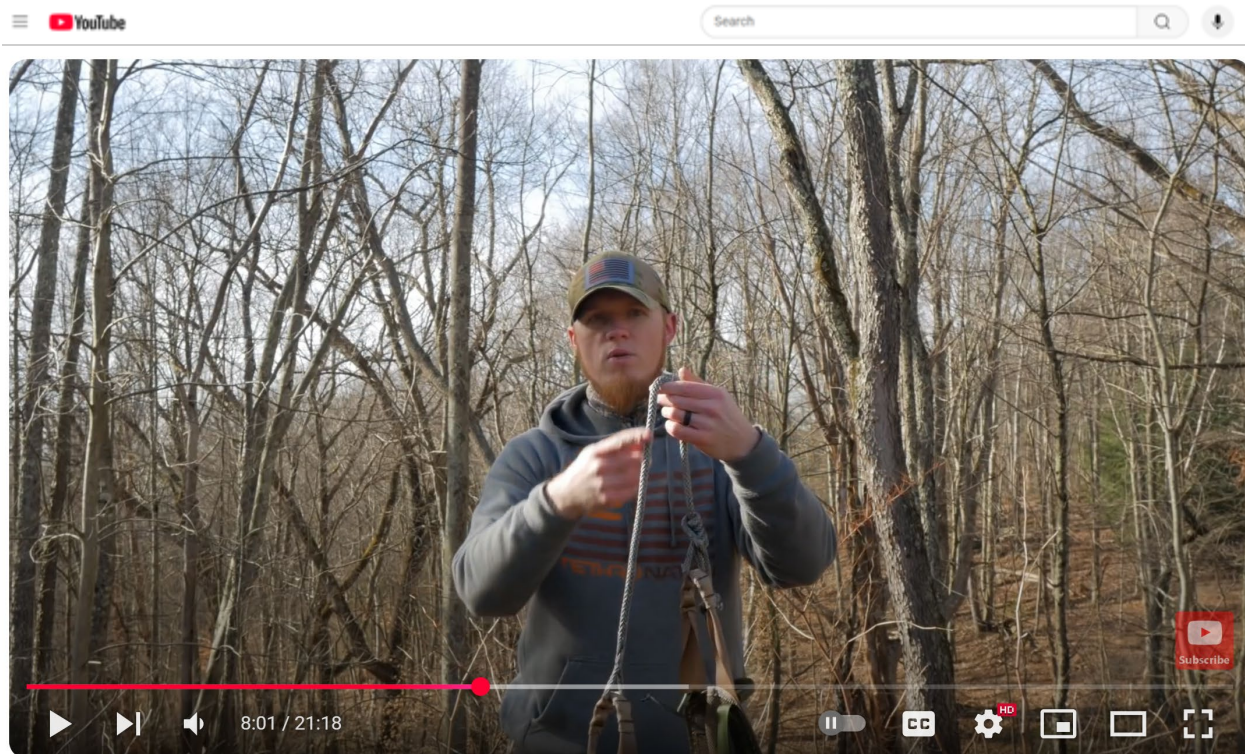


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6l6mEwFJf4>



Tethrd Mantis VS The Phantom Saddles



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It's the battle of the Ultralight saddle TITANS. The Tethrd Mantis VS Phantom. Jared compares the two and goes over the differences between the Mantis and Phantom saddles.

Want to try a saddle before taking the plunge or want to learn more about this way of hunting?

<https://tethrdnation.com/teach-n-trai...>

Key moments

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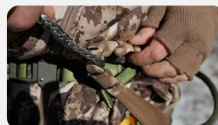
2:00

Specs



2:46

Construction



5:12

Comfort Channels



6:14

Lineman Loop Setup



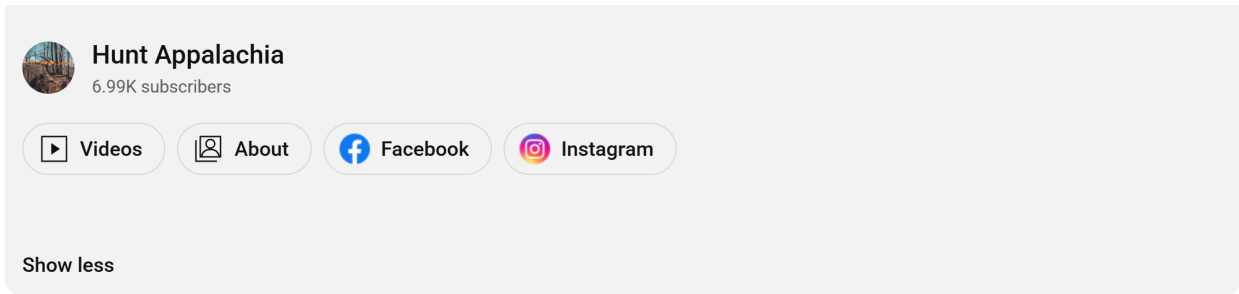
6:25

Lineman's Loop

Transcript

Follow along using the transcript.

