

**HANDS-ON SKILL:
“Get Knotted!” (A ROPE
TYING ACTIVITY)**

“Get Knotted!” (A ROPE TYING ACTIVITY)


Equipment:

- Rope or yarn or shoelaces or equivalent

Introduction:

We use knots in our everyday lives, you have probably used 1 today to tie your shoes. Knots are essential to all boating activities, from dinghies to cruisers, row boats to container ships; they all need knots. As a skill you know when a knot has been mastered, when you can do it with your eyes closed!

Instructions:

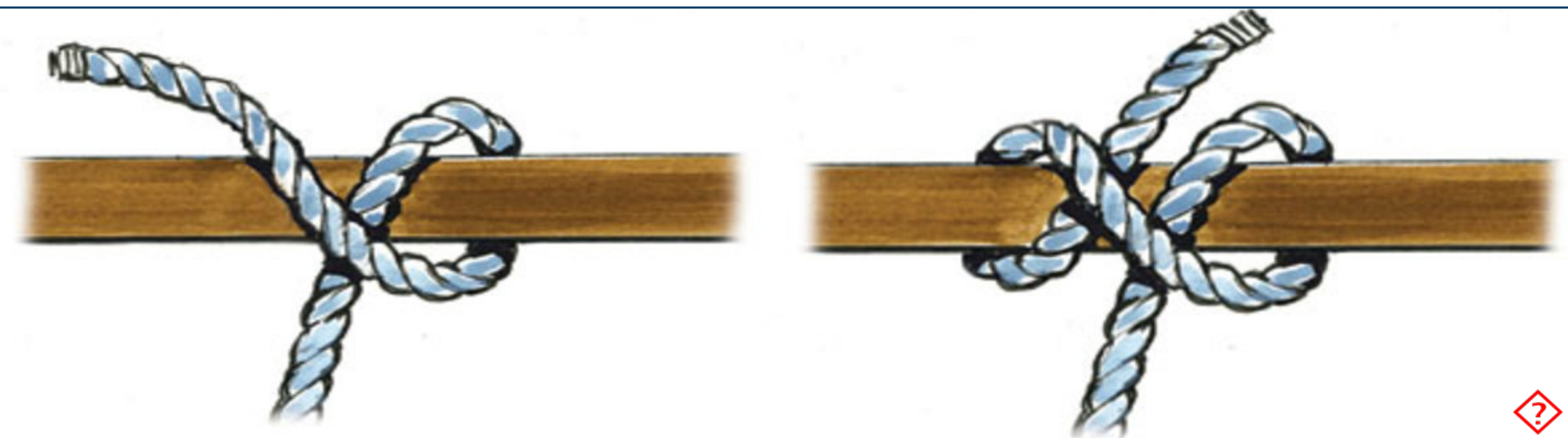
- 1) Here are 4 common knots for you to start practicing. For help, use the next pages or click on the  icon for a YouTube Video.
- 2) Ask members of your household about knots they know and practice these. If they don't know any, teach them the 4 you have learnt.

Extension Challenge Activity

Have a go at [decretive knot](#) tying, make a [monkey fist keychain](#), create a [bracelet](#)...

CLOVE HITCH (Easy-Peasy)

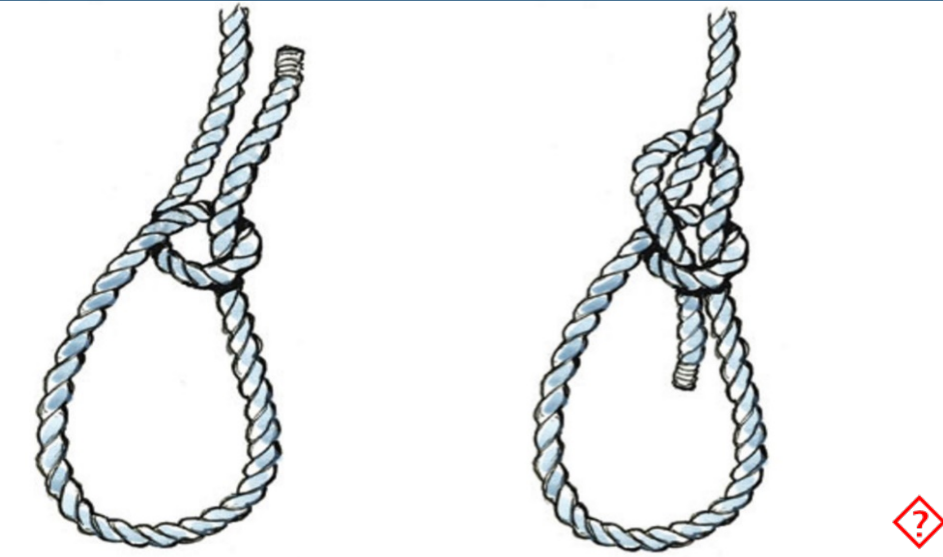
1. Make one full turn around an object the rope is being secured to.
2. Then pass the line over itself as you take another turn.
3. Finish the knot by tucking the working end under itself and pull tight.



