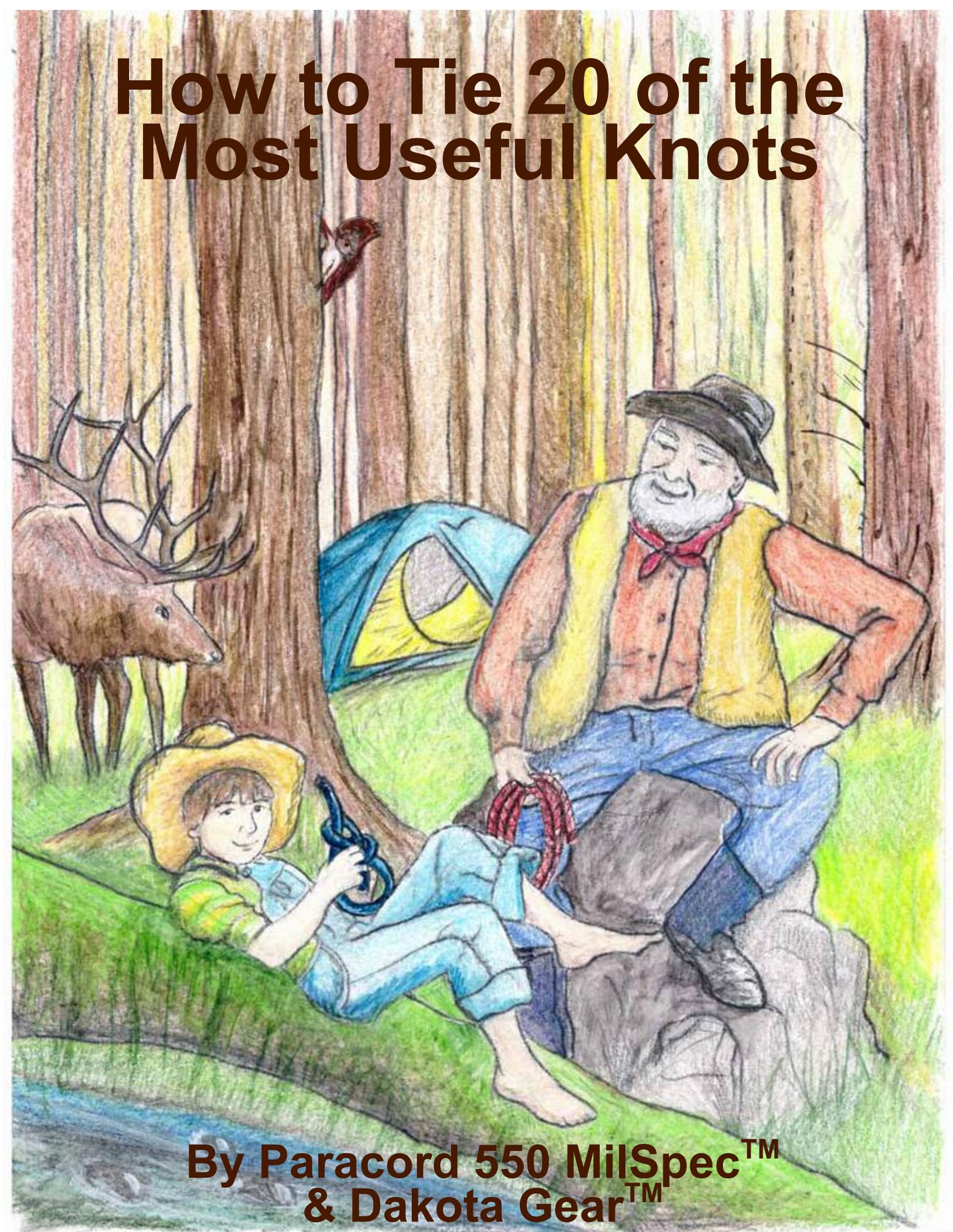


# How to Tie 20 of the Most Useful Knots



By Paracord 550 MilSpec™  
& Dakota Gear™

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# Table of Contents

Bowline . . . . .	4
Bowline on a Bight . . . . .	6
Buntline Hitch . . . . .	8
Butterfly . . . . .	9
Cleat Hitch . . . . .	10
Clove Hitch . . . . .	11
Constrictor . . . . .	12
Double Fisherman's . . . . .	13
Figure Eight . . . . .	14
Half Hitch . . . . .	15
Mooring Hitch . . . . .	16
Prusik . . . . .	17
Rolling Hitch. . . . .	18
Sheepshank . . . . .	19
Sheet Bend. . . . .	20
Square. . . . .	21
Tautline Hitch. . . . .	22
Timber Hitch . . . . .	23
Trucker's Hitch. . . . .	24
Water . . . . .	25
<a href="#"><u>Paracord 550 MilSpec™</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Military Specification Paracord</u></a> . . . . .	26
<a href="#"><u>Dakota Gear™ 550 Paracord</u></a> . . . . .	27
<a href="#"><u>Dakota Gear™ Paracord Bracelet</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>And Project Kits</u></a> . . . . .	28
<a href="#"><u>Dakota Gear™ Shock Cord / Bungee Cord</u></a> . . . . .	29

# Bowline

The bowline knot is a time-tested, essential knot that every outdoors person should know. It is a strong, reliable and stable knot, sometimes even referred to as the 'King of Knots.'

It is used to form a secure, fixed loop at the end of a rope.

The bowline does not slip or bind under a load and it can still be easily untied while not under a load.

When not under a load, a bowline can work loose or slip when pulled sideways. As such, this knot is not recommended for life or death activities, or if it needs to be untied while under a load.

## Mnemonic Device

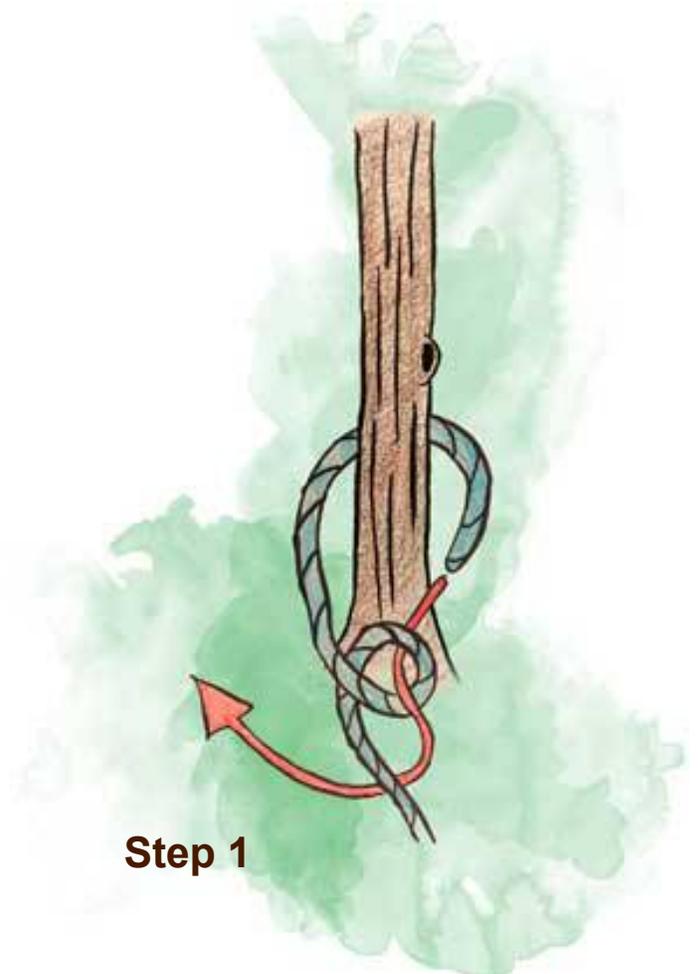
"The Rabbit comes out of the hole ...

... goes around the tree ...

... and back down the hole."

