

## ALICE QUICK RELEASE BUCKLE KIT INSTRUCTIONS



1. Remove the two metal ladderlocks attached to the vertical compression straps. These are located at the bottom of the ALICE pack. Removal is best accomplished using cutting pliers, held behind the rear bar of the ladderlock, while a pair of standard pliers is used to bend the ladderlock up and down. Repeated bending will cause the ladderlock to fracture, much like bending a paperclip until it breaks. Be careful removing the broken ladderlocks – sharp edges will result. If you do not wish to remove the metal hardware, installation can still be accomplished. Skip steps 1-6 and instead follow steps 1a-4a, located on pages 7-8.



2. Once the rearmost bar on the ladderlock is broken, move the cutting pliers to the next highest bar and bend until failure.



3. Repeat step 2 on the remaining ladderlock bar, freeing the vertical compression strap from the ladderlock. Repeat steps 1-3 on the second vertical compression strap ladderlock.

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4. On the outer three ALICE pack pockets, remove the three metal ladderlocks, following the procedure in step 1. Only the rearmost bars need to be broken.



5. With the rearmost bars broken, remove the outer pocket closure straps and discard. These straps will be replaced with new straps from the Buckle Kit.



6. Remove the metal cam buckle from the radio pouch inside the main compartment, following the procedure in step 1.

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7. With all metal ladderlocks removed, the plastic side release buckles (SRBs) can now be attached. Grab one of the lower webbing loops, where the vertical compression strap ladderlocks were previously attached, and pinch it into a V shape.



8. Slide a female SRB onto the lower webbing loop, pushing the V-pinched webbing through the split bar on the SRB.



9. Flatten the webbing loop onto the female SRB. Repeat steps 7-9 for the other lower webbing loop.

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10. Grabbing the free end of one of the vertical compression straps, route it through a male SRB, as shown. Ensure the strap is oriented in such a manner that the vertical compression strap will not be twisted when the male SRB is connected to its corresponding female SRB.



11. Route the vertical compression strap through the rearmost bar on the male SRB.



12. Connect the male SRB to the corresponding female SRB. Repeat steps 10-12 for the second vertical compression strap.

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13. Attach female SRBs to the lids of the outer pack pockets, following steps 7-9. The female SRBs are attached to the webbing on the lids of the pockets, where the metal ladderlocks were removed.



14. Grab one of the straps from the Buckle Kit. The straps include a male SRB with a Slik Clip at the bottom. Slide the open Slik Clip loop around the snap fastener webbing located on the outside of the ALICE pack outer pockets.



15. Squeeze the open Slik Clip loop until it locks closed. If the snap fastener webbing is too thick to allow the Slik Clip to be closed, the Slik Clip can be repositioned between the two snap fasteners and secured there. Repeat steps 14-15 for the remaining outer pockets.

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16. On the radio pouch inside the main compartment, slide a female SRB onto the loop where the metal cam lock was attached, following steps 7-9. Route a male SRB onto the radio pouch strap, following steps 10-12.

(Note: If your kit included a plastic ladderlock, it can be attached to the radio pouch in lieu of the female SRB. This allows the radio pouch to be closed more snugly at the expense of slower access.)



17. Remove the main compartment slide lock by either untying the knots in the cord or cutting the cord behind the knots. If the cord is cut, use a lighter on the cut ends to prevent fraying.



18. Slide the new cord lock onto the main compartment cord and secure the cord ends together in an overhand knot. Installation of the ALICE Quick Release Buckle Kit is now complete.

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1a. If you do not wish or are unable to remove the metal ladderlocks from your ALICE Pack, Buckle Kit installation can still be achieved. Cut the folded ends of the vertical compression straps and unthread the straps from their respective metal ladderlocks. Touch the cut strap ends with a lighter to prevent fraying.



2a. Cut the folded ends of the outer pocket closure straps, unthread the straps from their metal ladderlocks, and discard.



3a. The plastic SRBs for the vertical compression straps will still be attached as shown in steps 7-9. However, the metal ladderlocks will remain in place on the lower webbing loops.

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4a. The plastic SRBs for the outer pockets will still be attached as shown in step 13. However, the metal ladderlocks will remain in place on the pocket lids.