

INSTALLATION TIPS

FOR A QUICKSILVER ZIP LINE



When you first open your Quicksilver Zip Line Kit, check to make sure you have the components listed below:

CABLE AND HARDWARE



- 1 - Spool of 5/16" Cable
- 1 - 5/16" Thimble
- 3 - 5/16" Cable Clamps

TREE ANCHORS



- 2 - 8' Cable Slings
- 2 - 12" Turnbuckles

RIDING EQUIPMENT



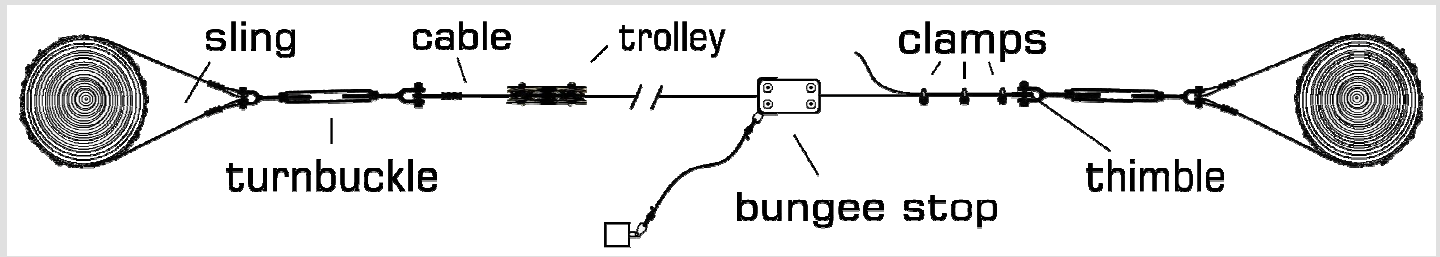
- 1 - Quicksilver Pulley
- 1 - 12" Handlebar
- 1 - Wood Seat w/Rope
- 2 - Locking Carabiners

BRAKING SYSTEM



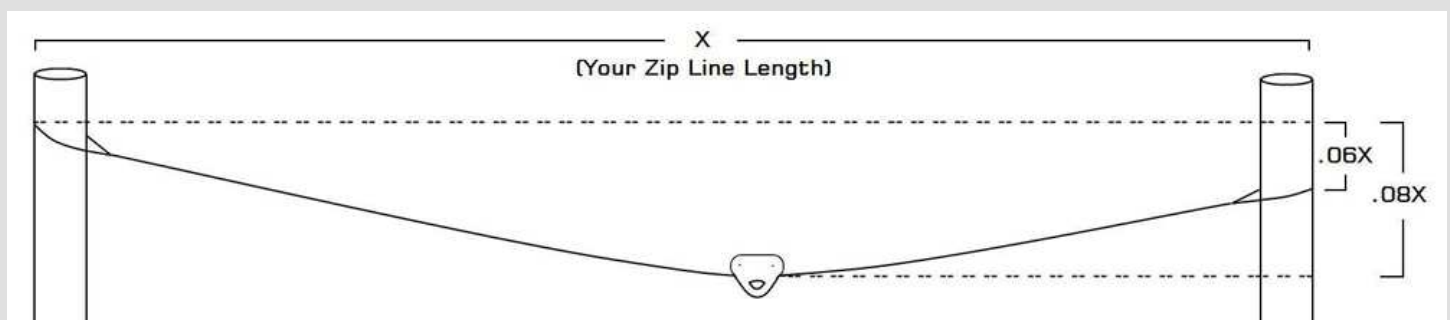
- 1 - 30' Bungee Cord
- 1 - Stop Block
- 1 - Anchor Lag Screw
- 2 - 3/8" Quick Links

The Quicksilver Zip Line is designed for a fast and simple installation between two trees or poles. The diagram below illustrates the configuration of a completed setup.



Installation Part 1: Planning your run

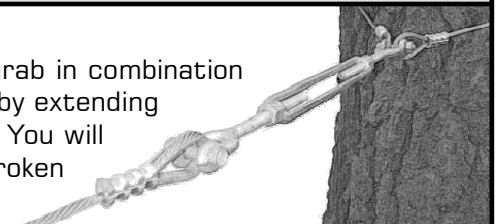
You will need a clear runway for the zip line ride with a sturdy anchor on both ends. The cable stretches between the anchors with enough slope to allow the trolley to roll quickly across the length of it. When setting your cable initially, shoot for a 6% drop from one anchor to the other (that's a 6 foot drop per 100 feet of distance), and plan for an overall cable sag of about 8% as well. This should be a good starting point from which to tune your zip line to get the speed and tension you prefer. See diagram below:



For example, let's say you have a 250' distance. This means you should shoot for having the cable drop about 15' (6% of your distance) from start to finish. If you'd like to have the pulley ride about 7 feet off the ground at its lowest point, and you're planning on an overall cable sag of 20 feet (8% of your distance), then you should start the zip line at about 27' (adding those together) and then subtract your 15 foot drop to end the zip line at 12'. Keep in mind that this is assuming a flat location; installing on a slope requires less height for the starting anchor.