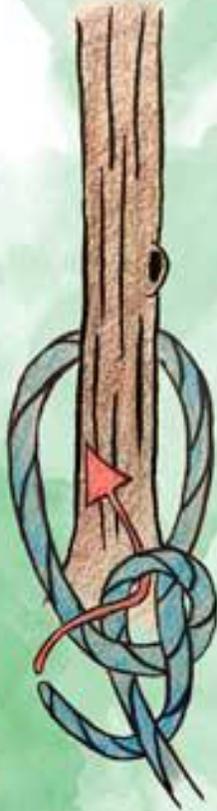
## **Bowline Quick Notes**

- Essential knot to know
- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Strong, reliable and stable
- Can slip or work loose when not under a load

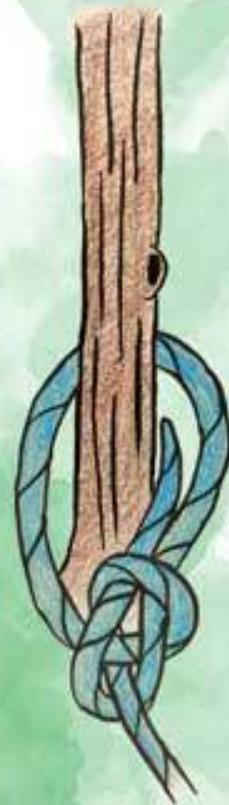


**Step 1**

# Bowline



**Step 2**



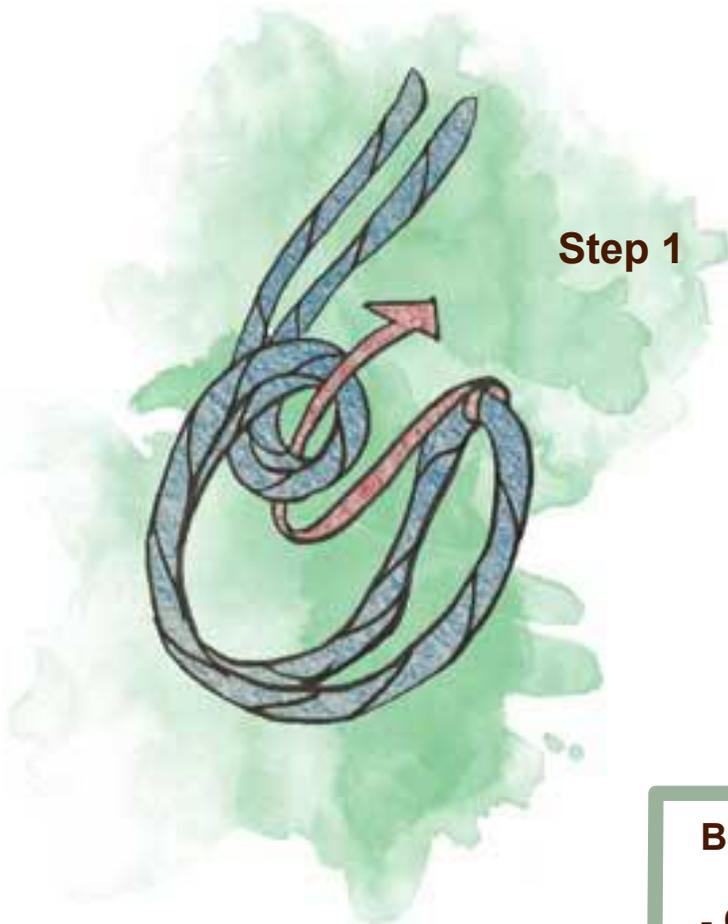
**Step 3**

# Bowline on a Bight

The Bowline on a Bight is a common knot often used in activities such as climbing, caving, and emergency rescue. It can be used to form a non-slip loop in the middle of a line.

This knot does not easily jam so it is easy to untie even after it has been tightened under a load.

This knot can slip when only one loop is under a load.



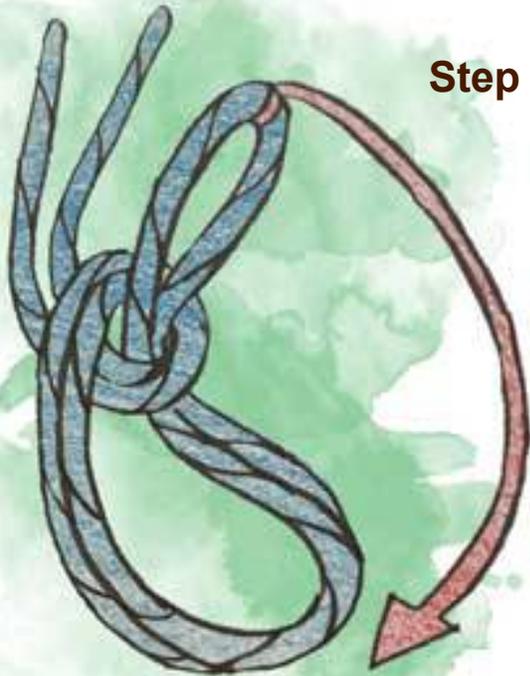
**Step 1**

## **Bowline on a Bight Quick Notes**

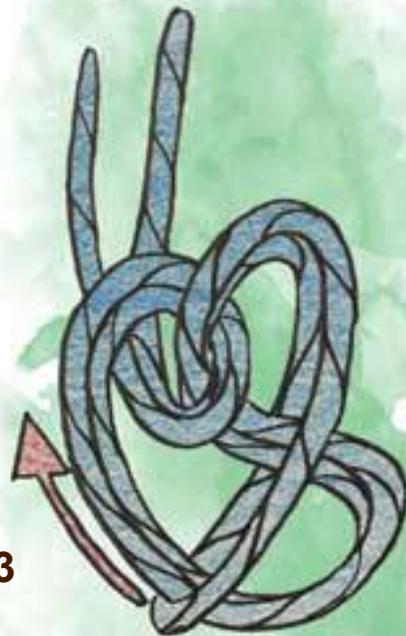
- Can be used to form a secure loop in the end or the middle of a line
- Easy to untie
- Great for caving, climbing and rescue

# Bowline on a Bight

Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



# Buntline Hitch

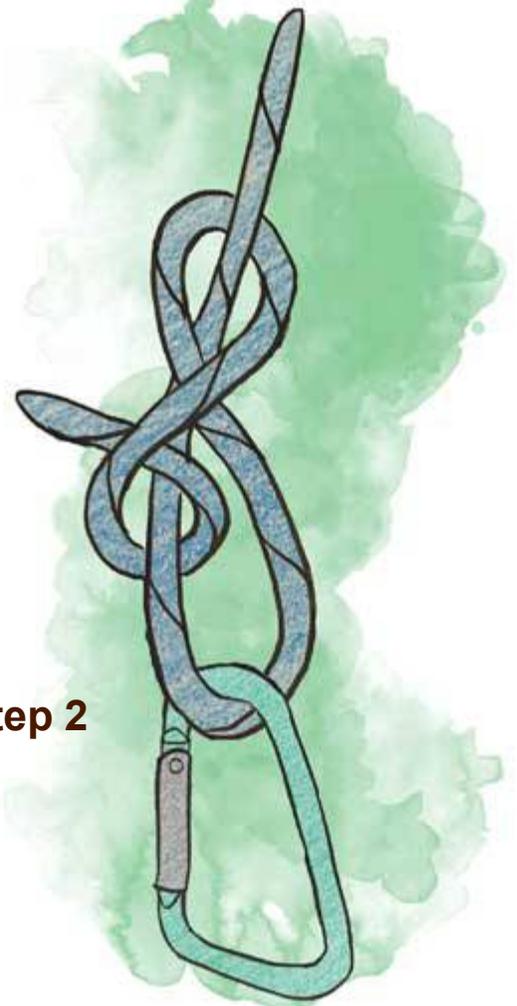
The Buntline Hitch is a secure, compact, reliable and time-tested knot often used by sailors. It is used to attach items like snaps, rings, and carabiners to ropes or lines.

After this knot has been set, it generally tightens, rather than loosens, when it is pulled or jerked. This tightening also makes this hitch more difficult to untie.

The Buntline Hitch often works well with more modern, “slippery” synthetic ropes and lines.



**Step 1**



**Step 2**

## Buntline Hitch Quick Notes

- Secure, reliable and compact
- Stays tight, but more difficult to untie
- Good for “slippery” synthetic lines
- Often used in Sailing

