

## Use of anchors installed low down

Resin-bonded anchors installed under the BCA Anchor Scheme are intended for use by experienced cavers or mine explorers only. Users must appreciate the importance of rigging safely with suitable redundancy. Cavers accept responsibility when choosing to use any anchor.

### Use of anchors installed low down

In certain locations, it is necessary to locate the anchor placement low or at ground level. This is due to the geological constraints of the entrance, cave passage or pitch head. e.g. Rowten Pot entrance pitch in the Yorkshire Dales.

When clipping into a low anchor and progressing towards the pitch, it is possible for the carabiner to become unclipped from the anchor. See photo below:



When using anchors placed in rock at ground level or anchors that have been placed low, certain extra precautions should be taken.

1. Be observant for this issue and watch your attachment carabiners while manoeuvring
2. Consider the use of locking carabiners rather than snap-gate carabiners
3. Always have a second independent attachment point when clipping directly to an anchor with one cowstail (e.g. a second cowstail attached to a knot in the rigging rope)
4. Clipping into a knot instead of directly the anchor eye is usually preferable