

SAFETY TIP 1

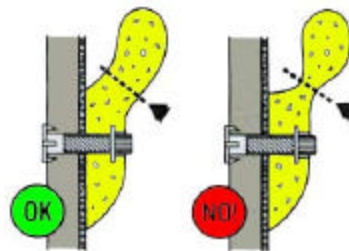
WHY HANDHOLDS BREAK

Information cited from “Climb Smart,” a public information program of ORCA.

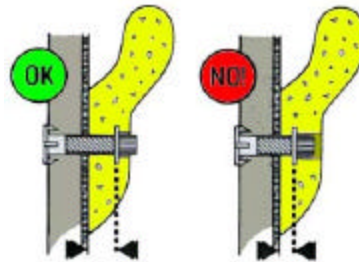
“Over-tightening, uneven wall surfaces, previous damage, ultra-violet degradation, excessive force, and use of an incorrect bolt can all cause a hold to break. While most hold breakage occurs during installation, holds can also break when in use. The route setter has the responsibility to inspect each hold for potential problems before installation. It is important to select holds that are designed to sustain the intended load without breakage. For example:”



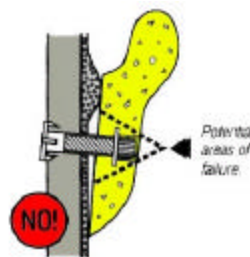
“Holds with thin cross-sections need to be thick enough to bear the expected weight.”



“Center sleeves should be tall enough to prevent failure behind the washer or in the center sleeve area.”



“Make sure the threads of the bolt and T-nut are clean, and that the T-Nut is perpendicular to the wall.”



Washing holds will remove chalk build-up and excess shoe rubber, and will also restore the original texture. Wash holds in a mild detergent, ether with a nylon brush or in a dishwasher.