



Standard Test Method for Treestand Static Load Capacity¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the static load capacity of treestands in terms of a factor of safety relative to the manufacturer's rated capacity.

1.2 The values stated are in inch-pound units and are to be regarded as the standard.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F2531 Test Method for Load Capacity of Treestand Seats

3. Terminology

3.1 The terminology and definitions in the referenced documents are applicable to this test method.

3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *backbar or V-bar*—adjustable component of a climbing treestand or handclimber that engages the tree to provide support. The backbar may be rigid or flexible.

3.2.2 *climbing stick*—device used to assist climbing a tree primarily to a fixed position treestand. A structure that is secured to the tree and allows the user to support his weight and climb to the desired height on the tree.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F08 on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F08.18 on Treestands.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

3.2.3 *climbing treestand*—treestand that provides both the means to ascend the tree, and allow the user to remain at a desired elevation.

3.2.4 *handclimber, or climbing aid*—device to assist climbing with a climbing treestand. A structure that allows the user to support his weight when lifting a climbing treestand with his legs.

3.2.5 *ladder treestand*—treestand that is secured to the tree at the elevation where the platform is located. (The ladder treestand may be secured to the tree at other locations and has steps that are used to reach the platform or hunting position.)

3.2.6 *non-climbing, fixed position or hang-on treestand*—treestand that is secured to the tree at the elevation where it is used. (The user usually ascends the tree by some means and then lifts the treestand to the desired position and secures it for use.)

3.2.7 *platform*—horizontal structural area of a treestand on which the user stands and/or places his feet.

3.2.8 *treestand*—device designed to be affixed to a tree or its branches so as to permit an individual to sit or stand thereon for the purpose of attaining an elevated position from which to observe, photograph or hunt.

3.2.9 *tripod or tower stand*—tripod or tower stand is constructed to be self-supporting and is not required to be secured to a tree.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A climbing treestand is mounted so that its platform is perpendicular or slightly above horizontal to a rigid wood or metal pole when the rated load is applied parallel to the mounting pole. A fixed position or ladder treestand shall be mounted with the platform perpendicular to the mounting pole. A tripod stand shall be positioned so that the platform is perpendicular to the application of the load. A climbing stick shall be mounted such that the steps are perpendicular to the pole. The platform is equipped with deflection measurement devices. The load is applied step-wise and recordings are made of the load and deflection at each step until yielding or permanent deflection occurs or until twice the rated load is applied. The ladder, tripod and climbing sticks do not require deflection measurements be taken.