



Belay - to provide protection against a fall by handling a tensionless rope (belay rope) in such a manner that it may be taken in or let out as another person(s) climbs, rappels or ascends a fixed rope or is raised, lowered or transported, yet be secure to hold this load in case of failure of the main support.

Self Belay - to provide protection against a fall by the person(s) needing the protection moving their adjustable connection point along a fixed rope, that remains without tension until the fall, as they climb, rappel or ascend a different fixed rope, or are raised, lowered or transported, by a separate rope.

Conditional Belay - to provide protection against a fall by using a rope, that is already under tension from part or all of the load, to hold the load should failure occur in some other part of the system.

Discussion - as an example, if a rappeler received arm injuries from rock fall, a "bottom belay" may be applied by another person pulling down on the rope below the rappeler. Assuming that the person at the bottom has not been hit by the rock fall, the belay is still conditional on the integrity of the system above the rappeler for falls caused by system failures above the rappeler will not be arrested by such a belay method.

Two-tensioned rope lowering systems using a conditional belay must be planned so that in the case of one rope failing the remaining rope will be able to sustain the shock force resulting from the first rope's failure.

Conditional Self Belay - to provide protection against a fall by the use of a conditional belay that is managed by the person(s) needing the protection.

Discussion - as an example, if a rappeler using a mechanical rope clamp, hitch of cord or auto-stop descender on the rope that is also supporting him. This is a conditional self belay since if the anchors pull out, the anchor webbing get cuts, or the rope becomes severed above the rappeler, the belay will be of no service to him.

The BELAY is → which is ↓	a totally separate tensionless rope	a rope already under tension from part or all of the load
managed by others	BELAY	CONDITIONAL BELAY
managed by the person(s) in need	SELF BELAY	CONDITIONAL SELF BELAY

Auto Belay - ("Deadman" Belay) - a self activating belay that does not require a positive action to engage it. The term Auto can be applied to any of the 4 types of belay listed above when it is appropriate.

Pseudo Belay - a belay that will not work; that is pretend, counterfeit or false. The term Pseudo can be applied to any of the 4 types of belay listed above when it is appropriate.