“Get Knotted!” (A ROPE TYING ACTIVITY)

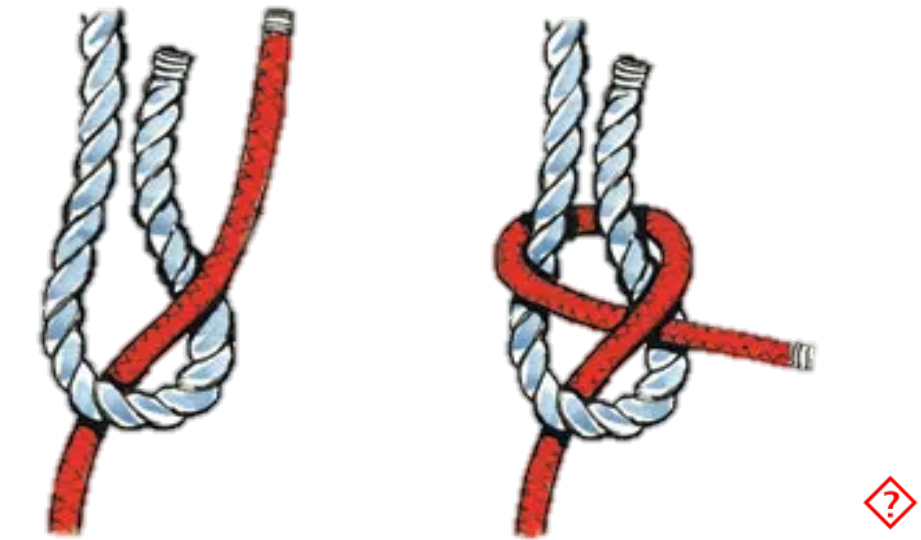
BOWLINE (Medium)

1. Form a closed loop in the line, with the working end passing over the standing end.
2. Pass the working end through the loop you just made, then around behind the standing end, then back into the loop.
3. Give a hard pull to close the knot up tight.
4. To untie a bowline, turn the knot over and bending downward.



SHEET BEND (Medium)

1. Form a bight (a loop of rope), in the end of one line.
2. Pass the end of the other line (red in illustration) through the bight from beneath.
3. Put this around behind both parts of the first line.
4. Finish the knot by passing the working end of the second line (red) under itself, then pull the knot tight.