# Butterfly Knot

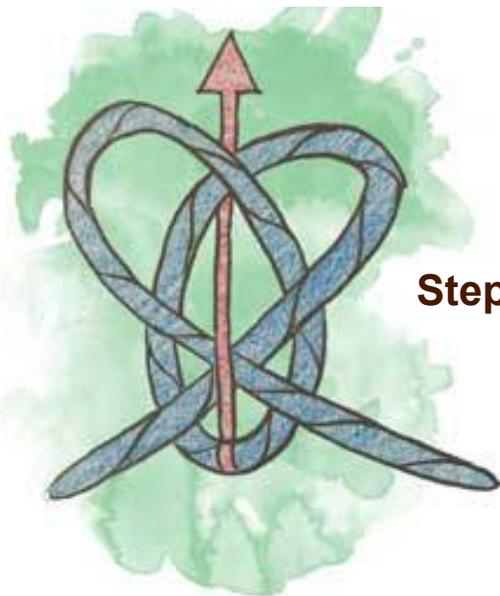


**Step 1**

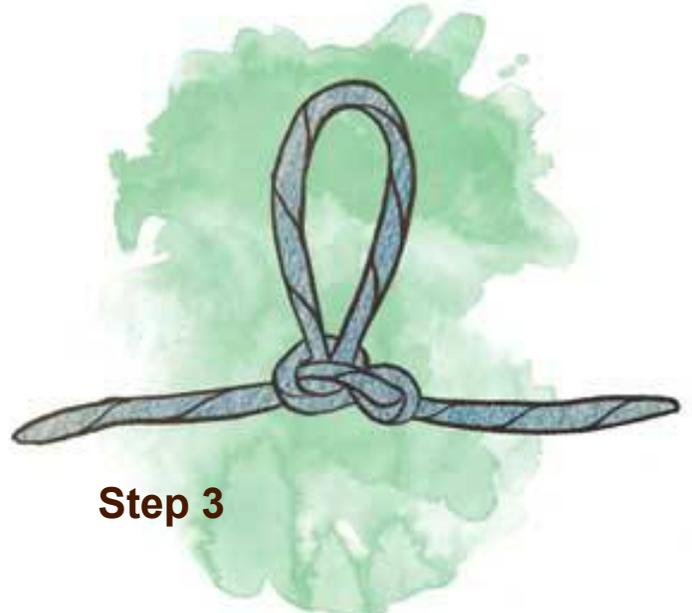
The Butterfly Knot, also known as the Alpine Butterfly Knot or Lineman's Loop, is used to create a secure loop in the middle of a rope. It is commonly used in mountain climbing for creating non-slip loops to which carabiners can be attached.

The main strength of this knot is that it can accommodate a load in any of the three directions either all together, or independently.

This knot can be tied without access to the ends of the rope, as in the case of isolating a damaged section of the rope or shortening a section of the rope.



**Step 2**



**Step 3**

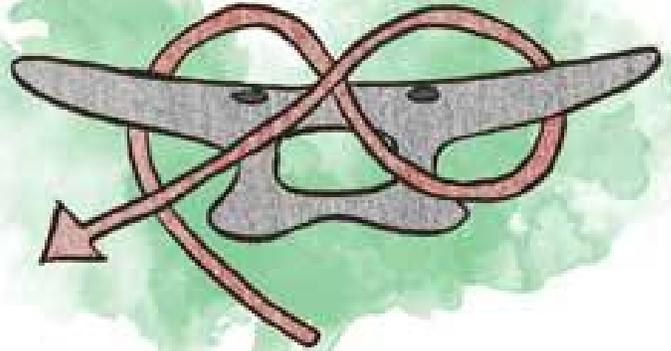
## Butterfly Knot Quick Notes

- Quick and easy to tie and inspect
- Creates a secure and non-slipping loop in the middle of the rope

# Cleat Hitch

The Cleat Hitch is essential to learn for any boater or sailor.

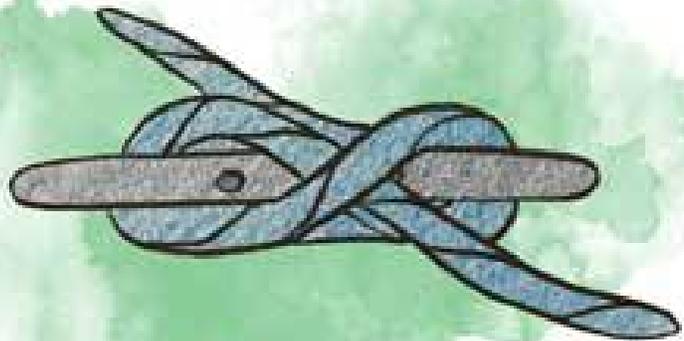
This knot is perfect to use when tying a rope or line to a cleat on the boat or on the dock. It will secure the boat to the dock, but is quick and simple to untie.



**Step 1**



**Step 2**



**Step 3**

## **Cleat Hitch Quick Notes**

- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Attaches lines to cleats on boats or docks

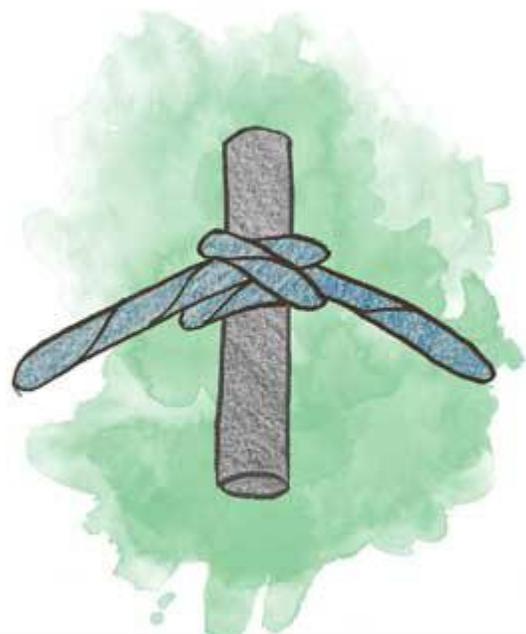
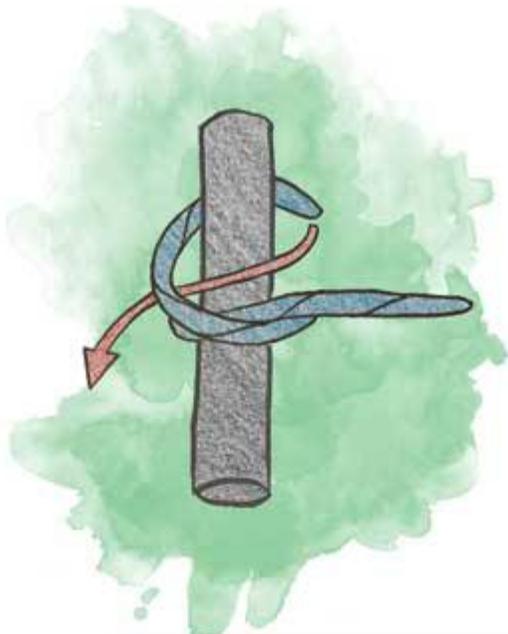
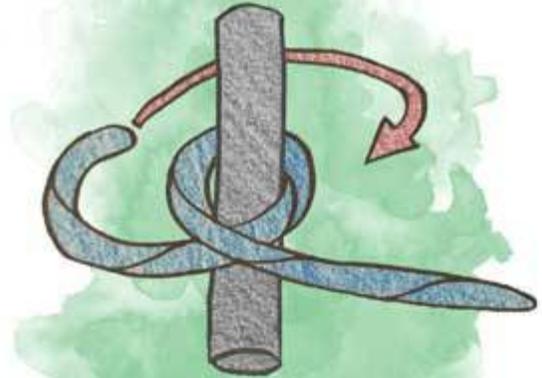
# Clove Hitch

The Clove Hitch, also referred to as the Double Hitch, is one of the most useful types of knots.

It is used to attach a rope to a post or other object, and is most useful when the length of the running end might need to be adjustable.

This knot can bind when under an extreme strain and should not be used in critical applications.

**Step 1**



## Clove Hitch Quick Notes

- Very useful, quick and easy to tie
- Adjustable by feeding the rope into the knot from either direction
- Can bind, should not be used in critical applications

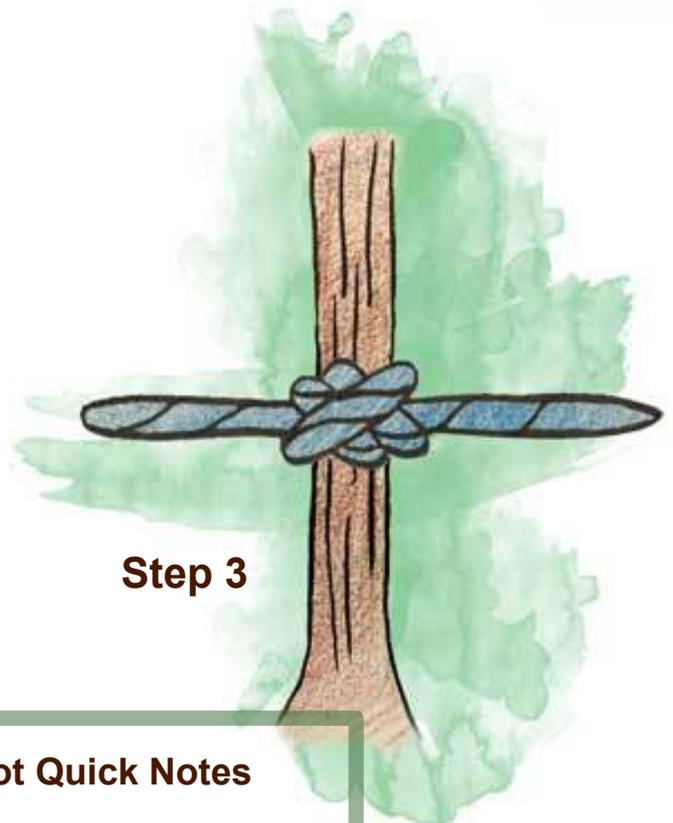
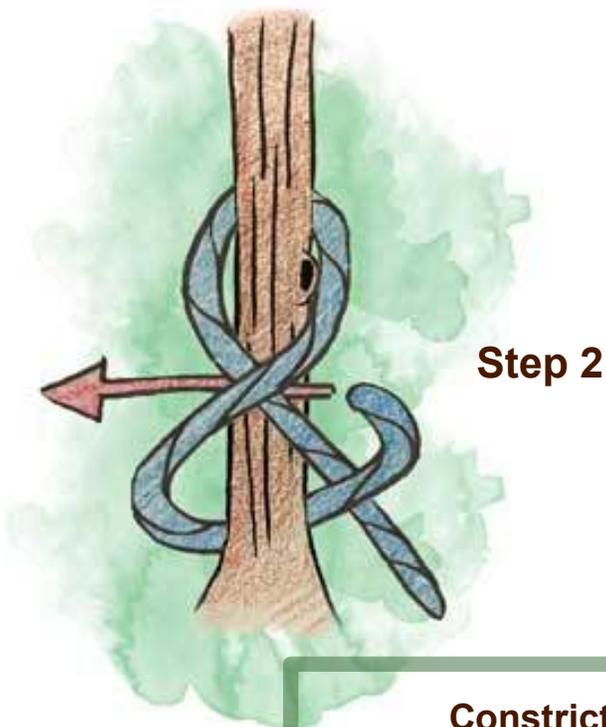
# Constrictor Knot



