



Boeing Employees Alpine Society

Toprope Seminar

Overview:

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce the skills needed to safely set up and execute toprope climbs. There will be a focus on equipment, safe anchors, and climbing techniques. There will also be time to practice your new skills in a supervised environment and ask questions before you put them to use on your own.

Audience:

All participants are expected to be proficient at belaying. BCC graduate or equivalent looking to learn how to set up toprope climbs and start climbing outside.

Learning Objectives:

- ✓ Interpreting guidebooks and selecting climbs
- ✓ Gear requirements
- ✓ Safely approaching anchors
- ✓ Toprope anchors
- ✓ Climbing technique
- ✓ Cleaning toprope anchors

Required Gear:

- Harness
- Rock shoes
- Personal anchor
- Helmet
- BCC Technical gear (webbing, carabiners, belay device)

Optional Gear:

- 60m single rated climbing rope (less than 2 years old)
- Quickdraws

Schedule – Saturday:

- 07:00 – Meet at pullout for playground point ready to hike
- 07:30-10:30 – Seminar
- 11:00 – Back at cars, go use your new skills



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Anchors:

All anchors should follow the rules of **SRENE**:

Solid
Redundant
Equalized
Non
Extending

For more information regarding anchors, see the anchor building chapter in Freedom of the Hills

Anchor Types:

Natural: Large trees or rocks. Make sure to test that these are solid before you trust them.

Bolted: Equalize at least two bolts for an anchor. Effective methods are the anchor in a box, magic X, and opposite and opposed quickdraws.

Gear: Toprope anchors can be created using traditional climbing gear such as nuts and camming devices. This skill will not be covered in this seminar.



Toprope Areas:

Here is a list of some areas in Leavenworth with good beginner toprope climbs.

- Bruce's Boulder
- Barney's Rubble
- XY Crag
- Playground Point
- Clambshell Cave
- Mountaineers Dome
- Hammerhead Rock
- Roto Wall
- Veterans Club
- 8 Mile Rock



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Map to Playground Point:



Just beyond road cut is a seasonal drainage. Beyond this is a second smaller bulletin board, approximately 0.8 miles from Snow Creek parking lot, or coming from the other direction, 3.5 miles from the Bridge Creek Campground entrance. The trail is obvious from the road and begins just before the drainage. Head up the trail and head right. There is another trail nearby that heads to Central Park or Clamshell Cave, so be cautious.

