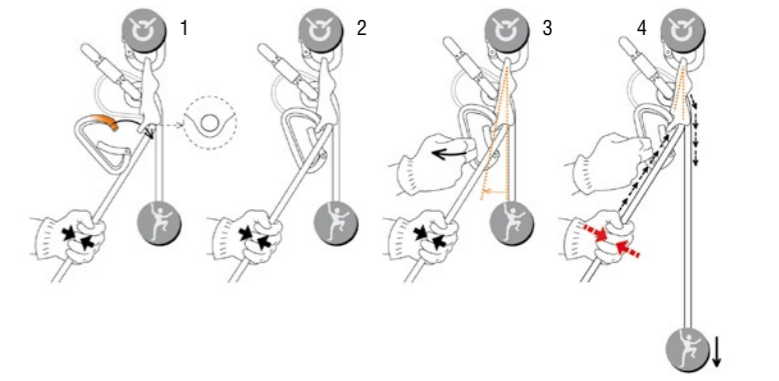


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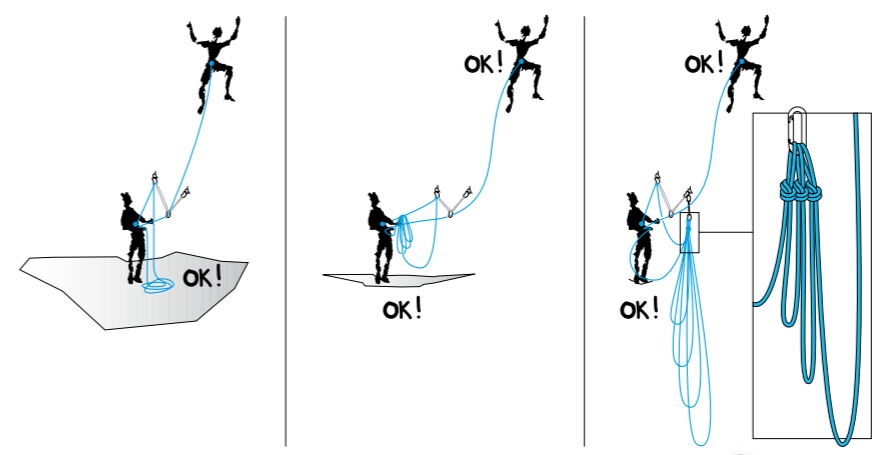
Helping the second: hauling.



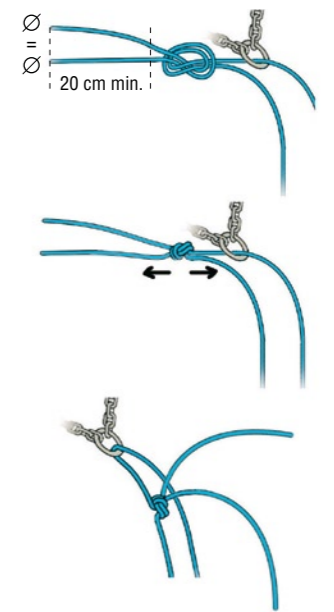
Helping the second: lowering.



D. Three solutions for stacking the rope

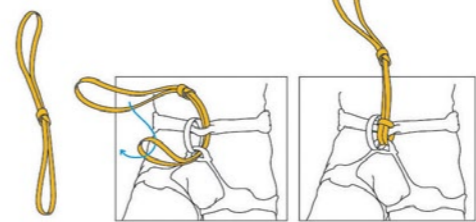


E. Setting up the rappel when descending on two ropes tied together



F. Rappelling

Attaching a sling for rappelling.



Rappelling: preparation and descent.

