

Product Information Sheet
Roofers Safety Kit

Introduction

When working at height it may be necessary for a worker to use *personal protective equipment* to safeguard against falls from height.

The worker or their employer should carry out a risk assessment to ensure that the choice of equipment is appropriate in accordance with the “Work at Height Regulations 2005”.

The Roofers Safety Kit provides the worker with the ability to prevent falls over an exposed edge. The kit is for use on flat, or inclined roofs and is compatible with eyebolts, or horizontal anchorage line systems.

What are the key selling points?

Harness:

- High quality polyester webbing so that it is supple and conforms to the users shape
- Polished Stainless Steel fittings throughout for corrosion resistance and ease of use
- Includes an integral back pad for easier fitting complete with instructions
- Has two harness attachment point one front, one rear
- Fits a wide size range and is easy to adjust
- Clear labelling showing the model, year of manufacture, test standards and individual serial number for traceability.
- Contrast colour stitch for ease of inspection

Adjustable Shock Absorbing Lanyard:

- High quality duplex polyester webbing for resistance to damage
- Adjustable to allow the user to work in *Restraint*
- Adjustable to allow the user to reduce any potential fall to a minimum when working in *Fall Arrest*
- Has an auto-lock karabiner to make attaching to the anchor point safer
- Shock-absorbing element to reduce impact forces in the event of a fall
- Integral back-up security strap in the shock-absorber

Adjustable Working Line:

- Kernmantle rope line and lanyard for lightweight and durability
- Adjustable working line allowing the worker to always be in *Restraint*
- Auto-lock karabiners for safer attachment to the anchor point
- Contrast colour sewn termination for ease of inspection

Anchor Sling:

- Allows the user to attach to a wider range of anchorages
- Fully sheathed / protected for wear protection
- 70kN Minimum Breaking Strength
- Light weight and flexible for ease of use
- Easy to inspect – if the sheath retains its full integrity it is safe to use

When do I need to wear the Roofers Safety Kit?

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 state that whenever there is the potential for a person to fall while working and this leads to injury, then the worker must have some form of protection.

What type of protection depends on a *risk assessment* being carried out and a method of protection selected from the *hierarchy*.

Hierarchy in brief – Refer to SpanSet Pocket Card

1. **Avoid** – e.g. work at ground level where possible
2. **Use existing safe working platforms**
3. **Use a temporary safe working platform** – e.g. MEWP or Portable Access Tower
4. **Use your harness in Work Restraint**
5. **Mitigate the effects of a fall using collective protection** – e.g. Fall Arrest Net or Air-bag Systems
6. **Use your harness in Fall Arrest**
7. **Reduced the chances of a person falling by using either ladders or steps**

What does using my harness in **Work Restraint** mean?

The kit includes a working line which is adjustable in length so that it can be shortened to prevent the worker reaching the edge / fall hazard. This is the definition of **Work Restraint** – prevent the person from reaching a place where they could fall.

What does using my harness in **Fall Arrest** mean?

The lanyard has an integral shock-absorbing pack, so that in the event of the user falling the lanyard will help to reduce the shock load to acceptable levels. This is using the harness for **Fall Arrest** – giving the user enough “slack” in his lanyard to move freely, but accepting that he can now fall and so the equipment must protect him. When using the harness for **Fall Arrest** there must be sufficient space below where the fall occurs to prevent the user hitting the ground or any other obstacles – this is referred to as the **Clearance Height**.

How much **Clearance Height** do I need?

This will depend on how far you have fallen until the lanyard pulls tight. After this the shock absorber will open by enough to arrest your fall. You can limit your fall distance in two ways;

- (i) by adjusting the lanyard as short as possible,
- (ii) by choosing an **anchor point** that is as high above the user as possible.

For example when the lanyard is anchored at foot level the user should have at least 6m of clearance below them.
However if the lanyard is anchored above head height, then the user may need less than 3m of clearance below them.

What can I use as an anchor point?

The anchor point should always be something that you are able to quantify the strength of. You should never attach to an anchor point if you do not know how strong it is!

The ideal anchor point would be either an unquestionably sound structural element or a tested point, such as an eyebolt.

In many cases the connector on the end of the working line will not be able to fit directly onto the anchor point you select, if this is the case the sling should be used to wrap around the structural anchor point you have chosen and the lanyard connector can then be attached into the sling.

When using a horizontal anchorage line or rail system you should always check; when the next inspection is due, how many users are allowed on the system and the working distance to the edge of the roof. Most systems have a shuttle that you should clip the working line to. If there is no shuttle, check with the building maintenance supervisor.

When using the Harness in **Work Restraint** the maximum load you would place on your equipment should not exceed your body weight. The anchor point you choose must therefore be able to withstand 3 times your body weight.

When using the harness in **Fall Arrest** the anchor point will be subjected to a shock load generated during the fall, this could be up to 6kN. You should therefore have an anchor point that can withstand in excess of 10kN or 1 metric tonne.



Want to know more about how to use, or risk assess the use of your harness?

SpanSet offer a range of harness training courses.

