

TOOLBOX MEETING GUIDE



Rope grabs

A rope grab is a device that travels along a lifeline and will lock onto it in the event of a fall.

- Rope used with all rope grabs must be the diameter specified by the manufacturer.
- Ensure the rope grab is installed on the rope in the correct orientation. The top of the device must point toward the anchor.

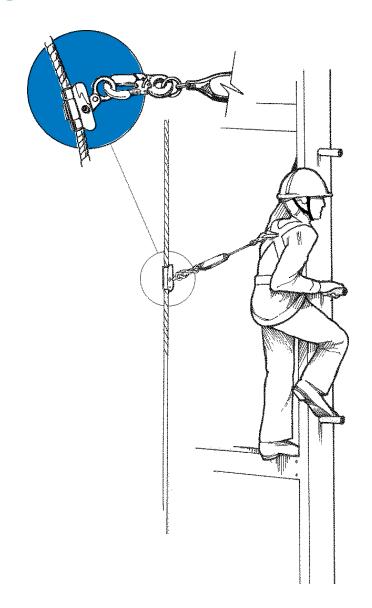
The two most common types of mechanical rope grabs are **automatic** and **manual**.

An automatic (or mobile) rope grab moves freely along the lifeline with you. If you fall, it locks automatically and stops you after a short distance.

- If you use an automatic rope grab, limit your lanyard to 0.6 m (2 ft.) in length.
- An automatic rope grab meeting the requirements of CSA Standard Z259.2.1 is acceptable to WorkSafeBC.

A manual rope grab does not move freely with you. It is always in a locked position on the lifeline and must be repositioned by hand.

- Manual rope grabs are best suited for use in fall restraint systems.
- The Canadian Standards Association (CSA)
 considers manual rope grabs to be "rope
 adjusting implements." They are not covered by
 a CSA Standard, but are acceptable for use when
 operated in accordance with the manufacturer's
 instructions.



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