Installation Part 2: Setting your cable

Setting the main cable of a Quicksilver zip line requires the use of a cable grab in combination with a come-along or other tension device. Prepare for the cable tensioning by extending both turnbuckles and attaching them to your anchors with the cable slings. You will be stretching the cable from one turnbuckle to the other. The process is broken down into steps on the following page.



Step A: Attach the looped end of your main cable to the turnbuckle on which ever end is least accessible.

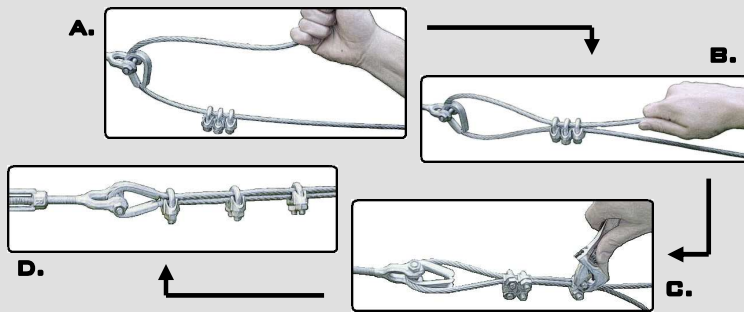
Step B: Unwind your cable to the opposite end, pull it as tight as possible (by hand), and attach your come-along or tensioning device to the cable via the cable grab.

Step C: Crank your tensioning device until the cable hangs near the desired height. See diagram below:



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Step D: Bring up the slack end of the cable, and fix it to the other turnbuckle using your cable clamps and thimble as shown in the diagram below. Position the clamps so the U-bolt is against the folded-back end of the cable.



How Tight is Tight?

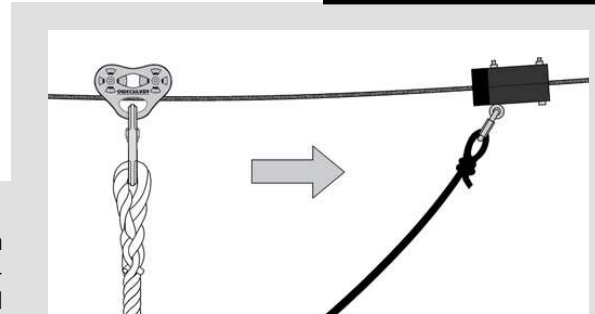
The recommended amount of torque for bolting down a 5/16" cable clamp is 15ft-lbs, with a minimum of 7 3/4" turnback on the cable.

Visit our website for more detailed specs:

www.ziplinegear.com/blog/?p=12

Installation Part 4: Setting up the Bungee Stop

Your bungee stop is installed near the end of your zip line to catch and the pulley and slow it down to a stop. The **block** should be bolted together around the cable, with the rubber pad facing the top of the ride. The **30' bungee cord** then runs from the block to the **anchor lag screw**, which can be screwed into a nearby tree or post (use the **3/8" quick links** to connect the bungee cord to the anchor and the block). The bungee cord has a safe stretch limit of 175%, so make sure the cord is NOT stretching to more than 50' when riders are hitting the brake. If you are stretching it longer than 50', try doubling the bungee back so that you have two 15' cords providing increased resistance, and make sure these are not stretching past 25' in length. If you are still over extending your bungee, you will need to purchase more bungee cord or decrease the slope of your zip line.



Installation Part 5: Assembling the Riding Equipment

The Quicksilver kit comes equipment with a 12" handlebar and the Cobra zip line seat. These can be attached together or individually to the Quicksilver pulley using the Locking Oval Carabiners. The seat is recommended as a safety requirement for any zip line that utilizes the brake.

Installation Part 6: Testing your Quicksilver Zip Line

Weight Test: The weight test should be done at the center of the zip line with at least 350lbs of load (hang a rope from the pulley and have two adults bounce their weight on it). Then check/retighten all cable clamps, bungee block bolts, and turnbuckles. Never exceed 350lbs in the actual operation of the zip line.

Speed Test: Have a test rider sit on the seat, and lower them down the zip line by walking or running alongside them holding a rope attached to the pulley. Increase the speed of each run until you are confident that the zip line will not be too fast or over extend the bungee brake if the riders are allowed to zip freely. Once accomplished, your zip line is ready to roll!

Need more info?

Check out our blog for more detailed articles about tree protection, cable tensioning, alternate braking methods, and much, much more. Just go to ZipLineGear.com and click "Read the Blog" near the top of the page. You can also contact us directly by phone or email to get fast, personal assistance.

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