The Constrictor Knot is one of the most secure, but difficult to untie knots. Especially after a load has been applied to this knot, it may become so difficult to untie that it must be cut to release it.

It is used in situations where a very secure binding is preferred. The “severe bite” of this knot can actually tighten enough to cause damage to the item around which it is tied.

The Constrictor Knot is useful as an improvised hose clamp, and as ligatures in surgery.



## Constrictor Knot Quick Notes

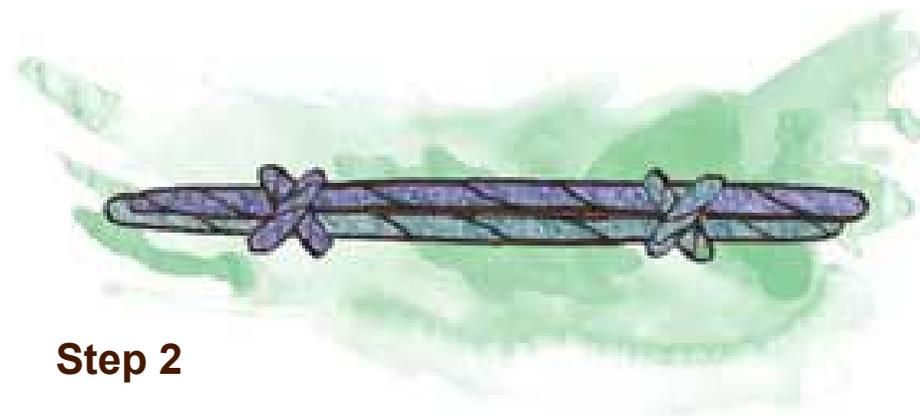
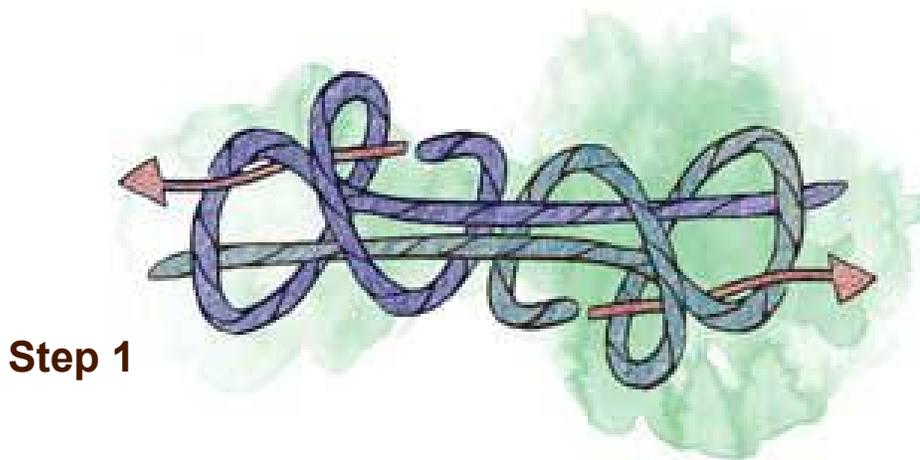
- Especially secure, but difficult to untie
- Might require being cut to release the knot

# Double Fisherman's Knot

The Double Fisherman's Knot is used to join two pieces of rope or cord together or fasten both ends of a single rope together to form a loop.

Despite its name, it is less commonly used in fishing and more commonly used by climbers to tie back-up knots, by kayakers to create grab handles for their boats, by crafters to create adjustable necklace closures, and in with search and rescue.

The secure, sliding knots tighten when they are pulled together.



## Double Fisherman's Knot Quick Notes

- Two knots sliding together to create the completed knot

# Figure Eight Knot

The Figure Eight Knot, or Flemish Bend, is one of the strongest knots, and is essential for use in both sailing and rock climbing.

It creates a very strong and secure, non-slipping loop in the end of a rope.

A single Figure Eight Knot is sometimes used in the bitter end of a rope as a “stopper knot.”

**Step 1**



**Step 2**



**Step 3**



## Figure Eight Knot Quick Notes

- One of the strongest knots
- Used to tie a very strong and secure loop in the end of a rope
- When tied properly, the loop in this knot will not slip

# Half Hitch

The Half Hitch is a basic, simple Overhand Knot, frequently used in combination with other knots as a means of making the first knot more secure.

Two Half Hitches might be used together to loosely secure a rope to a boat, tree or other object.

This knot is not secure when used on its own.



**Single  
Half Hitch**



**Double  
Half Hitch**

## Half Hitch Quick Notes

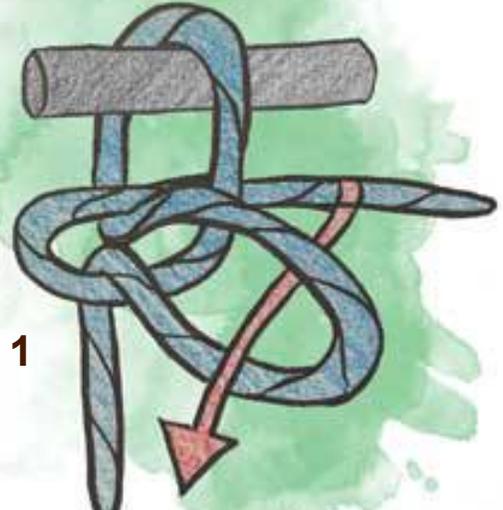
- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Often used with other knots to make them more secure
- Not a secure knot to use on its own

# Mooring Hitch

The Mooring Hitch is an excellent temporary hitching knot that can be quickly and easily released by pulling on the tag end.

It is frequently used in boating and riding, where it is important that it hold fast while under a load, but still be especially quick and easy to untie.

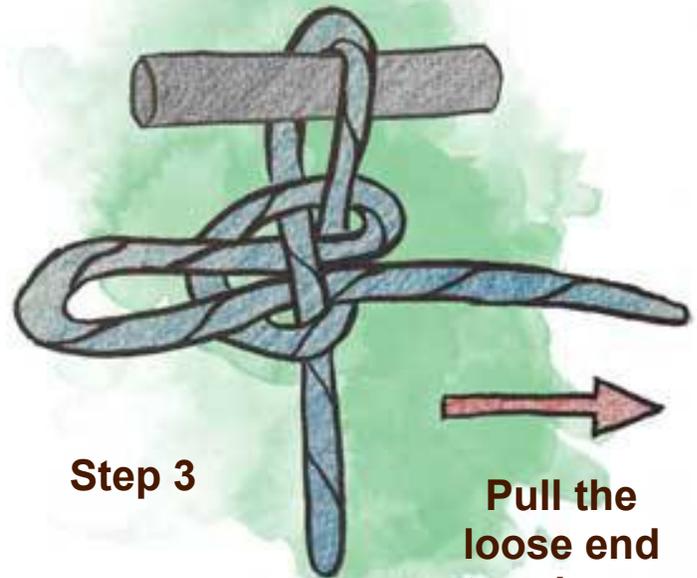
**Step 1**



**Step 2**



**Step 3**



**Pull the  
loose end  
to release  
this knot**

## **Mooring Hitch Quick Notes**

- Frequently used in riding and boating
- Secure knot under a load and especially fast to untie

