

# Morgan block user manual

### Caution!

Tree work is inherently dangerous and carries a significant risk of injury or death that cannot be eliminated. These instructions DO NOT tell you everything you need to know. Do not use unless you can and will understand and assume all risks and responsibilities for all damage/injury/death that may result from use of this equipment or the activities undertaken with it.

Not for lifting or lowering live loads! This is NOT a life support rated device.

## Introduction

The Morgan block is an aerial friction control device. It generates friction on the rigging rope by way of a pivoting bollard. **It does NOT hold a load unattended.** The user must maintain control of the control end of the rope at all times. It can be placed aloft at the point of rigging or it can be used as a friction device at the base of a rigging system. When placed aloft, the swivel allows the person controlling the load to move about freely without causing the rope to twist. When unloaded, the bollard spring returns the bollard to the "open" position to greatly reduce friction generated when hauling slack line.



#### Nomenclature

- 1. Body
- 2. Side plate
- 3. Pivoting bollard
- 4. Fairlead
- 5. Fixed bollard
- 6. Swivel eye
- 7. Swivel body
- 8. Latch pin
- 9. Bollard axle



#### Use

**Working Load Limit of 750lbs** Is based on a 10:1 safety factor. You must decide if that is sufficient in your situation or if you need to adjust the WLL

**Breakage Hazard** Do not let an object in between the sideplates and never rig your system so that the block is forced against something that could break or open the sideplate, allowing the rope to fall out.



DO NOT SIDE LOAD

**To Open Sideplate** Rotate sideplate clockwise. The sideplate is self closing when loaded with rope in both threading configurations.



FIG. 2

**To Close Sideplate** Rotate sideplate counterclockwise to the fully closed position. Verify the head of the latch pin (8) is fully seated on the slot and that the sideplate is fully closed. When the rope is loaded properly it will pull the sideplate into the closed position and keep it there during use. **Do not** set the device in such a manner that an object (branch, trunk, other equipment, etc...) might force the sideplate open in use!

**Pinching Hazard** Rope traveling through the device can suck in hair, fingers, clothing, etc., causing injury & jamming the device. Guard against this.

Inspect Before & After Use Check all parts for

cracks, deformation, corrosion, wear, etc. Verify that the swivel top rotates normally & the bollard axle, latch pin, or sideplate bolt has not loosened. Verify smooth rotation of the sheaves & security of the axle screw. Verify that the sideplate rotates normally.

#### Setup

The rope can be threaded through the Morgan block in two different configurations depending on desired grip strength.



FIG. 3

FIG.4

**Configuration 1 (Fig. 3):** The rope is threaded **under** the fairlead (4), over the pivoting bollard (3) and between the pivoting bollard and fixed bollard (5). This configuration provides maximum friction for heavier loads. Use this configuration when there is a wide rope angle between the control and load sides such as when mounting the device to the base of the tree or utilizing redirects in the rope system. The fairlead keeps the rope fed into the device at the correct angle to maintain consistent friction in this configuration.



FIG.5

FIG. 6

**Configuration 2 (Fig. 5):** The rope is threaded **over** the fairlead (4), over the pivoting bollard (3), and between the pivoting bollard and fixed bollard (5). This configuration provides **less** friction for lowering lighter loads as well as less friction hauling back slack line. It is useful in very tall rigging setups where the excess weight of the line in the system activates friction on lowering and haul back. This configuration also allows limited lifting of light loads (this is the preferred configuration for lifting utilizing a double whip tackle system).