BILLY PUGH COMPANY

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SUGGESTED ROPE USE AND CARE

Synthetic and natural fiber rope · BPC-GUI-ROPE

TIER 3 · GUIDANCE

Document no.	BPC-GUI-ROPE	**Revision**	Rev. 0
Issue date	28-OCT-2026	**Status**	Controlled document
Document owner	Quality & Safety Coordinator	**Approved by**	Chief Operating Officer

General guidance on the use, care and storage of fiber rope, including the rope used in Billy Pugh products. It does not replace the inspection and replacement instructions for a specific product.

1. ROPE USE

Working loads. Hard and fast working-load recommendations are impossible, because of the wide range of rope uses and conditions, the many factors that affect rope behavior, and the degree of risk to life and property. Working-load tables are based on new, unused rope in excellent condition. Where injury to people or damage to property is possible, reduce the working load. Never increase the working load beyond the given guidelines without expert advice on the conditions and the risk involved. Working-load figures are void if the rope has been subjected to dynamic loading, high temperatures, long periods under load, extreme stress, improper storage or improper use.

Dynamic loading. Occurs when rope is subjected to sudden or extreme stress, such as starting or stopping a load. The effect is greater on low-elongation rope, such as polypropylene, than on high-elongation rope, such as nylon, and greater on a short rope than on a long one.

Tensile strengths. Are determined from tests on new, unused rope in accordance with the standard test methods of the Cordage Institute.

Overloading. Avoid sudden strain. When a working load has been used to select a rope, handle the load slowly and smoothly to minimize dynamic effects and avoid exceeding the allowance made for them.

Abrasion. Any rope will be severely damaged by hard and rough surfaces or sharp edges. Chocks, winches, drums and other surfaces must be kept in good condition and free of burrs and rust. Pulleys must turn freely and be the right size to avoid excessive wear. Keep rope clean: dirt and grit act as an abrasive and damage the fibers.

Recoil. Never stand in line with a rope under tension. If the rope fails, it will recoil with considerable force and can seriously injure anyone nearby. The same danger exists from fittings, even within the rope's safe working load. Check all fittings, bolts, shackles and splices before use.

Heat. Synthetic ropes can lose up to 50% of their strength when used or stored above 140 °F. Slippage or surging on a capstan or winch causes localized overheating and a severe loss of tensile strength. For continuous heat exposure, consult the rope manufacturer on the size and type of rope.

Knots and sharp bends. Can reduce rope strength by as much as 50%. Use the manufacturer's recommended splices and avoid sharp bends.

Chemicals. Most synthetic ropes resist oil, gasoline, paint and most chemicals. Natural fiber ropes can be severely damaged by chemical fumes or contact. Consult the rope manufacturer about specific chemical exposure.

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2. ROPE STORAGE

Synthetic ropes can be weakened by prolonged exposure to ultraviolet light or extreme heat. Store rope out of direct sunlight, in a cool, dry and well ventilated place.

3. REVISION HISTORY

Rev.	Date	Description of change	Issued by
0	28-OCT-2026	First issue under a controlled document number. Source: uncontrolled single-page "Suggested Rope Use & Care" published on billypugh.com. Content unchanged, except that a paragraph on inspecting the bottom platform of the PWB work basket, which had been pasted into the "Working loads" text in error, is removed (it belongs to BPC-RP-PWB), and the Cordage Institute's 1990s street address is dropped. Typographical errors corrected.	R. Siqueira, CEO

4. APPROVAL

	Name and title	Signature	Date
Prepared by	Rodrigo Siqueira, Chief Executive Officer		28-OCT-2026
Approved by	Ray Coleman, Chief Operating Officer		