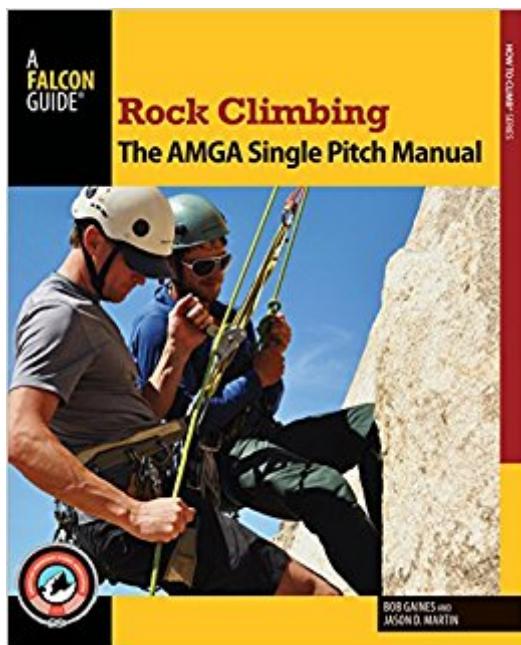


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# Rock Climbing: The AMGA Single Pitch Manual (How To Climb Series)



## Synopsis

Rock Climbing: The AMGA's Single Pitch Manual is intended to serve as a textbook for past and future participants of the AMGA's SPI program. The book builds upon Bob Gaines' book, Toproping, to more specifically address the needs of the professional climbing instructor and advanced recreational climbers. It presents the most current, internationally recognized standards for technical climbing systems used in single pitch rock terrain. Included are chapters on effective teaching in the outdoor environment, risk management, professionalism, environmental awareness, and rescue.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ã¢ "I've been waiting for this book for a long time. Professionalism, programming, pedagogy, anchors . . . This is a comprehensive resource for understanding the complexities of teaching in the single pitch environment. Highly recommended!Ã¢ " Arno Ilgner, AMGA Single Pitch Instructor and author of The Rock WarriorÃ¢ "s Way: Mental Training for Climbers

Bob Gaines has been a professional rock climbing guide since 1983 and is the owner of Vertical Adventures Rock Climbing School, voted the top rock climbing school in America by Outside magazine. Bob has worked extensively in the film business as a climbing stunt coordinator. He was Sylvester Stallone's climbing instructor for Cliffhanger and

doubled for William Shatner in Star Trek V, as Captain Kirk free-soloing on El Capitan. Jason D. Martin is a professional mountain guide, writer, and a senior guide at the American Alpine Institute. He has guided in Red Rock Canyon, Joshua Tree National Park, the Cascades, the Sierra, the Alaska Range, in Canada's Coast Range and in the Andes of Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru. Jason is an AMGA Certified Rock Guide and an AMGA Single Pitch Instructor program provider. In addition to working as a guide, Jason is a playwright, film critic and outdoor adventure writer. He co-authored Washington Ice: A Climbing Guide and authored Fun Climbs Red Rocks: Topropes and Moderates.

This book provides a good overview of what you'll need to know for your AMGA Single Pitch Instructor (SPI) course and assessment. If you plan to take that course this book is a no-brainer. You just have to buy it and read it. There are a few shortcomings:<sup>\*</sup> The photos of how to tie the knots skip a lot and it is impossible to learn the knots from the book.<sup>\*</sup> The photos of what not to do should be clearly labeled with a red cross bar or WRONG overlay on the photo. If you flip causally through the book and look at the photos some very wrong stuff is there and you have to read the text to know that it is not recommended.<sup>\*</sup> The religious debate on anchor systems rages on. Should you set up a Joshua Tree System with Tether or a Backside System? I realize the AMGA doesn't want to pick sides and will say either is acceptable, but the book doesn't even try to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various anchor systems.

I bought this book to supplement my lessons with an AMGA guide to learn how to set up toprope climbs. I used it many times to practice and reinforce everything I learned. It is really well written and my favorite book in terms of the knowledge contained within. As common sense would dictate this is not a book to teach you how to toprope...it is a reference to what you have learned?

This book rocks. Love having a manual as I move towards SPI certification. I also like adding guide-level best practices to my own recreational climbing experience. Love the "institutional anchors" chapter.

Fantastic instructional manual if you already have some basic knowledge of anchors, ropework and climbing technique. It is written as an instructional manual for climbers looking to turn into guides so if you're brand new this probably isn't the best option for you.

Serves as excellent preparation for the SPI course. If you're looking for info on knots, hitches, gear & toproping this is book is for you. Plenty of pictures to walk you through the steps. I highly recommend it.

The gold standard. Every climber who "takes friends" should read. Heck, every climber should read it!

Anyone taking the Assessment for the first time should get the book and really go through it. It has a lot of excellent info on it for the experienced climber as well as the new climber. The book has a lot of pictures that show examples of skills that one will be tested on the AMGA SPI Assessment.

Great book definitely recommend it for any climber specially if you aspire to become a AMGA Single Pitch Instructor but it's great text for anyone that's into the sport

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