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Transcript

0:00
the ultimate ultralight tethered tree
0:02
saddle showdown the Mantis versus the
0:05
Phantom but I really just do that in one
0:08
take man I'm good what's up guys today
0:12
we are back again to talk about tree
0:14
Saddles is there anything else to talk
0:16
about all kidding aside so tethered just
0:19
released the Phantom saddle for 2020 so
0:23
bite request basically we're gonna go
0:26
over the differences between the Mantis
0:28
and the Phantom now I've put a lot of
0:30
time into both of these saddles I've had
0:33
my hands in the design of the Phantom
0:35
not so much the Mantis but I got to test
0:38
the prototype mantis all the way through
0:40
the production models and hunted out of

0:42
this for a full season and I put a full
0:45
season into the Phantom as well so I
0:47
think that I can speak to the
0:50
differences between the two how they
0:51
feel while walking to the tree while
0:54
climbing the tree and while sitting in
0:56
the tree for hundreds and hundreds of
0:58
hours so I may be a bit biased as most
1:01
of you know I actually work for tethered
1:03
I get to test out these products and I
1:06
get to spend a lot of time in the tree
1:07
so I think I can speak to how the
1:10
saddles feel how what makes them
1:13
different what makes one better than the
1:15
other and today I'm basically just going
1:17
to compare the two I'm gonna try to show
1:19
the differences between the two and for
1:21
those on the fence about buying a new
1:24
saddle you know I'm not trying to push
1:25
you one way or the other there's other
1:27
brands out there that make great saddles
1:28
as well I just want to inform everybody

1:31
what the differences are if you have a
1:33
man's already whether or not you might
1:36
think about upgrading or you know maybe
1:38
you want to keep your saddle and run it
1:39
for another year I'm not trying to push
1:42
a sale on you that's the last thing I
1:44
want to do I just want to inform you
1:46
show you the differences between the two
1:48
and what to look for so let's get into
1:51
it so this is the Mantis in my left hand
1:53
you can see it packs down about the size
1:56
of a softball a little bit bigger and
1:59
the same for the Phantom specs wise the
2:02
Mantis comes in three sizes medium large
2:05
extra-large
2:06
the Phantom comes in one size one size
2:09
fits all so the Mantis has a fixed
2:12
bridge 24 inches
2:14
the the phantom will go from basically
2:16
zero to about thirty inches
2:19
weight-wise you're looking at right at
2:21
sixteen ounces for a medium antis and

2:23
for the one-size-fits-all phantom right
2:26
at 21 ounces so depending on the size of
2:29
the Mantis you're looking at a three to
2:32
five ounce difference in the weight of
2:34
the saddle constructionwise you're
2:36
looking at the same milspec mesh on both
2:39
saddles a lot of the same seatbelt
2:41
webbing that is basically all rated the
2:43
same the difference is lies in the
2:46
construction of the saddle basically and
2:48
I'm gonna go over that right now so this
2:50
is the the medium manus as you can see
2:53
it's got kind of a V shape to the to the
2:56
body of the saddle it's very pliable as
3:00
you can see the you know the top belt
3:03
you can easily fold it up and very easy
3:06
saddle in a pack and that's what a lot
3:08
of guys liked about it the thing about
3:10
it being so pliable is that it really
3:12
doesn't hold its shape all that well if
3:14
you hold it up like this you can see the
3:16
waist belt actually stays in a straight