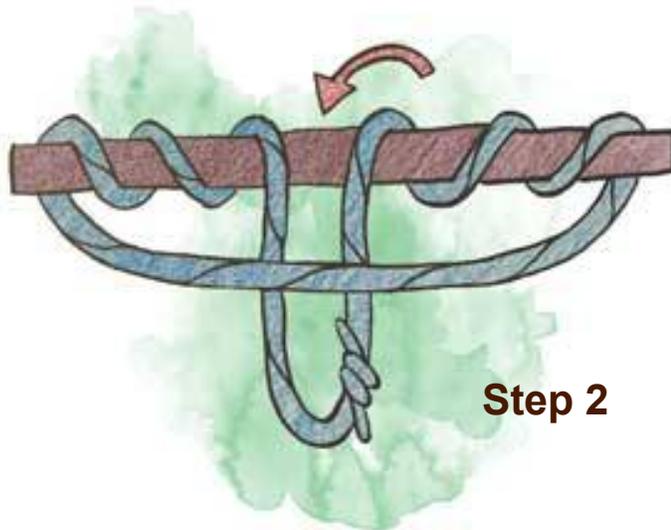
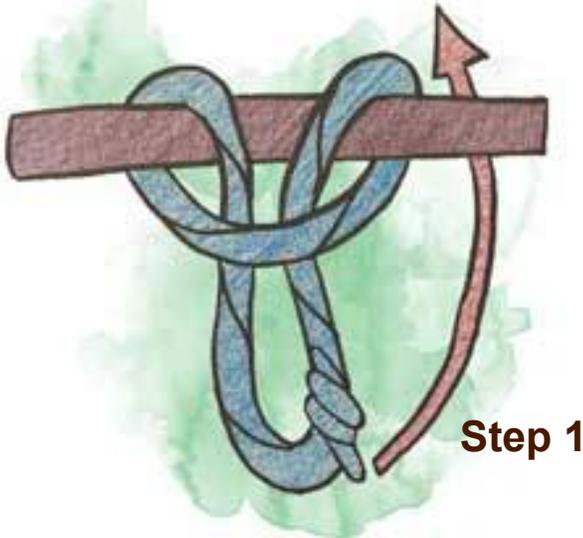
# Prusik Knot

The Prusik Knot is named after its inventor, Austrian mountaineer Karl Prusik.

It is most commonly used in mountaineering, climbing, caving and rope rescue to secure a loop of smaller diameter rope onto another rope or larger diameter, or onto a pole.

The Prusik Knot can be used with ropes of different diameters and it provides a strong attachment that will generally not break or damage the rope to which it is attached.

The Prusik Knot does not work well on a frozen or wet rope and can be difficult to untie.



## Prusik Knot Quick Notes

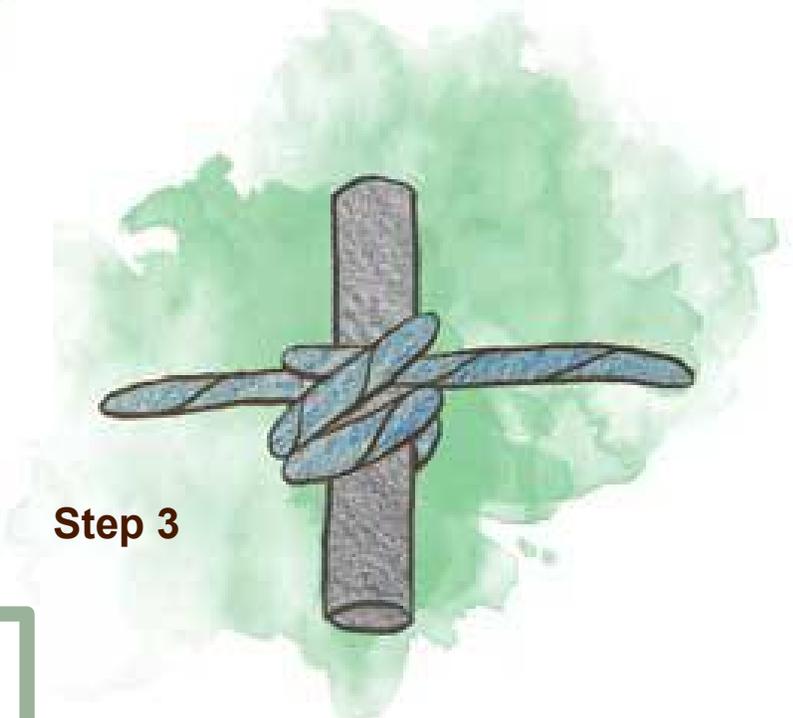
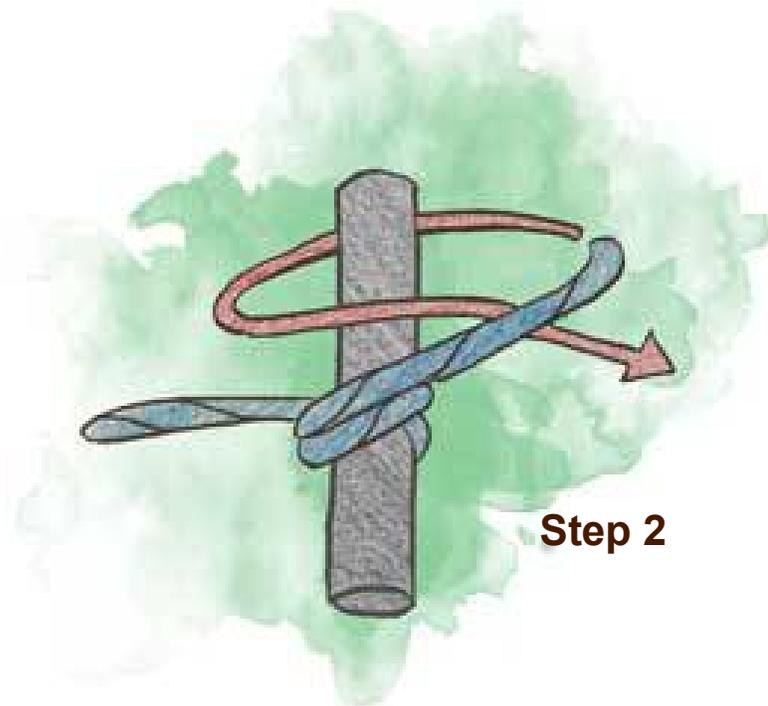
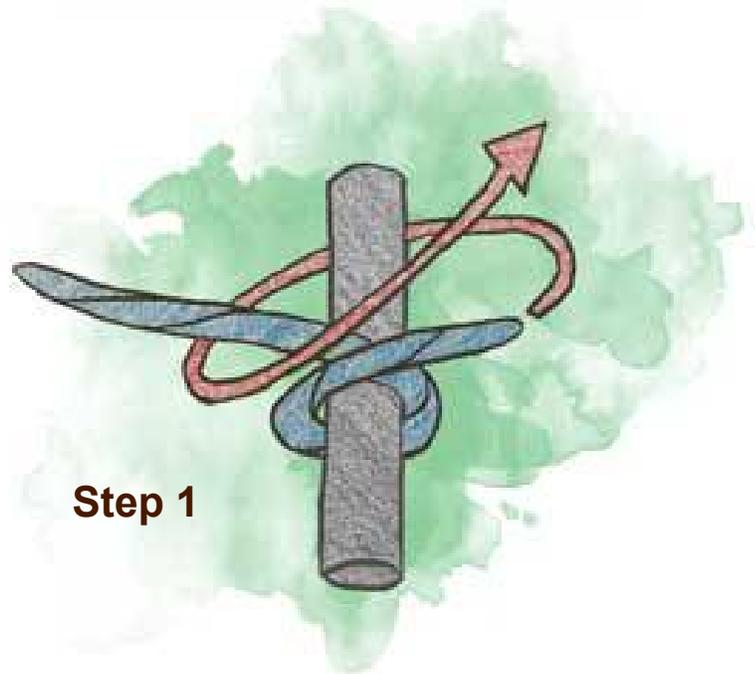
- Frequently used in mountaineering, climbing, caving and rope rescue

# Rolling Hitch

The Rolling Hitch is a secure knot to use to attach a rope to a rod, post, pole or another rope.

It is designed to resist lengthwise movement when there is only a single direction of pull, and it holds firmly in the direction of the standing line.

It is commonly used in sailing.



