

# EXAMPLE OF A HIGHLINE



The manuals of all gear in use must be read and understood properly!

In highlining there is a potential risk of accident, severe injury or death. Therefore rigging a highline must only be conducted by competent, experienced and sober-minded people or people that are under direct supervision and visual control of such a person.

## Warnings

### Beware of thunderstorms and take precautions

It is recommended to de-rig the line in case of an upcoming thunder storm or when heavy winds are announced.



If possible use only ISA approved gear for highline applications. Available standards:

- ISA 37 Highline Leash
- ISA 41 Highline Webbing
- ISA 51 Highline Webbing Locker
- ISA 61 Webbing Grab

ISA certified SLACKTIVITY slackline gear (06.2020):

- Highline Leash
- Highline Webbing: redTube A
- Highline Webbing Locker: seaHorse 1.5



### Human flaws are the biggest Risk

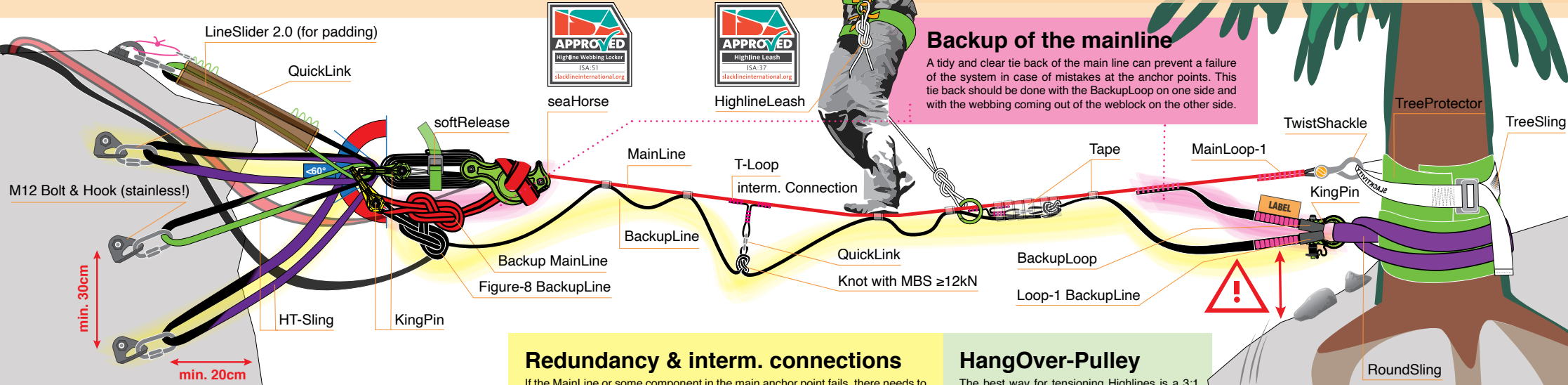
Because of this both anchor points must be carefully checked by at least two competent people before the highline will be accessed by people (even for taping). Do a partner check at each and every highline run!!! Also: It is highly recommended to be clipped in while tying the knot of the leash.

## Choose a healthy tree with a heavy trunk

The probability is high that the complete gear would tear if the tree falls. A backup to another tree might seem nice for your conscience - however, it is questionable if it offers a real benefit or creates an even bigger risk by making it more difficult to check the rig. So it is important to choose a big healthy tree not too close to the cliff. Make sure the tree has big roots that are anchoring the tree deep into solid ground.

## Backup of the mainline

A tidy and clear tie back of the main line can prevent a failure of the system in case of mistakes at the anchor points. This tie back should be done with the BackupLoop on one side and with the webbing coming out of the weblock on the other side.



## Solid rock

The holes for the bolts must be drilled in solid rock that is connected to the crag. The distance between bolts must be considered with a minimum distance of 30cm recommended. If you are setting your own bolts, carefully stick to the instructions of the manual of the bolts.



## Masterpoint

This illustration shows the principle of a master point with 2 bolts for the main line (green/black sling) plus 2 bolts for the backup (purple/black sling). Depending on the rock quality or the choice of natural anchor points, it is also recommended to use more bolts. But remember that equalization and overview are more difficult when using too many anchor points. Try to keep your rig as simple as possible.



## Always belay yourself near the void!

Most highline accidents occur during ascending to the highline spot and while handling gear close to the anchor points (not on the highline itself!). Make sure that you belay yourself whenever you are next to the void! Take care when ascending to the highline spot or descending after the session!

## Redundancy & interm. connections

If the MainLine or some component in the main anchor point fails, there needs to be a second system that will prevent the highliner from falling to the ground. This is done by a BackupLine that is fixed on separate anchors. Highline-Webbing are offered without (conventional webbings) and with intermittent connections (redTube & pinkTube Types B & C). In the unlikely case of a mainline failure, a backup fall would be much softer and shorter if intermittent connections are being used. Therefore SLACKTIVITY recommends to rig highlines WITH intermittent connections whenever possible.

## What sling to choose?

On a tree anchor RoundSlings or adjustable TreeSlings are the right choice for Main- or BackupLine.  
 On a rock anchor HT-Slings or industrial RoundSlings are the way to go. Those slings are a kern-mantle-construction and therefore quite abrasion resistant. Nevertheless, any part of sling that can possibly touch a sharp part of the rock must be padded additionally against abrasion.  
 The HT-Slings have been optimized to fit more easily into connectors like Quicklinks because of their smaller diameter compared to slings of similar breaking strengths.

## HangOver-Pulley

The best way for tensioning Highlines is a 3:1 HangOverPulley.

## Avoid falling rocks

In alpine and rocky environment there is the risk of falling rocks. Take best caution not to cause any rocks to fall while ascending, descending and setting up the highline. Take extra caution and check the legality if installing highlines above climbing routes or highly frequented hiking trails.

## Safe distance to all obstacles

The slackline webbing (Main- and BackupLine) must be installed hanging freely. Make sure to leave enough space to branches and other obstacles so that no contact is possible even when the line is being moved heavily to different sides or when the BackupLine gets under tension.

On rock anchor points, some parts of the slings are normally touching the rock. Despite the sling being a kern-mantle-construction, it should additionally be protected by padding. Specially for this application, the LineSlider 2.0 has been developed. Make sure to also pad the parts of the slings that are only touching the rock (or a branch) under heavy movement of the line.



## Disclaimer

All the information in this document is only a recommendation from SLACKTIVITY (Slackline-Gear-Manufacturer). This is not an official guideline.

Every highline anchor point looks different. Making an anchor point **cannot be learnt from this document only** but from courses and with experience. SLACKTIVITY is not responsible for misuse or accidents caused by this recommendations.



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