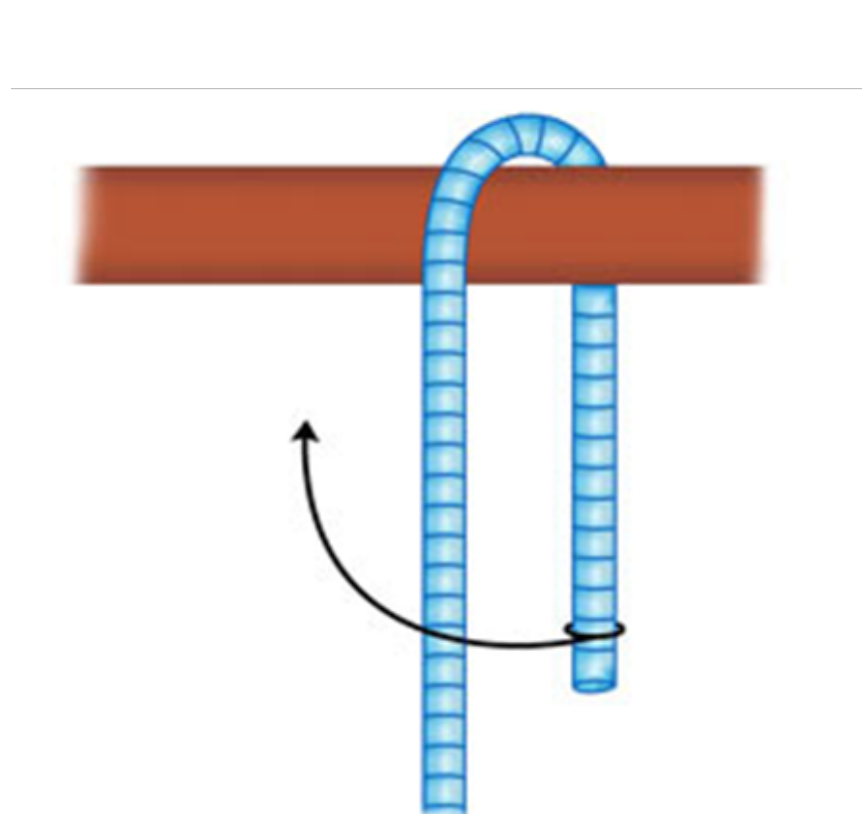
ASHLEY STOPPER KNOT (Hard)

1. Working back to front, pass the working end twice around the palm of your open hand.
2. After two full wraps, pass the working end under the wraps on your palm away from your thumb.
3. Then use the end to pull the knot tight as it slips off your hand.