## Rolling Hitch Quick Notes

- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Much more secure than a Clove Hitch

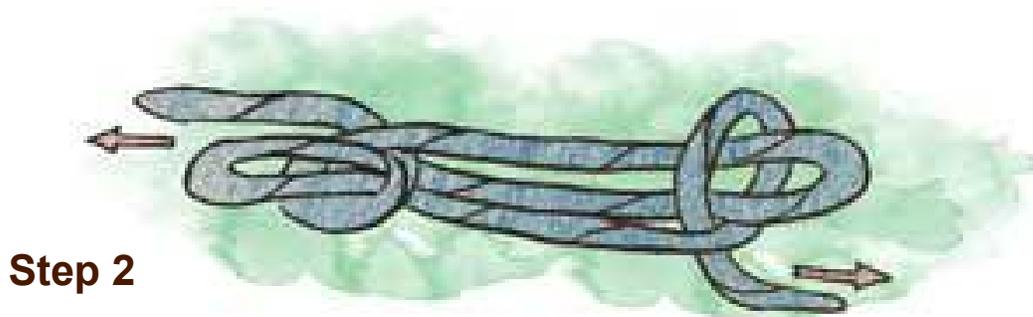
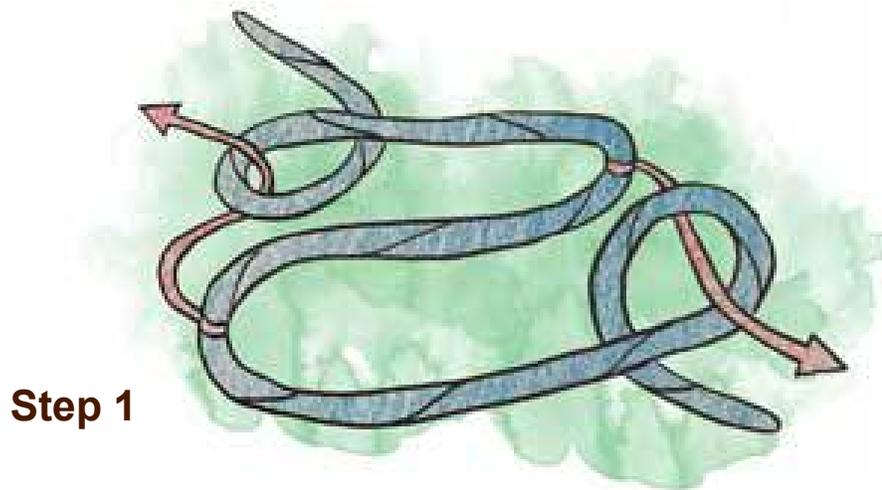
# Sheepshank

The Sheepshank is used to “shorten” a rope, take up slack in a rope, or isolate a damaged area of the rope.

It is not a stable knot and easily comes apart when the tension is released.

The sheepshank holds best in a more “rough” type of rope, whereas, modern, synthetic, “slippery” types of rope and cord do not hold well with this knot.

It is most often used in securing loads to trucks and trailers, or in sailing.



## Sheepshank Quick Notes

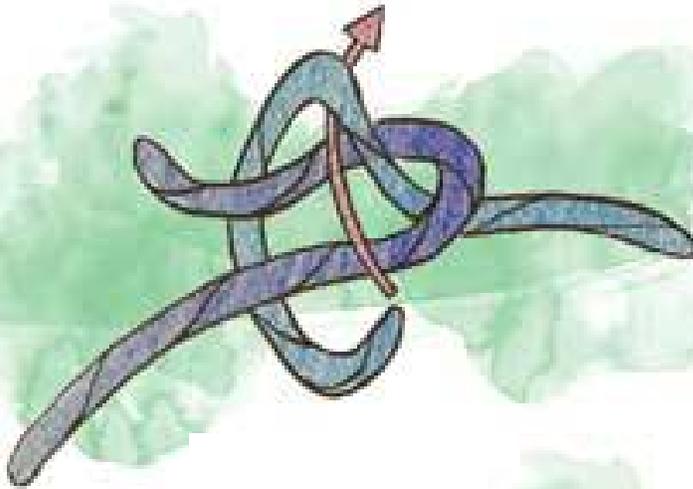
- Used to “shorten” a rope
- Unstable and comes apart easily when not under a load
- Works best with “rough” and “coarse” types of ropes

# Sheet Bend

The Sheet Bend, or Weaver's Knot, is used to secure two ropes together, including ropes of unequal diameter or rigidity.

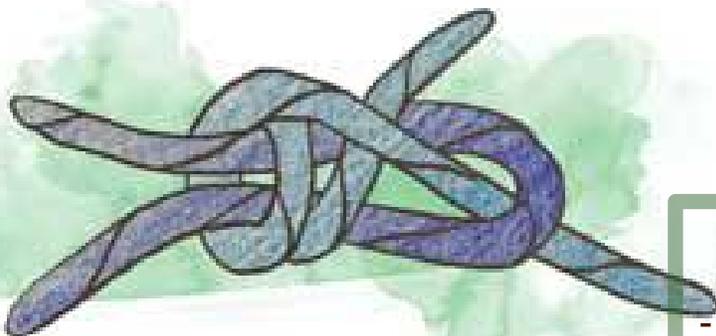
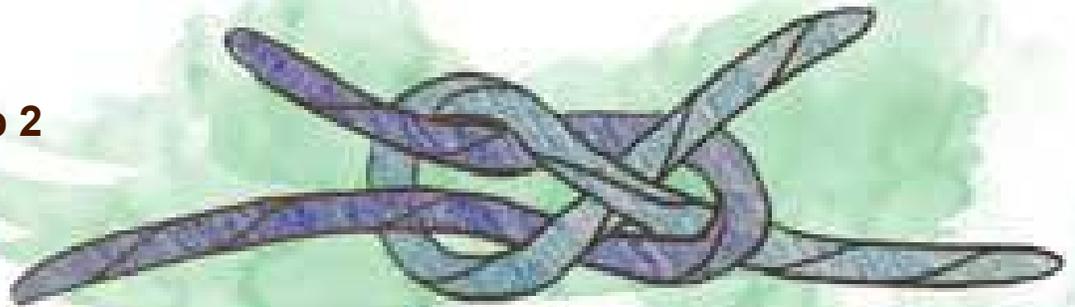
It is related in structure to the bowline, and can be doubled for increased security.

Although easy to untie, the Sheet Bend has a tendency to slip when not under a load.



**Step 1**

**Step 2**



**Double Sheet Bend**

## Sheet Bend Quick Notes

- Used to secure two ropes together
- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Might slip when not under a load

# Square Knot

The Square Knot is a very ancient knot and is also referred to as the Reef Knot or Hercules Knot.

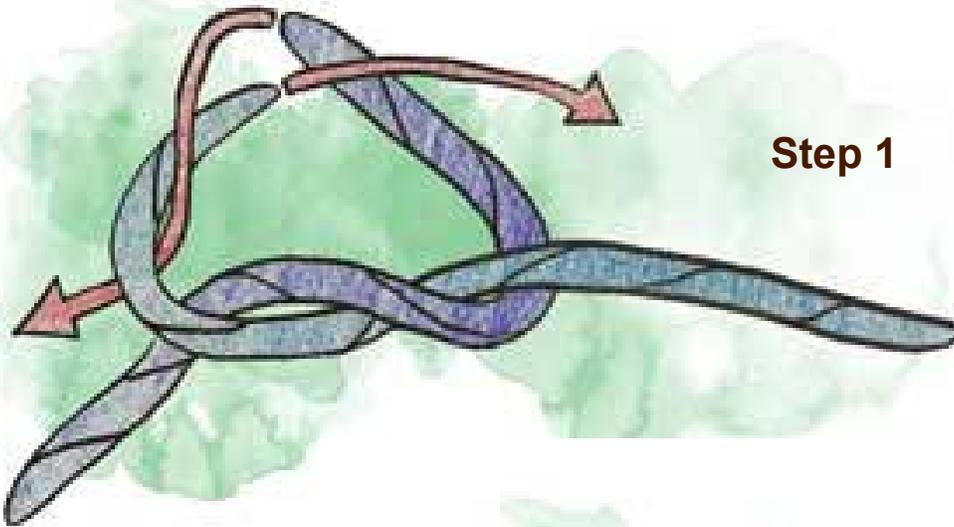
The Square Knot has been used for millennia by human kind for various purposes, including artwork, binding wounds, sailing, and textiles.

This knot should not be used to tie two pieces of rope together nor be used in critical situations, as it can easily slip.