3:18
line and if you hold it up by the bridge
3:21
loops it just kind of collapses on
3:24
itself so it's a very pliable saddle
3:26
that is very easy to pack if you like to
3:29
pack it all right now getting into the
3:31
Phantom so you can see right off the bat
3:33
that the shape of the saddle is is a
3:36
good bit different it's slimmer it's not
3:38
as tall top to bottom and it doesn't
3:40
really have a V shape to the bottom it's
3:42
more of a football symmetrical shape so
3:45
it's basically the same top to bottom
3:47
you also notice too that the
3:50
construction of the saddle it's got a
3:53
little bit more rigidity top and bottom
3:55
so I can actually hold it out here by
3:58
the bridge loops and it will actually
4:00
hold its shape and that is a big deal
4:02
when it comes to comfort I really think
4:04
that is what sets the saddle apart from
4:06
the Mantis and that it has a little bit
4:08
more rigidity and even though it's a

4:10
smaller saddle it actually distributes
4:13
the weight a little bit better so if I
4:15
hold this saddle up you can kind of see
4:18
that it holds a cupped shape so if you
4:23
look at it this way the saddle is not in
4:27
a straight line
4:27
you don't have any straight lines on
4:29
this side it's got a curve to it and it
4:31
holds that curve and with the more rigid
4:34
construction top and bottom it just
4:36
really holds that shape and it really
4:39
helps keep the saddle in place on your
4:41
body a lot of people have complained
4:43
about the Maness wanting to ride up
4:44
after a little while and the induced Cup
4:48
and the construction of this saddle
4:50
actually really helps hold it in place a
4:52
lot better and that's that's going to be
4:54
probably the biggest difference between
4:56
these two saddles is just the
4:58
construction and the way it holds its
5:00
shape so that's the number one

5:02
difference that I'm gonna say between
5:04
the two saddles is the shape of them so
5:07
the next thing you're gonna notice on
5:08
the phantom on the bridge loops are
5:10
these little bumps here and we call them
5:13
comfort channels so what this
5:15
effectively does is it places your
5:18
bridge loops in the side loops of the
5:21
saddle and holds it right where you want
5:23
it and what that does is it transfers
5:25
the pressure from top to bottom and you
5:29
know when you're sitting for a long time
5:31
you know some some people like to change
5:33
up the position of this what these do is
5:35
just really helps to hold that position
5:37
and fine-tune it and that's a big deal
5:40
when it comes to comfort for an all-day
5:41
sit I put a lot of all-day sits into
5:44
this saddle and I found myself every few
5:48
hours just adjusting this one comfort
5:50
Channel down or up just to change the
5:52
pressure points a little bit it also

5:54
gives you a reference point so in the
5:56
dark you can feel your balls and you can
5:58
tell exactly where you're at and you can
6:01
kind of count your balls in the dark lon
6:03
- yep - balls you can go in between them
6:05
and you're you know you're gonna be
6:07
comfortable right off the bat and it
6:09
just makes finding comfort a little bit
6:11
quicker so the next big change on the
6:13
Phantom versus the Manus is the lineman
6:15
loop setup so the Manus actually has a
6:19
continuous loop of webbing that goes top
6:22
and bottom and runs the full length of
6:24
the saddle and it forms the lineman's
6:26
loop and it actually pulls from the top
6:29
and the bottom now a lot of people
6:30
overlook this feature because it's
6:32
honestly not that exciting to look at
6:34
it's just a loop every saddle has
6:36
lineman's loops on them most of them do
6:38
but when you're climbing and you're
6:40
using sticks or spur

6:41
or bolts or whatever and you got to go
6:43
around a lot of limbs and you're really
6:45
leaning into your lineman's rope as
6:47
you're climbing this is a huge upgrade
6:49
in comfort so there's basically zero
6:52
pressure points whenever you're climbing
6:54
because the the way the webbing runs
6:57
around the entire body of the saddle
6:59
it's pulling from the top and the bottom
7:00
just like you'd be sitting in it so it's
7:03
a whole lot more comfortable the Mantis
7:05
just has the one loop on top and it
7:08
basically pulls from just the top waist
7:10
belt of the saddle so it's perfectly
7:13
safe it works just fine but as you're
7:15
climbing and say you've got a harder
7:18
climb that takes a little bit longer and
7:20
you're really leaning back into it you
7:21
can really feel that pressure on your
7:23
waist
7:23
so the fourth big difference in the
7:26
Phantom is the bridge now adjustable

