

Icon 9.3 rope feedback.

Hello, first of all thanks for sending me the Icon 9.3 80 meters rope at the end of last year, I've been using it exclusively since then with very good results! It's an excellent rope!

First impressions.

The first impressions were very good, the rope handles really nicely, it's very soft and supple, it doesn't easily kink, and, if it does, the kinks come undone really quick and do not leave any trace after the rope hangs freely one time. Once that's said, the same fact that the rope handled so nicely made me think that it wasn't going to be very long lasting, as it's usual with thinner diameter ropes. This impression was shared by pretty much anyone that used the rope, we all agreed that it was really nice to climb with but it wasn't going to last very long.

After some use.

It was only after a few weeks of use that it started to feel like something was out of the ordinary, At 80kg, I'm quite a heavy climber and usually after three or four weeks of use I have to start cutting the ends of a rope, specially a thinner diameter one. The Icon was still looking really good after a month of use, at the time I thought that maybe I hadn't been climbing that much or that I hadn't fallen as much and didn't think much of it.

After a few more weeks the Icon was still looking really good though! Something was definitely different about it, I went back to Singing Rock's website and had a better look around, I found out about the ROUTE 44 technology, it seems to work really good!

Now I've been using the Icon for more than two months and it did just wear through, that's just about twice as long as any other rope that I have ever used! Incredible! The ROUTE 44 technology seems to work impressively well.

Some more testing.

Up to now I have used the rope exclusively in overhanging limestone sport-climbing, which, in my experience, tends to be really hard on the ends of the rope but quite easy on the main body, soon I'll be traveling to a sandstone traditional climbing area, Liming, over there the rope will get worked hard running over aretes, getting stuck in cracks, taking falls over bulges and all kinds of different rope-punishments, after the trip I'll be able to share some more feedback with you.

Summary.

A rope with a very nice feel to it that handles superbly well and surprises with it's longevity. Anybody looking for a superb lead-line should give this rope a try.

Thanks very much for letting me test it!

Raul Sauco