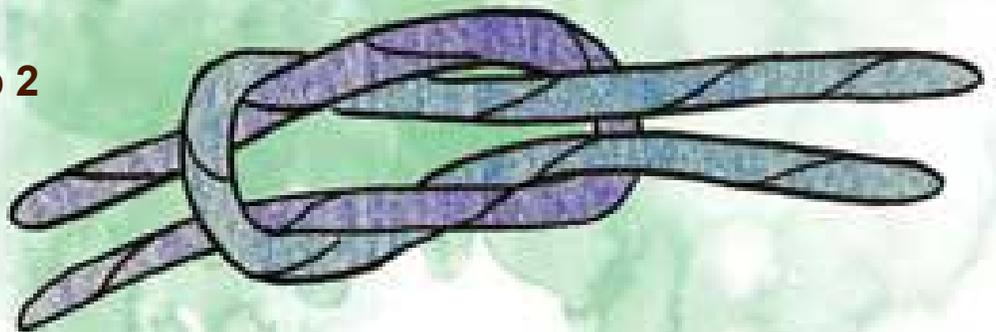
## Mnemonic Device

“Right over left and  
left over right;

Makes a knot both  
tidy and tight.”



Step 2



## Square Knot Quick Notes

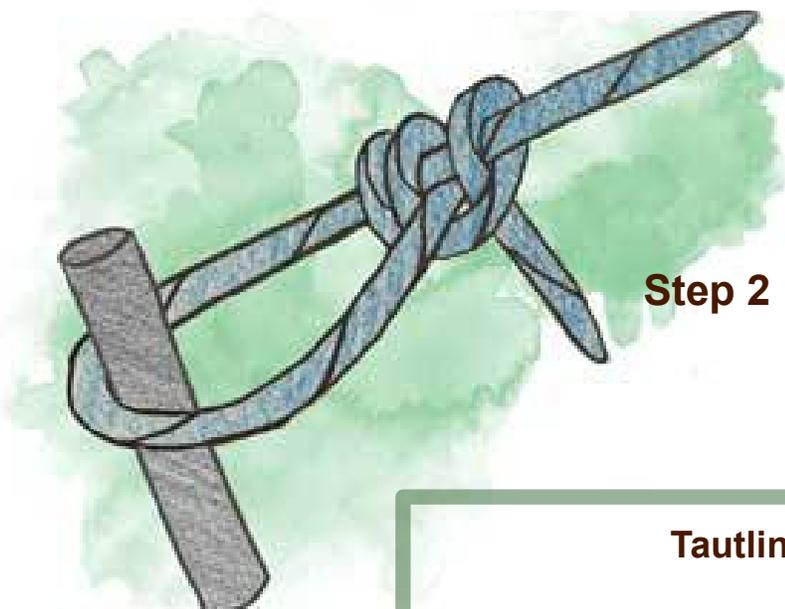
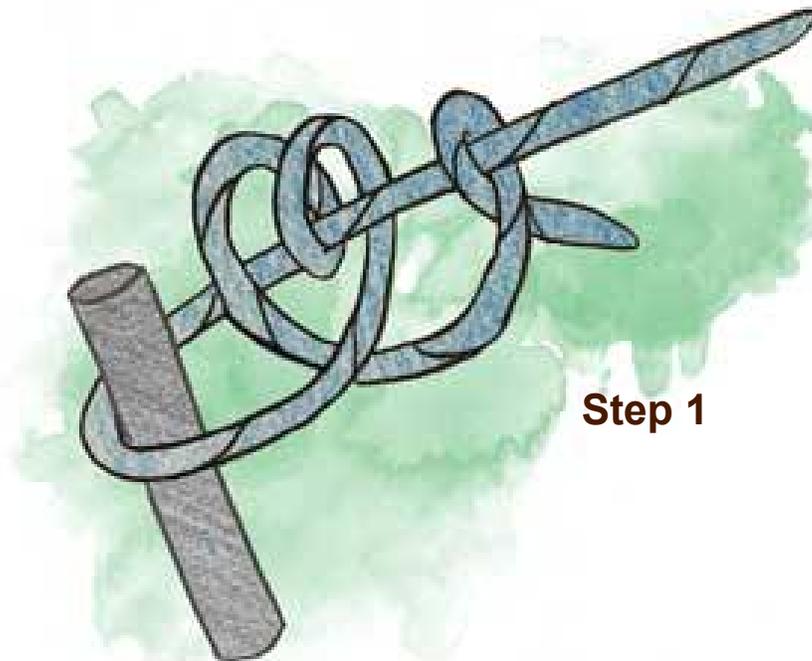
- Quick and easy to tie and untie
- Multipurpose decorative knot
- Should not be used to tie ropes together or in critical situations

# Tautline Hitch

The Tautline Hitch is also known as the Rigger's Hitch or the Midshipman's Hitch. It is an adjustable knot used to secure ropes under tension.

The Tautline Hitch is also used in a variety of outdoor activities such as camping, tree climbing, and creating adjustable moorings in tidal areas.

This knot is less secure when tied with stiff or more modern “slippery,” synthetic ropes.



## Tautline Hitch Quick Notes

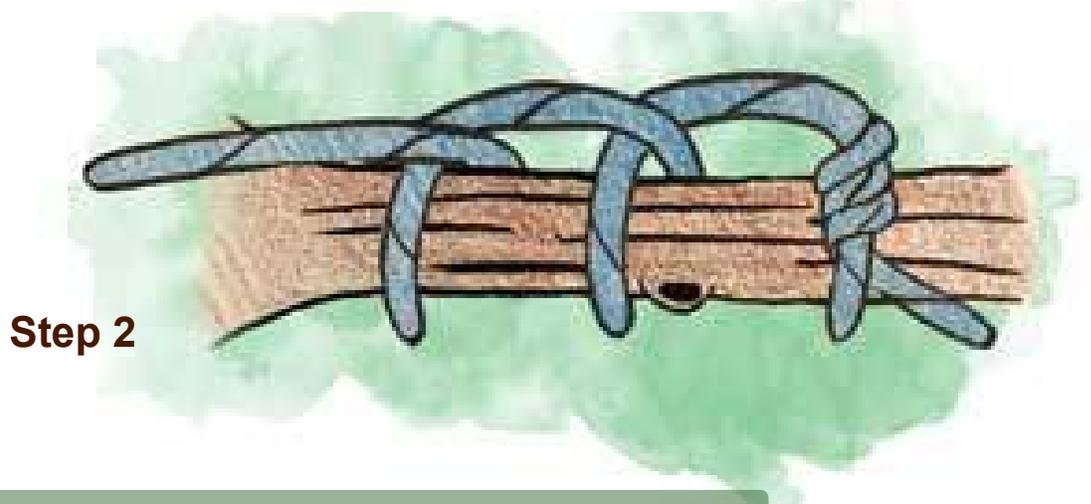
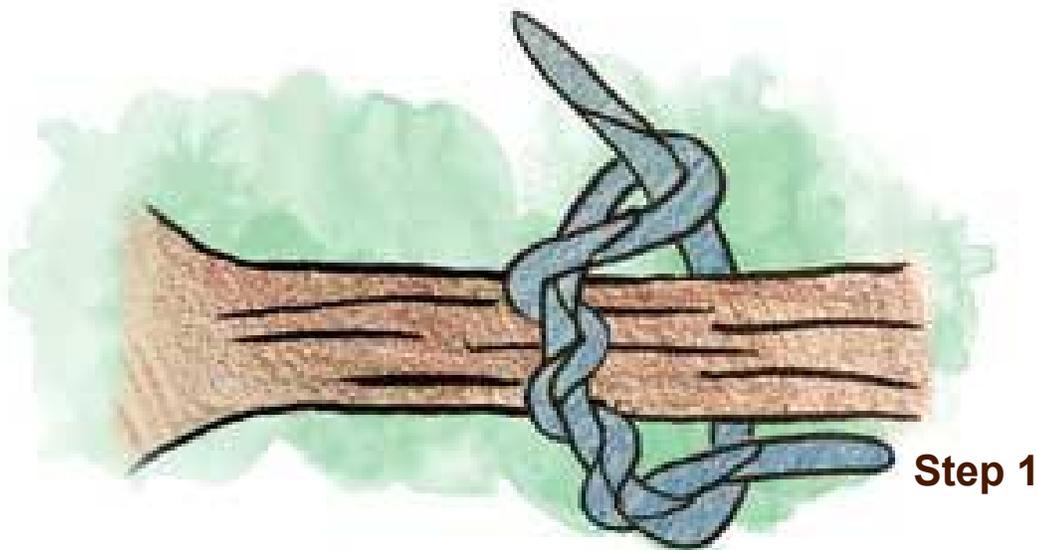
- An adjustable knot to secure ropes under tension
- Less secure when tied with smooth and “slippery” ropes

# Timber Hitch

The Timber Hitch is an old knot that is commonly utilized to secure a rope to a cylindrical object, like a piece of timber.

This knot does not easily bind or jam, and can be untied easily even after being loaded.

The Timber Hitch is secure as long as tension is maintained, and commonly used by woodsmen and arborists.