7:29
bridges are not a new thing there's been
7:32
a lot of saddles in the past that have
7:34
had adjustable bridges the big deal with
7:36
this bridge is that it's an AM steel
7:38
bridge and it's not a Whoopie sling so
7:41
it's a prusik setup which that and of
7:45
itself is not all that special pricing
7:47
on sir really not that exciting and
7:49
they've been done a million times before
7:51
but the beauty in this bridge is the
7:55
construction of it so this is a quarter
7:58
inch piece of AM steel that is spliced
8:00
all the way back through itself and it's
8:03
using a 3/16 prusik that is a continuous
8:07
loop splice so there's no extra knots on
8:10
the AM steel it's just a prusik knot so
8:13
I've tested this all year
8:15
it holds absolutely awesome it holds way
8:19
way better than you think it would aim
8:20
steel by nature is pretty slick but
8:23
constructed in this in this way with the
8:26
bigger diameter of its splice back

8:28
through itself it really really holds
8:31
well and it tested extremely well we we
8:33
could not get this to fail and a drop
8:35
test on the saddle so it's a pretty big
8:37
deal another thing that I like about
8:39
this bridge is that it's the same
8:41
diameter from the beginning to the end
8:44
so you don't have that taper like you do
8:46
on the manness so as you're sliding you
8:50
don't feel any difference because there
8:51
is no difference in the diameter on the
8:54
mainus you've got
8:55
tapered bury that runs on each side and
8:58
as you pivot hard left to right you can
9:00
kind of feel that and it's not a big
9:02
deal it's just a difference now another
9:05
benefit to this bridge is you know a lot
9:08
of people ask you know they they see the
9:11
buried in of the splice poking out of
9:13
the aim steel and they think that it's a
9:16
problem and they're worried about it and
9:17
we get we get asked that a lot you know

9:20
is my bridge breaking is there something
9:22
wrong with it and there's nothing wrong
9:23
with it it's just the splice poking out
9:25
so this bridge you don't have to deal
9:28
with that there's nothing poking out
9:29
it's nice and smooth all the way through
9:31
and as you're wearing the saddle walking
9:34
in you can cinch it all the way down to
9:37
nothing which is extremely nice and
9:41
probably one of my favorite features of
9:43
the saddle so another difference between
9:46
the Phantom and the manness is the leg
9:48
loop placement so the leg loop placement
9:50
in the Phantom lives right inside the
9:53
bottom edge of the saddle right here and
9:56
there's a little tab that sticks out and
9:58
that's where you connect your leg loops
9:59
to so in the manness there's two
10:01
locations on the waist belt and on the
10:03
outside bottom of the saddle different
10:08
people prefer different hookups on the
10:10
manness it just depends on you know how

10:13
restrictive how restrictive it is while
10:15
you're walking so the Phantom with the
10:17
leg loop on the inside with this tab you
10:22
actually cannot feel it while you're
10:23
walking it doesn't the leg straps don't
10:26
bind at all
10:27
this is honestly probably the best
10:29
wearing saddle I've ever tried because
10:31
it's it's ultra lightweight and the way
10:34
it hugs your body when you're walking
10:36
it's just it's not restrictive at all
10:38
you honestly don't even know you're
10:40
wearing it if I didn't have my gear
10:42
pouches on the side this is like wearing
10:44
you know an awesome fitting pair of
10:46
pants to be honest so that's another big
10:49
upgrade from the from the Manus is that
10:52
the leg strap location has just been
10:55
fine-tuned to the point where it's just
10:57
on an issue anymore and you don't mind
10:59
wearing the leg straps alright so I've
11:01
got the Manus on and just so everybody

11:04
knows I've got the straps on this saddle
11:06
trimmed down a good
11:07
this is actually my son settled that
11:09
he's just past season so if you wonder
11:11
why they look a little short that's why
11:12
but so I got the Mantis on I've got it
11:15
just above my normal belt line and this
11:18
is how I would wear it while walking in
11:20
so I've climbed the tree I'm on the
11:22
platform I've hooked into my tether and
11:24
now I'm gonna sit back so to get
11:28
comfortable in the Mantis I would always
11:30
loosen the waist belt and drop the
11:34
saddle down a couple inches so the top
11:39
of the the waist belt is basically at
11:42
the top of my butt crack so from there
11:45
to get comfortable I would have to grab
11:47
the side loops of the bridge and kind of
11:49
pull them back so that basically puts
11:53
the pressure on the bottom side of the
11:56
saddle and takes away those pressure
11:59
points now if you notice the Mantis is

