

Head Lashing (Figures 2:60 to 2:63)

- Any of the head lashings learned in LARR are acceptable.

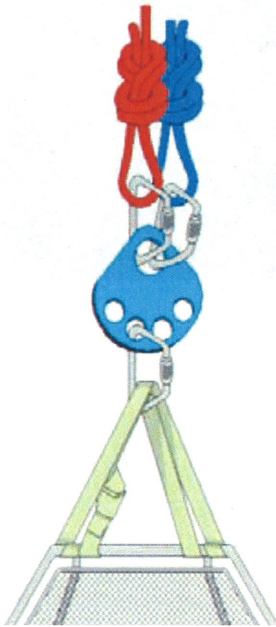


Figure 2:60 5-foot Webbing



Figure 2:61 8-foot Lifeline

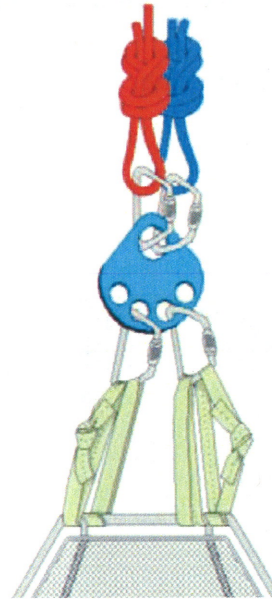


Figure 2:62 Prerig

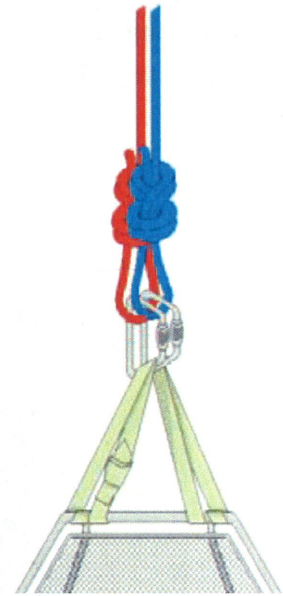


Figure 2:63 Without an anchor plate

Advantages of Each

- Figure 2:60 Compact and simple to tie, prerig, and attach
 Figure 2:61 Strong and abrasion resistant
 Figure 2:62 Webbing backed up and separate
 Figure 2:63 Less equipment required

Disadvantages of Each

- Least strength
 May be bulky to tie and attach to
 Most complicated to construct
 Difficult to modify configuration

Head Lashing with the Main and Belay/Safety Lines

1. Form a Figure Eight with 3' to 4' of tail at the end of the main line.
2. Wrap the tail around the main frame at the head of the rescue litter. Begin outside one of the skids and end outside the opposite skid.
3. Tie a Figure Eight Follow Through with the remaining tail.
4. Repeat steps for belay/safety line.



Figure 2:65

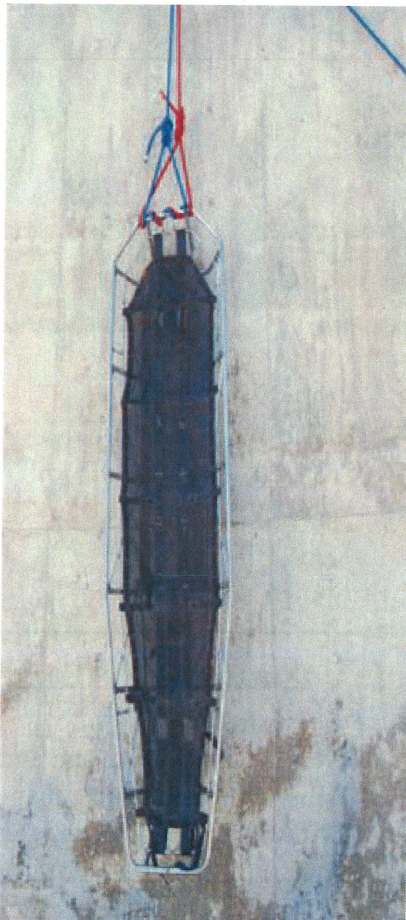


Figure 2:64

Rescue Litter Attachments to a Rope Rescue System—Horizontal

Litters are attached to the ends of the main line and the belay/safety line with a litter prerig. This prerig supports the litter at four points and provides adjustability to the litter's attitude and tilt. The litter can be adjusted head up, which is preferred by conscious victims, head dependent for victims in shock, or laterally for victims who are vomiting.

Some agencies require an additional connection from the victim to the main, belay/safety, or both lines as a backup. Although this is not required for completion of this course, some agencies/regions may choose to add it to this curriculum. The instructor is required to provide each student with supplementary documentation indicating the additional steps necessary for compliance.

Prerig prusiks may be slid up to make it easier to move the litter in/out of short openings.

If desired, the anchor plate may be omitted to reduce the litter's profile.

