

The PRAT®-education
(Professional Rope
Access Technician)
gives authorization to do
industrial rope access.

PRAT® means
Professional Rope Access Technician®

A Professional Rope Access Technician®
has through
passed examination
proven to be able to work
professionally and safe with
ropes and safetyequipment in relation to
"industrial rope access".

This standard expresses current safety standards for work as authorized
Professional Rope Access Technicians® (PRAT®).

This standard is based on years of experiences with industrial rope access and with the
professional scandinavian standard for Climbing-Activity-Leaders (KAL®).

The standard has existed since 1992. In 1993 it was widely
recommended by a number of parties at a great seminar,
regarding climbing-safety, to use this standard and to get
authorization to prove your ability to satisfy the standards.

Klatre-Centeret was appointed responsible for the authorizations.

Today the standard has gotten further acclaim and is widely accepted and used.

More than 350 persons has gone through examination since initiation in 1993.

Education, standard and authorization are furthermore recommended by
Dansk Vejlederkreds, the tradeorganisation for professional outdoor guides.



The education:

During education the full examination requirements are taught and trained
thoroughly.

This involves ao. knowledge, understanding and use of the involved equipment,
communication, belaying- and safety-practices, use of different ropes, harnesses and
safety-equipment, fallfactor, setting up safe belaystations, prusiking, a variety of
abseiling-and jumaring-techniques, setting up ropes and positioning yourself in a
working-situation.

Furthermore the education involves training a number of emergency- and rescue-
procedures, which enables the technician to safely handle a number of unexpected
and potentially dangerous situations.

After having gone through the examination requirements,
the training period starts.

The education concludes with a theoretical and a practical examination.

If passed, the PRAT®-authorization-certificate is issued.

There are some very good reasons to be PRAT®-authorized:

- You can feel confident, that your safety-practises are the very best and up-to-date.
- You're better off in relation to family, costumers and authorities etc. who all have a legitimate interest in your safe practises.
- You're in a much better position when negotiating and dealing with insurance-companies etc.
- You're legally much better safeguarded in case of an accident.

Further information is available from:

www.klatrecenter.dk/prat

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* only to be used from Sweden



Authorized



Professional
Rope
Access
Technician®
(PRAT®)

Standards
Purpose
Education



PRAT® Authorized Professional Rope Access Technician®



This standard describes content in and examination requirements for the education to:

Authorized Professional Rope Access Technician®

A. General requirements:

- 1) Age
- 2) First aid
- 3) Insurance etc.

B. Skills etc:

- 1) Knots, belaying, belaytools
- 2) Setting up ropes. Belaystations
- 3) Equipment; knowledge and use
- 4) Belaying and lead-climbing
- 5) Prusik- and jumarcimbing
- 6) Abseiling
- 7) Soloclimbing and selfbelaying
- 8) Communication
- 9) Emergency- and rescue-techniques



Authorized Professional Rope Access Technician®

A. General requirements:

- 1) Age:
Minimum 18 years of age.
- 2) First aid:
Extended first-aid-education, at least 30 h., issued by a known and recognised party.
- 3) Insurance:
Knowledge and understanding of insurances, relevant to industrial/commercial use of rope access and climbing equipment.

B. Skills etc:

- 1) Knots, belaying and belaytools.
Candidate must show:
*Safe practices with figure-8 loop, double figure-8 knot, double fishermans knot, reef knot, clove hitch, bowline knot, tape knot, overhandknot and friction knots such as ie. prusik, Bachman and Klemheist.
Safe use of different belay-brakes and of the italian hitch.
Understanding disadvantages and advantages of belaying from the body and belaying directly from the anchorpoints.*
- 2) Belaystations, anchorpoints.
Candidate must show routine in:
*Setting up safe belays.
Making attachments and tying in with the help of both double figure-8 knot, bowline knot and clove hitch.
Establishing safe anchors from multiple anchorpoints (ie. equalization of points).
Safe positioning of gates on double carabiners.*
- 3) Equipment, knowledge and use.
Candidate must show good understanding of:
*Ropes; Disadvantages and advantages of using single- and doubleropes, construction, length, strength, diameter, materials, maintenance, storage, dynamics, risks by use, coiling and UIAA.
Harnesses; Disadvantages and advantages of various types (ie. sit-, combination- and fullbody-harnesses), tying in, abseiling and attaching to these.
Carabiners; Strength, materials, risks, advantages and disadvantages of aluminium / steel, shapes, various locking techniques.
Slings; materials, types, maintenance etc.
Jumars etc; use and risks involved with using ie. prusik, jumars, gri-gri and shunt.
Abseil/descending-tools; use and risks.
Fallarresters; use and risks.*

- 4) Belaying and leadclimbing.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Belaying a climber, moving on a top rope.
Belaying a leading climber, moving up and traversing/moving horizontally.
Placing safe stoppers when leadclimbing and traversing.
Using, understanding and calculating fallfactor.*
- 5) Prusik- and jumarcimbing.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Climbing up and down a freehanging rope with prusiks, jumars and ie. gri-gri.
Passing from abseil to climbing and vice versa.*
- 6) Abseiling.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Establishing abseils, setting up and connecting to safe anchorpoints.
Avoiding friction/wear.
Knowledge and safe use of various abseil-methods ie. using figure-of-eight, Sticht, Gri-gri and Italian Hitch.
Using prusik and Klemheist as back up safety.
Loosening jammed prusiks.
Locking off the various abseil-tools.
Tying together ropes, even of varying thicknesses.*
- 7) Soloclimbing and selfbelaying.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Selfbelaying, using sliding stoppers, moving both up, down and sideways in ie. ladders and scaffolds etc.
Using and understanding various fall arresters.*
- 8) Communication.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Using agreed communication in belaying.
Using agreed warning calls.*
- 9) Emergency- and rescue-techniques.
Candidate must show great routine in:
*Freeing a locked prusik.
Performing a partner rescue by hauling up an injured partner by establishing an improvised 1:2 winchsystem.
Performing a partner rescue by lowering an injured partner.
Performing a partner rescue by lowering and then extending the rope by another rope and "passing" the knot through the system.*

Authorized Professional Rope Access Technician®

What is a Rope Access Technician?

A Professional Rope Access Technician® (PRAT®) can access and work safely in hard to access places, which would be expensive, difficult or even impossible to get to with more conventional methods, ie. by scaffolding or cranes. The use of Rope Access Technicians has become increasingly popular in recent years in areas such as ie. windowcleaning, assembly, repair, maintenance and service in hard to get at places, such as theaters, wind turbines, rotor blades and mobile-telephone-installations. The advantages in respect to speed and economy are great, even outstanding.

Authorization

Authorization is based on the PRAT®-standard. Authorization is attained after passed theoretical and practical examination with examiners from the board of professional KAL® (Klatre-Aktivitets-Leder®)-examiners. Authorization is renewed every two years

Further education

It is possible to do advanced special courses, involving ie. advanced rescue-course or the education to internal PRAT®-safetyleader and -coordinator.

