



## Jump Sheets

The Jump Sheet consists of a circular sheet of canvas about 10ft across, fitted with a number of hand becketts spaced about 12 inches apart round the edge of the sheet.

The construction particularly in the method of strengthening the sheet varied slightly. Made by hand, a typical example was from 24 inch widths of canvas into a circle of around 10ft diameter. Two strengthening bands of the same material were sewn across the diameter and an additional centrepiece about 36 inches was sewn in. The circumference was additionally strengthened by a rope sewn into the seam of the canvas and was fitted with 24 hand becketts around the rim of the sheet.

The jumping sheet would only be used when no other means of rescue was available, or when it was feared that the person to be rescued would jump or could not wait. Apart from their normal use, they were sometimes used as a body removal sheet.

Because of the large number of firefighters needed to man the sheet, they were only used as a last resort, but in the Edinburgh Fire Brigade were often part of drill displays at Lauriston.

The sheets were withdrawn from service in the 1950's but no records have been kept about their main use as a rescue appliance.

