



# Rope Studio

## Workshops, Classes and Events

### Complexity and Consent

- Safety - How do you ensure your partner is safe?
- Risk - Things that can affect the safety of our partner.
- Complexity - The technical requirement of a tie.

Safety is derived from Risk. Risk is derived from Complexity.

The more complicated and complex a tie is, the more we should ensure we understand the technical requirement. This gives us a clear understanding of the risk factors involved. Understanding risks will enable us to have clear plans for how to ensure the safety of our partner.

With basic ties the complexity is minimal, the risks should be low, allowing us to safely perform them. As our skill progresses and complexity advances, so must our knowledge of risk and our understanding of safe practice.

Any personal characteristics we or our partner may have, must also be reflected in our evaluation and management of our tying. The style in which we tie and the positions in which we place or rest our partner will also be factors to consider.

### Clear explanations are essential:

- As the one performing the tying, you should understand the tie sufficiently well as to be able to describe what you intend to do. Even if you are learning a tie or practising a technique, it should be possible to explain well enough for your partner to understand.

If you can not understand a tie enough to describe what you are doing, you should not be doing the tie. If you can't explain it to your partner, you do not have their clear and enthusiastic consent to proceed.

- As the one being tied, your partner should be capable of explaining what they intend to do, how and where the rope will be placed, the likely risks and what they expect to happen. In tutorial situations, they will be following instruction that should be clear enough for you to also know these details.

If you can't understand the tie enough as described, you can't give informed consent. If the person tying you can't explain well enough, you can't give clear and enthusiastic consent. Don't tie with them - at least until they have sufficient knowledge and experience to do so.

- Consent must be clear, absolute and enthusiastic.