12:02
taller top to bottom than the Phantom
12:04
where the Mantis naturally wants to ride
12:08
on me is in a slimmer profile so I don't
12:11
know if you could see it or not but the
12:13
bottom of the saddle has actually folded
12:16
up a little bit and the top of the
12:18
saddle has actually moved down to the
12:20
point where the saddle is only about
12:22
that wide I can't run the Mantis fully
12:26
extended I don't really have a butt to
12:28
speak of so for me to get comfortable in
12:30
the Mantis making it a shorter profile
12:33
actually makes it more comfortable so
12:37
right there I'm pretty comfortable like
12:39
this is where I would hunt using the
12:40
Mantis this is how I would lean back
12:42
into it most of the day now for sitting
12:47
I do feel a little bit of pressure on
12:49
that top band and on the outside of my
12:51
hips now it's nothing bad I mean it's
12:54
just a little bit of pressure but I can
12:56
definitely tell that it's there now this

12:58
would be comfortable for me as far as
13:00
adjustments go I'm pretty much out of
13:03
adjustment I can't really do anything
13:04
other than if I would happen to move or
13:08
shift my weight a little bit then I
13:10
would take and readjust these side loops
13:12
where they're sitting on the on the
13:15
bridge connection so as you can see I've
13:17
got my tether height right at nose level
13:20
I usually run it pretty
13:21
low this tree I couldn't really run a
13:23
much higher unless I go above this limb
13:25
but if I would have to run this higher
13:28
for whatever reason if I had limbs or
13:30
something in my way that's where I would
13:32
have a little bit of trouble with the
13:33
Manus staying comfortable throughout the
13:36
sit now it's not a deal breaker I can
13:39
I can deal with it and I'm fine but I
13:42
just don't have a lot of adjustability
13:44
one because the bridge is a fixed length
13:47
and I don't have adjustments and the

13:50
side loops to hold that position as I
13:53
move the tether up and down the tree so
13:55
I've put hundreds and hundreds of hours
13:57
into the Manus itself
14:00
I've had some sets where for whatever
14:04
reason the tree leaned the angle tether
14:08
height I just couldn't get super
14:11
comfortable I was never to the point
14:13
where I was in pain but I just couldn't
14:16
dial in that ultra comfortable sit know
14:20
where I'm sitting right now I'm pretty
14:21
comfortable I could sit like this for
14:23
several hours and not not being any
14:26
discomfort at all so overall the mainus
14:29
is a comfortable saddle if you take your
14:32
time to learn these small adjustments
14:34
you know sliding it down where it wants
14:36
to ride on your body
14:37
once you learn those few adjustments
14:39
it's it's a pretty comfortable saddle
14:41
alright so now I've got the Phantom I'm
14:43
wearing it just like I was the Manus

14:46
just right above my normal belt line
14:48
I've got the bridge cinched all the way
14:50
up so the the side loops are nice and
14:52
tight so at this point I would be on my
14:55
lineman's belt and then I would just
14:56
lengthen this I usually go lengthen it
14:59
all the way out hook it up and then sit
15:03
back now this is I wish you guys could
15:07
feel the difference in this so if you if
15:10
you notice what the Manus I had to
15:12
loosen up the waist belt and I had to
15:14
lower it down to get comfortable so I
15:17
did not adjust this at all it's still
15:19
sitting right where I was wearing it you
15:22
know as I was climbing the tree so
15:24
basically I just sat back in it and I'm
15:27
comfortable like I can literally sit
15:29
here for several hours without adjusting
15:31
anything so the nice thing about this
15:32
saddle is depending
15:34
on tether height and all that I can
15:37
adjust the bridge to be as short as I

15:40
want it which is really nice and then I
15:42
could adjust the comfort channels to put
15:44
pressure either on the top strap or the
15:47
bottom so if I'm sitting for any amount
15:50
of time I like to bump the comfort
15:51
channels down a little bit to where I'm
15:54
putting a little bit more pressure down
15:56
here and it just really gives it a good
15:59
cupped feeling like it's not going
16:01
anywhere for the most part when I'm
16:07
leaning actually like the comfort
16:09
Channel to be in the top slot it just it
16:13
just feels right to me and that's the
16:15
nice thing about this as you can adjust
16:17
it to whatever you prefer so if you
16:20
start feeling pressure up high you can
16:23
move it down low and it stays there so
16:25
you can you can maneuver make shots
16:27
whatever and it's not gonna move and you
16:30
also have that reference point to to
16:32
know exactly where you're where you're
16:33
at in there so right now the way I'm

