

Pin Lock karabiner

Important tips for usage

Range of application

Pin lock karabiners have been developed as harness-paraglider connecting elements for paraglider pilots, after many conventional aluminium- as well as steel karabiners have shown not to be fatigue resistant. In contrary to the gate of conventional karabiners which is not actuated by gravity, the Pin Lock gate is force- and form-fit. That is why Pin Lock karabiners have a fatigue strength of over 4 kN. It can be used for up to 10 years with no limit to the number of operational hours. In addition, Pin Lock karabiners are characterized by their high level of user friendliness.

The breaking load is 25 kN by a weight of 80 g. That means a weight saving of 100-120 g on the harness compared to one with steel karabiners.

Pin Lock karabiners are intended for mono- and biplace paragliders. The maximum hang-in weight is 1.4 kN per karabiner. The loading is only permitted over straps whereby the strap on the harness side must be 40 mm wide at least.



Attachment of the Pin Lock karabiner to the harness

To attach to the harness, the screw on the left-hand side of the Pin Lock karabiner must be removed.

The screw of the security line on the right-hand side should only be removed for the purpose of replacing the security line.

Mount the Pin Lock karabiners in place of conventional karabiners through the harness loops provided by the harness manufacturer so that the Quickpin-handle is facing towards the pilot, respectively the Quickpin-handle on the right-hand karabiner is facing outwards and to the right, and the handle on the left-hand karabiner is facing outwards and to the left.

Attach the Pin Lock karabiner to the harness with the installation bolt, not forgetting to use the spacer sleeve.

Attachment of the paraglider to the Pin Lock karabiner

Release the Quickpin by pressing your thumb on the release button and simultaneously pulling on the Quickpin-handle with your fore- and middle finger. The Quickpin only needs to be pulled out far enough so that the riser can be hooked over the end of it.

Fasten the paraglider risers by pushing on the release button of the Quickpin and inserting until the Quickpin-handle is flush with the karabiner. After removing your thumb from the release button, the Quickpin is secured.

Test that the Quickpin is sitting properly by pulling on the Quickpin handle without pressing the release button.

Important safety tips for usage

In order to avoid the Quickpin becoming soiled or frozen it should always remain fully inserted in the karabiner - except when mounting the paraglider riser. After separating from the paraglider, the Quickpin must always be pushed back completely into the Pin Lock karabiner.

The contact of a warm karabiner with cold snow by temperatures below zero degree Celsius should be avoided.

In order to assure that the risers are attached properly during strong wind conditions, harness and paraglider should be kept connected.

You should ensure that the karabiner does not come into continuous contact with aggressive substances (e.g. salt water or sea air). A damp harness should not be stowed away in a closed bag.

Replacing the security line

Should the security line become damaged after prolonged usage, it can easily be replaced. High-strength replacement security lines can be ordered by Finsterwalder & Charly free of charge when ordering together with other articles from our comprehensive selection of aviation sport equipment.

First attach the security line to the handle of the Quickpin. One end of the line must be flush with the lower side of the handle. The other end must emerge on the upper side of the handle. First thread the security line through the left-hand and middle holes of the Quickpin-handle as seen from above and pull the end of the polyamide line so that it is flush with the bottom side of the handle in the left-hand hole. Press the security line on the top side of the handle to stop it slipping whilst threading the line from below through the right-hand hole.

Insert the Quickpin into the karabiner. Loosen the fastening screw for the security line positioned on the right-hand side of the karabiner by about 1 mm. Insert the end of the security line into the notch at the side of the screw-head and push the line (flat pliers may be helpful for this) below the screw-head. The security line has to be pushed in the countersunk hole right around the screw so that there is the largest possible surface area of line trapped when the screw is tightened. It is easier to push the line around the screw when the end of the line has been warmed.

The length of the line should be 92 mm (before November 2008: 86 mm) so that the Quickpin cannot be pulled completely out of the karabiner. Since November 2008 the Pin Lock karabiners are equipped with a handle as shown in the picture. For replacement orders of Quickpins or security lines please specify the type (old or new).

