

## Climbing and Aerial Rescue

Learn life-saving knowledge with our five-day tree access and rescue course. This is a hands-on course that delivers both practical skills and health and safety guidance as well as demonstrating that you and your employer have completed sufficient training to meet the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER).

Working in the Arboriculture can be a dangerous business.

And when things go wrong, the ability to access a tree to undertake a rescue operation might well be the difference between life and death. Our course will teach you all you need to know to be able to carry out such a rescue. Complete it and you can move on to the Level 2 Award in Accessing a Tree Using a Rope and Harness or the Level 3 Award in Aerial Tree Rescue Operations

It involves a mix of theory and practical sessions.

You'll be taught the essential safety guidelines, equipment, inspection and planning needed to access a tree.

You'll then move on to learning the skills required to carry out a successful rescue

### Who is the Course For?

This course is for people, aged 16 and over, who are already working in, or are looking to work in, one of the following industries: Arboriculture, Forestry, Woodland industries, Local authorities, Conservation.

Please be aware that to take this course, you must be physically fit and not suffering from vertigo or similar conditions.

You must also be free from medication that could affect your safety.

### Duration/Format

Five days

### Instructor/Trainee Ratio

**Max:** 1:4

### Course Objectives

#### To enable course members to:

- Understand the legislation relating to tree climbing
- Identify a range of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriate to work positioning systems
- Identify hazards and manage the associated risks
- Choose appropriate anchor points
- Tie, dress and set a range of tree climbing knots
- Carry out visual tree inspection
- Carry out pre-use inspection of tree climbing equipment
- Choose appropriate anchor points
- Use techniques for safe and efficient ascent and descent
- Understand the duties of a competent grounds person
- Establish safe and comfortable work positions
- Use climbing irons safely and efficiently
- Store tree climbing equipment **appropriately**.

### Course Content

- Health and safety legislation and guidelines
- Tree climbing equipment
- Visual tree inspection
- Rope configurations
- Access techniques and work positioning principles
- Final anchor point and work positioning techniques

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## Certification:

- Use a flip-line and climbing irons (spikes)
- Storing equipment.

This course is training only, or can be run as a refresher, and results in a certificate of attendance. It prepares candidates for the Level 2 Award in Accessing a Tree Using a Rope and Harness, which can be arranged for you shortly after completing the course, or the Level 3 Award in Aerial Tree Rescue Operations.

It is often run in conjunction with Use of a Chainsaw from a Rope and Harness

## Facilities/Equipment Required

### Trainees

6 x Karabiners – minimum 3 way auto- locking  
1 x 1 metre tape sling – SWL 25KN  
1 x harness with leg loops & side D rings  
1 x 40 metre 12mm climbing rope  
4 x Prussik loops – 10mm  
1 x personal first aid kit  
1 x knife with retractable blade  
1 x climbing helmet with chin strap  
Wirecore flip line  
Spikes for pole rescue  
Chainsaw PPE

1 x Personal First Aid kit (See HSE INDG214)  
Outdoor clothing in case of cold/wet weather

Written evidence is required that all personal protective equipment for climbing has been inspected as per the LOLER approved code of practice by a competent person within the last 6 months and should be individually marked. Evidence of weekly checks is also required.

**NB:** Instructors have been instructed not to undertake training where learners do not have the appropriate protective equipment and appropriate saw.