

Notch 810122891543

Notch Steel Climbers Ergonomic Gaffs Instruction Manual

Model: 810122891543

Brand: Notch

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Notch Steel Climbers are designed for professional arborists and tree care specialists, providing a secure and comfortable means for tree ascent. These climbers feature an ergonomic design to minimize fatigue and pressure points during extended use. Key components include adjustable cuffs, a stirrup grip pad, and a dual foot strap assembly for enhanced stability and fit.



Image 1.1: Front view of the Notch Steel Climbers, showcasing the ergonomic design and strap system.

- **Ergonomic Shank:** Provides a natural foot angle to reduce fatigue.
- **Adjustable Cuff:** Features over 20 adjustment points for precise fit and pressure dispersion on the shin.
- **Stirrup Grip Pad:** Enhances grip and stability during climbing.
- **Dual Foot Strap Assembly:** Allows for easy adjustment and compatibility with various climbing boots.
- **Weight Limit:** 350 lbs. total weight limit, including gear.
- **Gaffs:** Available with 2.5-inch tree gaffs (Long) or 2-inch pole gaffs (Short). This manual specifically covers the Long (Tree Gaffs) version.

2. SAFETY WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

WARNING: Failure to follow these instructions and warnings may result in serious injury or death. Tree climbing is inherently dangerous and should only be performed by trained and certified

professionals.

- Always inspect climbers, straps, and gaffs for damage, wear, or defects before each use. Do not use if any damage is found.
- Ensure all straps are securely fastened and adjusted for a snug fit to prevent slippage and maintain stability.
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including a climbing harness, helmet, eye protection, and suitable footwear.
- Maintain three points of contact with the tree at all times when climbing.
- Be aware of your surroundings, including overhead hazards (e.g., dead branches, power lines) and ground conditions.
- Do not exceed the maximum weight limit of 350 lbs. (including user and gear).
- Regularly sharpen gaffs to ensure proper penetration and grip. Dull gaffs can lead to slippage.
- Never modify the climbers or their components. Use only genuine Notch replacement parts.
- Store climbers in a dry, clean environment away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

3. SETUP AND ADJUSTMENT

Proper setup and adjustment are crucial for comfort, stability, and safety. Follow these steps to prepare your Notch Steel Climbers for use:

1. **Identify Left and Right Climber:** Each climber is marked for left or right leg. Ensure you have the correct climber for each leg.



Image 3.1: Angled view of the climbers, highlighting the distinct left and right units.

- 2. Adjust Cuff Height:** The cuff has multiple adjustment points. Position the foam pad so it rests comfortably on your shin, dispersing pressure effectively. Secure the cuff straps firmly.



Image 3.2: Close-up of the back of the cuff, showing the foam padding and adjustment points.

3. **Secure Foot Straps:** The dual foot strap assembly is designed for easy fitting. Place your climbing boot into the stirrup. Fasten the front strap securely over the top of your foot. The rear strap can be pre-set for convenience and then tightened for a snug fit around the heel of your boot.



Image 3.3: A user demonstrating the adjustment of the foot strap for a secure fit.

4. **Verify Fit:** Once all straps are tightened, the climbers should feel secure on your legs and boots without excessive movement or uncomfortable pressure points. Walk a few steps to ensure the fit is stable and comfortable.



Image 3.4: The climbers properly worn on a user's legs and boots, ready for use.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS (TREE CLIMBING)

These instructions provide a basic overview of using Notch Steel Climbers for tree ascent. Always receive professional training before attempting tree climbing.

1. **Approach the Tree:** Stand facing the tree with your feet slightly apart, ensuring a stable base.
2. **Engage Gaffs:** With controlled movements, place the gaff of one climber into the tree bark. Apply downward pressure to ensure the gaff penetrates sufficiently to hold your weight.



Image 4.1: A close-up view of the gaff securely embedded in the tree bark.

3. **Ascend:** Shift your weight onto the engaged gaff. Lift your other leg and engage its gaff higher on the tree. Use your hands and climbing system for balance and additional support. Maintain a consistent rhythm and controlled movements.



4. **Descent:** To descend, reverse the climbing process, carefully disengaging one gaff at a time and lowering your body in a controlled manner.

For advanced techniques and specific climbing scenarios, consult certified arborist training resources and experienced professionals.

5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your Notch Steel Climbers.

- **Cleaning:** After each use, clean the climbers to remove dirt, sap, and debris. Use a damp cloth and mild soap if necessary. Rinse thoroughly and dry completely before storage.
- **Gaff Sharpening:** Inspect gaffs for sharpness. Dull gaffs can increase the risk of slippage. Sharpen gaffs regularly using a file or gaff sharpener, following manufacturer guidelines for angle and technique.
- **Strap Inspection:** Check all straps (cuff and foot) for fraying, cuts, excessive wear, or damage to buckles/Velcro. Replace damaged straps immediately.
- **Hardware Inspection:** Examine all metal components, including the shank, stirrup, and attachment points, for cracks, bends, corrosion, or loose fasteners. Tighten any loose screws.
- **Storage:** Store climbers in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight, chemicals, and extreme temperatures. Use gaff covers to protect the points and prevent accidental injury.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues encountered with tree climbers.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Climbers feel unstable or slip easily.	Loose straps, dull gaffs, incorrect gaff angle, improper technique.	Ensure all straps are tightly secured. Sharpen gaffs. Review climbing technique and gaff engagement.
Discomfort or pain in shins/feet.	Improper cuff adjustment, incorrect boot type, prolonged use without breaks.	Adjust cuff height and tightness. Ensure foam pad is correctly positioned. Use appropriate climbing boots. Take regular breaks.
Difficulty engaging gaffs into tree.	Dull gaffs, hard bark, insufficient force.	Sharpen gaffs. Adjust gaff angle if possible (consult professional). Apply more controlled force.

If you encounter issues not listed here or if solutions do not resolve the problem, discontinue use and contact Notch customer support or a qualified arborist equipment technician.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	810122891543

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	6.5 Pounds
Package Weight	3.45 Kilograms
Item Dimensions (LxWxH)	19 x 8 x 8 inches
Material	Steel/Molded Plastic/Foam
Color	Black/Silver/Teal
Suggested Users	Unisex-adult
Gaff Type	Long (Tree Gaffs) - 2.5 inches
Maximum Weight Capacity	350 lbs. (total weight with gear)



Image 7.1: Detailed diagram illustrating the dimensions and key features of the climbers.

8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Notch Steel Climbers come with a **Lifetime warranty against defects in materials & workmanship**. This warranty covers manufacturing defects and material failures under normal use. It does not cover damage resulting from misuse, abuse, unauthorized modifications, improper maintenance, or normal wear and tear.

For warranty claims or further details, please retain your proof of purchase and contact Notch customer support.

9. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For additional assistance, technical support, or inquiries regarding your Notch Steel Climbers, please visit the official Notch website or contact their customer service department.

[Visit the Notch Store on Amazon](#)

Please have your product model number (810122891543) and purchase information ready when contacting support.

10. OFFICIAL PRODUCT VIDEOS

No official product videos from the seller were found for embedding in this manual. For product demonstrations or usage tips, please check the manufacturer's official website or authorized channels.