

Square Knot



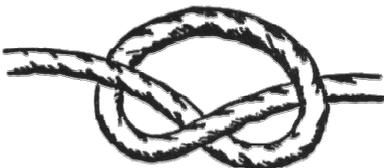
You can loosen the square knot easily by either pushing the ends toward the knot or by "upsetting" the knot by pulling back on one end and pulling the other through the loops.

Clove Hitch



This is one of the most widely used knots. Because it passes around an object in only one direction, it puts very little strain on the rope fibers. Tying it over an object that is open at one end is done by dropping one overhand loop over the post and drawing them together. The other method of tying it is used most commonly if the object is closed at both ends or is too high to toss loops over. The latter is used in starting and finishing most lashings.

Overhand Knot



This knot is used as a "stopping" knot.

Bowline



The bowline has been called the king of knots. It will never slip or jam if properly made and, thus, is excellent for tying around a person in a rescue. Begin by forming an overhand loop in the standing part. Then take the free end up through the eye, around the standing part and back where it came from.

Bowline on Bight



The bowline on a bight forms two loops, but they must be of the same size. Start by making a good-size bight and an overhand loop. Bring the end loop and bring it down and around the entire knot. Set the knot securely before putting weight on it.

Two-Half Hitch



This is a reliable and useful knot for attaching a rope to a pole or boat mooring. As its name suggests, it is two half hitches, one after the other. To finish, push them together and snug them by pulling on the standing part

Taut-line Hitch



Since it will only slide one way, the Taut-line hitch is often used on tent ropes. The taut-line hitch will hold firmly on a smooth pole such as a scout stave. Place rope end around pole, make a turn below it, then bring rope up across the standing part around the pole and tuck through.

Sheet Bend



The sheet bend is the most important knot for joining two rope ends, especially if the ropes are of different sizes..

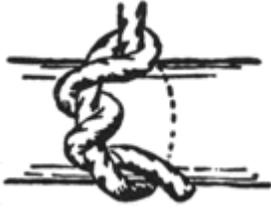
Begin with a bight in the larger rope. Then weave the end of the smaller rope through the eye, around the bight, and back under itself. Snug it carefully before applying any strain to the knot.

Figure Eight Knot



Often used in such places as the end of a string when tying a package with a slipknot or in the end of a rope forming a lariat loop.

Timber Hitch



This is an important hitch, especially for dragging a heavy object like a log. It will hold firmly so long as there is a steady pull; slacking and jerking may loosen it. The timber hitch is also useful in pioneering when two timbers are "sprung" together. When it is used for dragging, a simple hitch should be added near the front end of the object to guide it.

Sheepshank



This knot is used to shorten a rope that is fastened at both ends. Take up the slack, then make an underhand loop and slide it over the blight and pull tight. Do the same to the other end to complete the knot. The sheepshank is only a temporary knot as it stands. But it can be made more permanent by adding a second half hitch to each end.

Rolling Hitch



Tie a clove hitch, then bring the rope an extra turn around the post between the other two turns, and tuck under the diagonal section. The rolling hitch holds well as long as there is strain on the rope.

Fisherman's Knot



The fisherman's knot is used for joining two fine lines such as fishing leaders. It is simply two overhand knots, one holding the right-hand line, and the other the left-hand line. Pull each of the two overhand knots taut separately. Then make the whole knot taut so the two overhand knots come together by pulling on the standing parts of each line.

Surgeon's Knot



The surgeon's knot is a square knot with an extra twist. The purpose of this knot is to give added friction to hold until the second crossing is made.

Cat's Paw



The cat's paw is a better way to attach a rope to a hook than using a [blackwall](#). It will not slip and needs no constant strain to hold. Form two loops and turn them inward one or two complete turns. Hang these "eyes" over the hook or other such object.

Fisherman's Eye



The fisherman's eye is also known as the middleman's knot. The 2 knots will slide together and jam when strained, hence its great for carrying loads

Lariat Loop



The name describes the use. The knot forms the fixed loop through which the remaining long rope pokes through to form an elastic hoop, which is then spun overhead (lots of wrist action) and thrown to lasso an animal.

Hitching Tie



This is a common method of hitching animals. Notice that it is a type of slippery hitch.

Double Carrick Bend



The double carrick bend is used for joining 2 very thick ropes at the end, usually used by towboats to tow large cargo ships. The ends should be tied together.