

## THE MOST WIDELY USED **VERBAL SIGNALS FOR CLIMBING**

### **BELAY SIGNALS**

**“BELAY ON.”** - Belayer to climber. This means he is ready to protect him with the rope.

**“CLIMB.”** - Belayer to climber. Said in addition to or in place of “Belay On” to more strongly indicate to his partner to come ahead.

**“CLIMBING.”** - Climber to Belayer as climber starts up.

**“BELAY OFF.”** - Said by either the belayer or climber. Indicates the belay either may be or is being dispensed with. Keep the belay on until the climber says, “Belay Off.” This should normally be only after he is anchored or safe on the ground.

**“ON RAPPEL.”** - Rappeller to Rappel Master & Belayer. This means that rappeller is ready to go.

**“OFF RAPPEL.”** - Rappeller to Rappel Master & Belayer. This means rappeller is safe on the ground and descender is off the rope.

### **ROPE COMMANDS** (Ask for what you need, not for what you already have!)

**“ROPE.”** - Climber to Belayer. Short for “Up Rope.” Means take in rope, whether up or down.

**“SLACK.”** - Climber to Belayer. Opposite of “Rope.” Never say, “Take up slack,” when you mean “Rope.”

**“TENSION.”** - Climber to Belayer. Means Hold the rope tight, but usually to hold all of the climber’s weight. This sometime can mean, “Pull like crazy!”

**“TAKE.”** - Climber to Belayer. Means to hold the climber’s weight with the rope. Usually, said prior to being lowered down after done with a climb.

**“ROCK!”** - A shout of warning similar to Fore! in golf. Shout it loudly upon dislodging a missile (i.e., a rock or object that could cause bodily harm).