## Timber Hitch Quick Notes

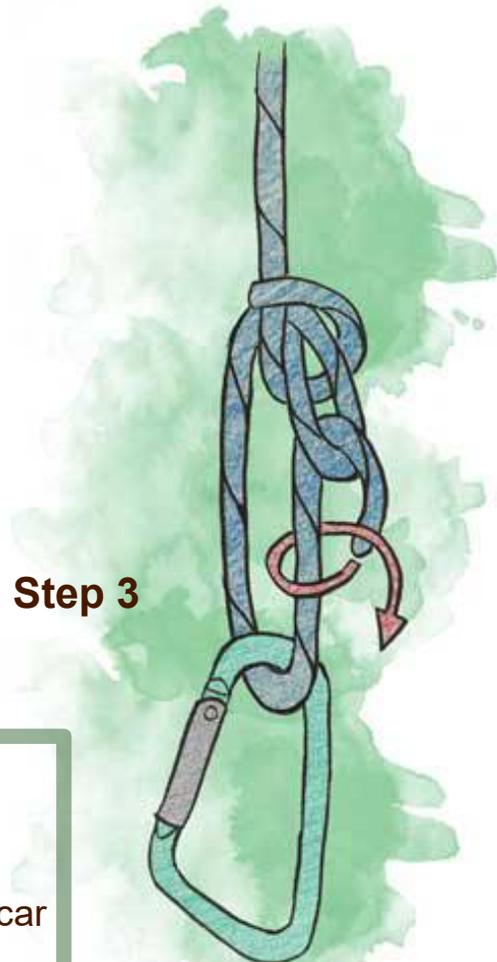
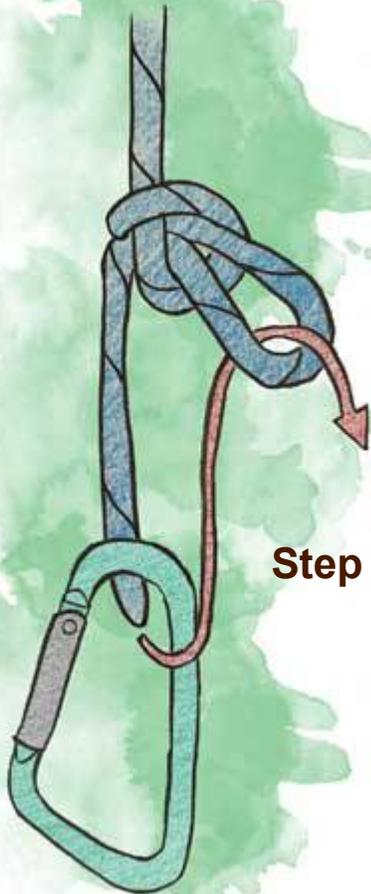
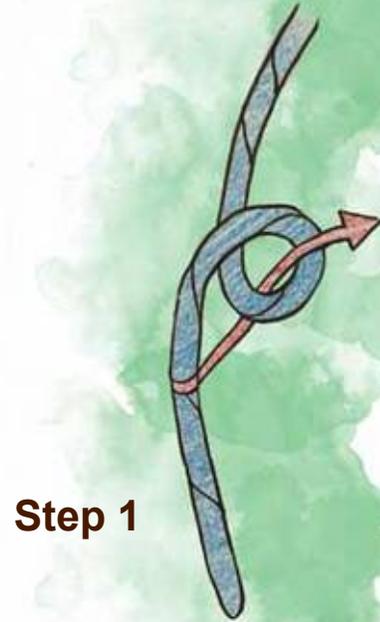
- Quick and easy to tie and untie, very secure under a load
- Used by woodsmen and arborists to secure a rope around timber

# Trucker's Hitch

The Trucker's Hitch is a very strong and secure compound knot used to secure heavy loads.

The particular combination of knots that makes up the Trucker's Hitch allows for it to be pulled tightly, and it can be adjusted to the desired tension using the pulley effect created by the loop.

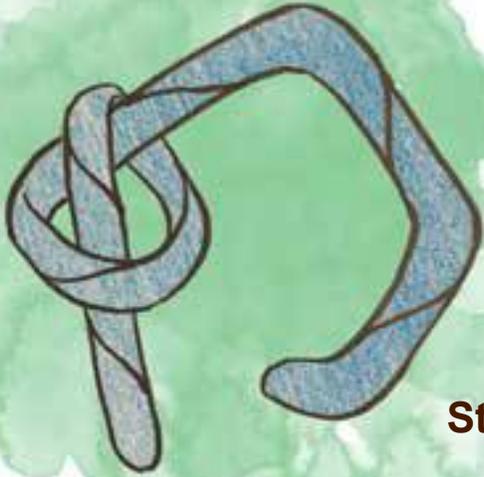
This knot is utilized by truckers to secure heavy loads. It also works well when securing gear to the roof of a car.



## Trucker's Hitch Quick Notes

- Strong and secure compound knot
- Often used for securing loads on a truck, trailer or car

# Water Knot

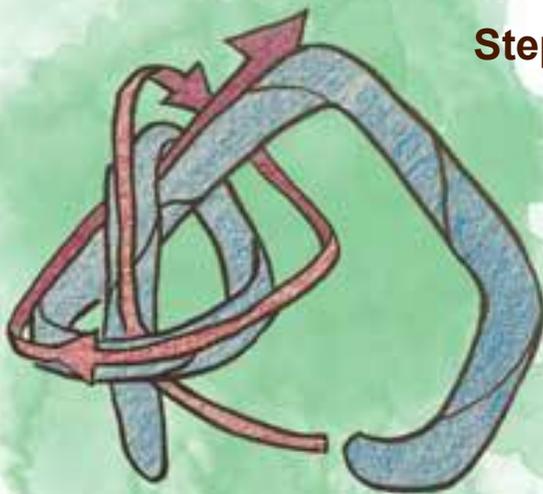


**Step 1**

The Water Knot, also known as the Ring Bend, Tape Knot or Grass Bend, is the best knot to use for tying together the ends of a flat webbing or strap.

It is commonly used by climbers to tie webbing into loops, or for First Aid purposes, like tying a sling.

In critical circumstances, a “stopper knot,” like a Figure Eight Knot, can be used in the bitter ends to reduce the chance of slippage.



**Step 2**

**Step 3**



## Water Knot Quick Notes

- Best knot for tying together the ends of flat webbing
- Use a “stopper knot” (Figure Eight Knot) in the ends for critical circumstances

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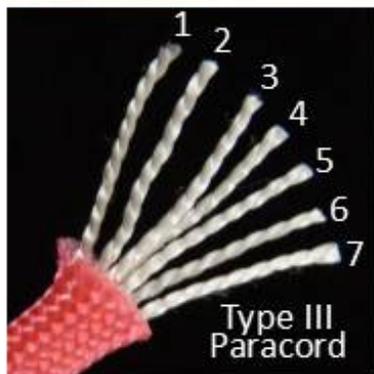
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- Corinne Kruzick

They loved it. "Purchased for the granddaughters. They loved it. Notice past tense. It's gone."

- Tim Burch

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Surf's UP!



Starter Kit - Girls



Starter Kit - Guys



Candy Shoppe



Sniper



Color Explosion



Prepper Plaid



Commando



Patriotic



Grass Stains



MilSpec Montage



Late Sunset



Jamboree



Happy Zombie



Proudly Made in the USA

THANK YOU! Dakota Gear (TM)

U.S. Military Veteran-Owned Business

Looking for the fun, versatility and utility of Shock Cord or Bungee Cord?

Our Specialty! Made in the USA!



**Happy Customers**

**Soo Many Great Uses for Shock Cord!**

"I am loving this Shock Cord - Marine Grade, with 2 Carabiners & Knot Tying eBook by Dakota Gear. The cord is so stretchy and easy to use."  
- BeBeautiful2

**Exactly what I needed to fix a wire dog crate and keep it held in place in my car.**  
"Because I do a lot with my dogs, this cord is perfect for tying up supplies or keeping a puppy "x-pen" from sliding across the floor. Next project is to repair a big wire dog crate that has some loose hinges at the top"  
- HappyVegas

**So many uses for this quality shock cord**  
"Shock cord is one of those things you didn't realize you needed until you have it"  
- Daryle D

**Love this shock cord. It has so many uses!**  
"This seller, a military veteran, sends an eBook with this Shock Cord about tying 20 different knots. I could easily follow the illustrations and tie some of the knots."  
- YJK

# Shock Cord / Bungee Cord

## THANK YOU! DakotaGear.com

*Make Repairs!*



**Cosmic Black**



*Save Money!*



**Electric Royal Blue**



**80's Neon Orange**



**Jewel of Egypt Purple**



**Woodland Camo Hobbies & Crafts!**



**Red Licorice Red**



*Have Fun!*



**Proudly Made in the USA**



**U.S. Military Veteran Business**

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