16:35
sitting in this saddle I feel zero
16:38
pressure basically anywhere I don't feel
16:40
any on my hips it's just an even
16:43
pressure from top to bottom it's just
16:47
extremely comfortable I really can't
16:49
describe the difference between it and
16:51
the Mantis and not that the Mantis is
16:54
uncomfortable but the shape of this
16:56
saddle is is that's where the biggest
16:58
different difference lies to me sitting
17:01
all day in this saddle was absolutely
17:03
zero issue for me this past season i sat
17:07
daylight till dark multiple times and
17:09
was extremely comfortable I can't ever
17:12
remember a sit where I was in pain or
17:16
had discomfort or I just wanted to get
17:19
out of the tree like I just never
17:21
happened for me so I generally run my
17:24
bridge a little bit longer usually
17:27
adjusted all the way out I was hunting a
17:29
couple weeks ago and I actually had
17:31
adjusted my tether down and then I can

17:37
run a short bridge like I've got a
17:40
really short right there and with the
17:42
comfort channels in the top position on
17:44
both sides
17:47
it takes almost all the pressure off the
17:49
bottom of my legs and it really gives a
17:51
really good secure feeling so the reason
17:54
I was running it this way is because I
17:57
was hunting with a muzzleloader
17:58
and I had a screw in tree hook right here
18:02
that I was using his arrest so with my
18:04
bridge long I was finding that it was
18:06
getting in my way of the gun whenever I
18:08
would bring it up to take a rest off
18:10
that hook so I adjusted everything down
18:13
and out of the way so I could easily
18:15
pick up the gun and rest off that hook
18:17
and with a short bridge like this it
18:20
obviously wraps the saddle around you
18:22
more and you would think that it would
18:23
be uncomfortable but this actually feels
18:27
awesome and I could see myself running a

18:30
really short bridge for like an early
18:32
season hunt really anytime basically
18:36
it's just a different feel and it's
18:39
super comfortable so I hope this
18:41
comparison video helps you guys make an
18:43
informed decision I'm not out to sell
18:45
anything I just wanted to show the
18:47
difference between the two and my
18:49
thoughts on them so if you have a manís
18:52
that you've used this past year and
18:53
you're comfortable in it you know maybe
18:56
you want to run it for another season
18:57
before you upgrade but if you're looking
18:59
to get into a different type of saddle
19:02
or your you're looking for something new
19:05
I would really take a hard look at the
19:07
Phantom I really tried not to sound
19:11
biased and and what I'm telling you guys
19:14
but honestly the Phantom is is the best
19:18
saddle I've ever used and I'm not just
19:21
saying that because I work for tethered
19:23
if this stuff wasn't good I wouldn't

19:25
work for him and I wouldn't use it
19:26
that's just how it is but I've put
19:29
hundreds of hours into both saddles I
19:32
can get comfortable in both I just find
19:35
it a little bit easier to get
19:36
comfortable in the Phantom I really
19:38
really enjoyed hunting out of it this
19:40
past year I really tried to find flaw in
19:44
it wherever I could so I could you know
19:46
give the rest of the team that input to
19:48
really make the best saddle possible and
19:51
honestly I couldn't find anything that I
19:53
didn't like about it it's just a super
19:56
comfortable saddle it remains that ultra
19:59
lightweight that
20:00
we always try to go for so for a saddle
20:04
that weighs you know 21 ounces it's just
20:07
the comfort of it is really incredible
20:09
and you know if you're looking for
20:12
something different this year I would
20:14
take a hard look at it for sure
20:15
so hopefully this review and comparison

20:17
helps you make that decision and I just
20:19
want everybody to be informed of what
20:21
the differences are and there are some
20:24
differences I wish I wish you could you
20:26
could feel the difference you know as
20:29
I'm showing it to you but all I got to
20:32
say is you just you have to try it out
20:33
to believe how comfortable it is you
20:37
know if you want to try a saddle out
20:38
before you make a purchase tethered is
20:42
doing a bunch of teaching train events
20:44
you know all over the United States this
20:47
coming summer spring and summer so get
20:50
on tether nation calm look and look and
20:52
see if there's any teaching training
20:54
events close to you we are gonna be at a
20:56
bunch of different shows so you know
20:59
look up and see where we're gonna be
21:01
here in the in the future and you know
21:03
try one out for yourself before you
21:05
before you make that decision but
21:07
hopefully this helps and if you have any

21:11

suggestions any questions feel free to

21:14

send us a message and I'd be glad to

21:16

help you guys out so take care