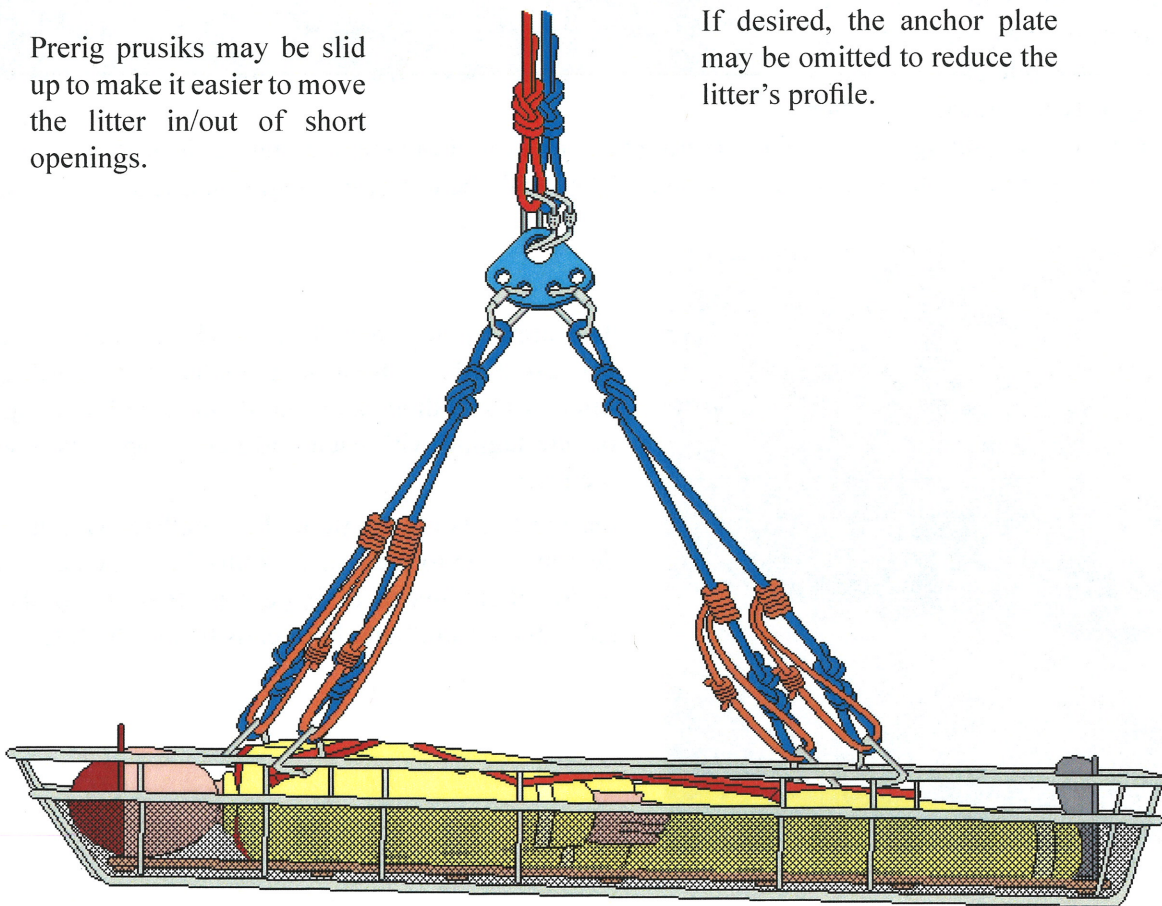


Figure 2:66

Rescue Litter Tending

In certain situations, it may be necessary to tend the litter during a nonambulatory victim rescue where the vertical surface is uneven or has ledges that would cause the litter to become hung up. These obstructions are most easily dealt with by the use of taglines tended from the ground. The objective is to pull the litter away from the obstruction via the tagline when the litter approaches it and then release it when clear. Taglines and ground tenders are also useful in landing the litter away from the base of a structure when a rubble pile exists or when assisting rescuers retrieve a litter through a narrow opening in the wall by rotating one end away from the opening. This is often referred to as “flagging” the litter and is most easily accomplished with the use of two taglines, one at each end.



Figure 2:67

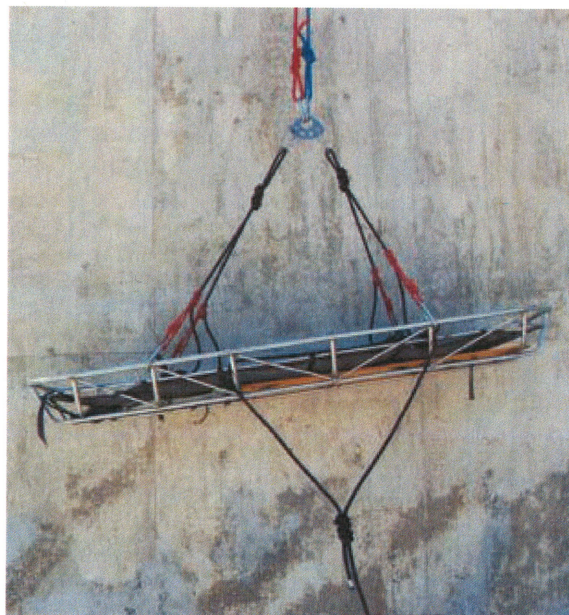


Figure 2:68

The method depicted above is the preferred method because it allows the ground tender to rotate (flag) the litter. This method can be configured with two taglines or one tagline with each end tied to opposite ends of the litter.

On the left is the single tagline method, which is less desirable due to reduced mobility but may be the only option if limited to a single rope that is too short to reach the ground with both ends tied to the litter.

Litter Prerig

A prerig is an adjustable pretied combination of lifeline, prusiks, and carabiners. It is used to connect the rescue lines to the litter. The adjustability of the prerig allows it to be used in low-angle, high-angle, or high-line operations. A prerig consists of two bridles as shown in Figure 2:69.

Bridle Construction

1. Tie a Figure Eight on a Bight or a Double Overhand on a Bight in the middle of a 16-foot section of lifeline and attach a NFPA General Use carabiner to this knot.
2. Tie a Figure Eight on a Bight into each end of the 16-foot section of lifeline and attach NFPA General Use carabiner to each knot.
3. Attach a three-wrap prusik to each leg of the prerig and clip the prusik loop into the carabiner at the end of each leg.