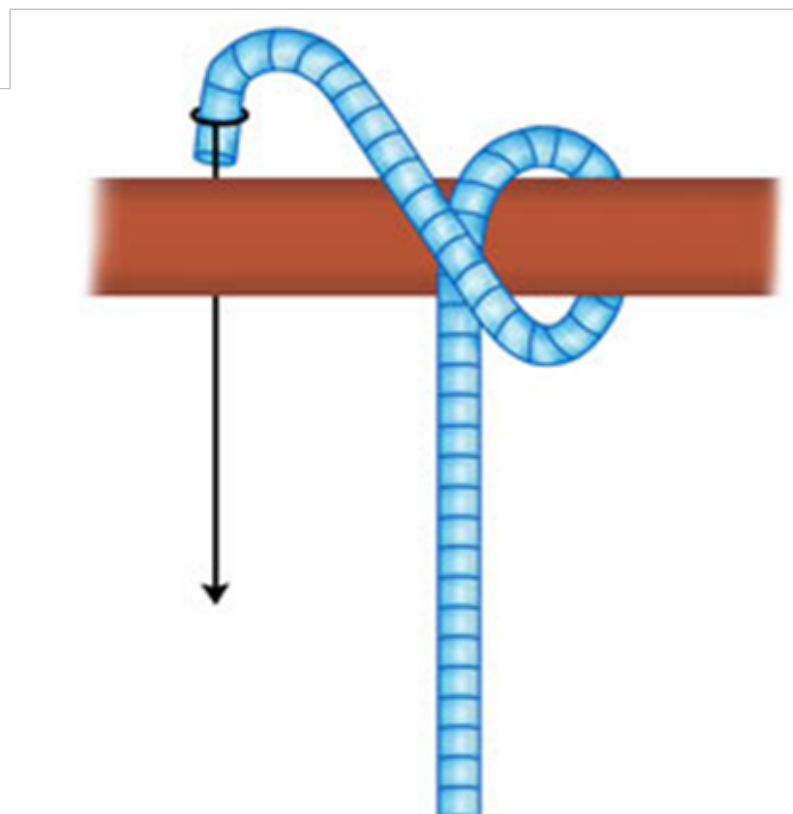


Clove Hitch Knot: A Step-by-Step Guide

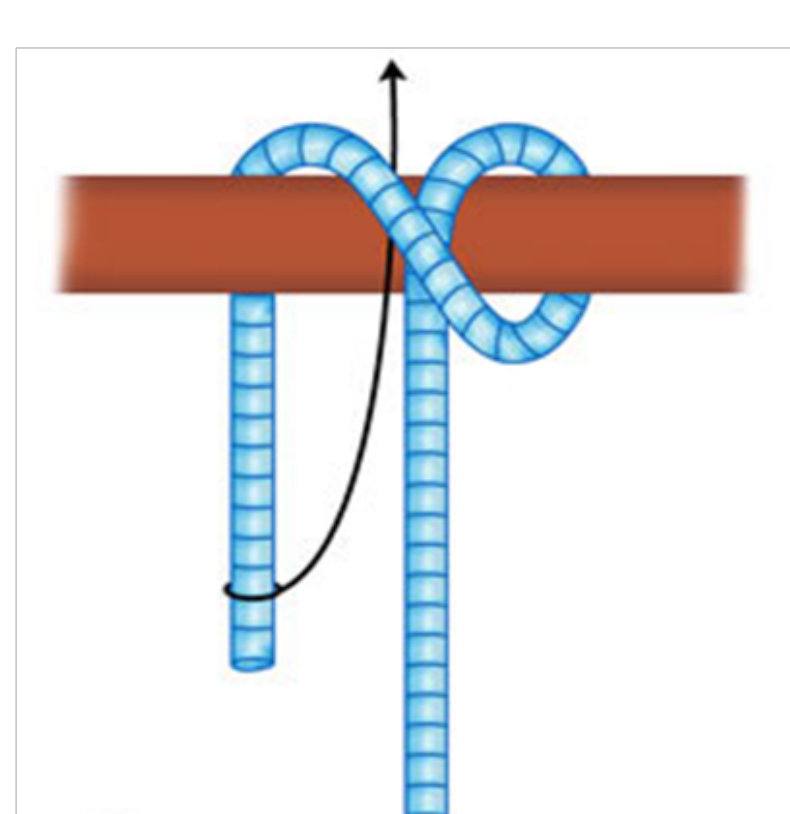
1. Hang rope from the support.



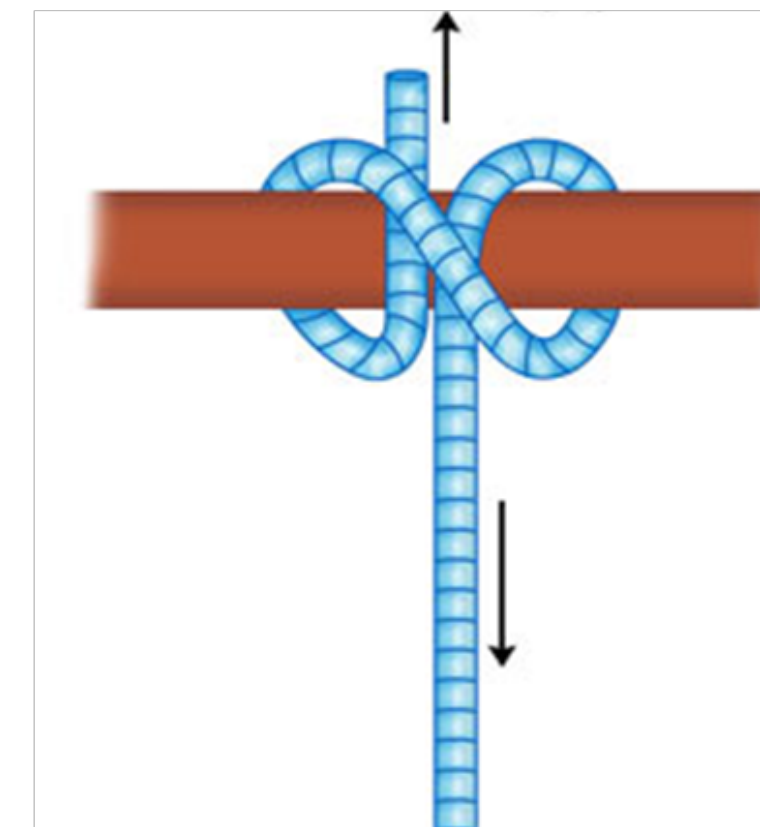
2. Look around the support with the end.



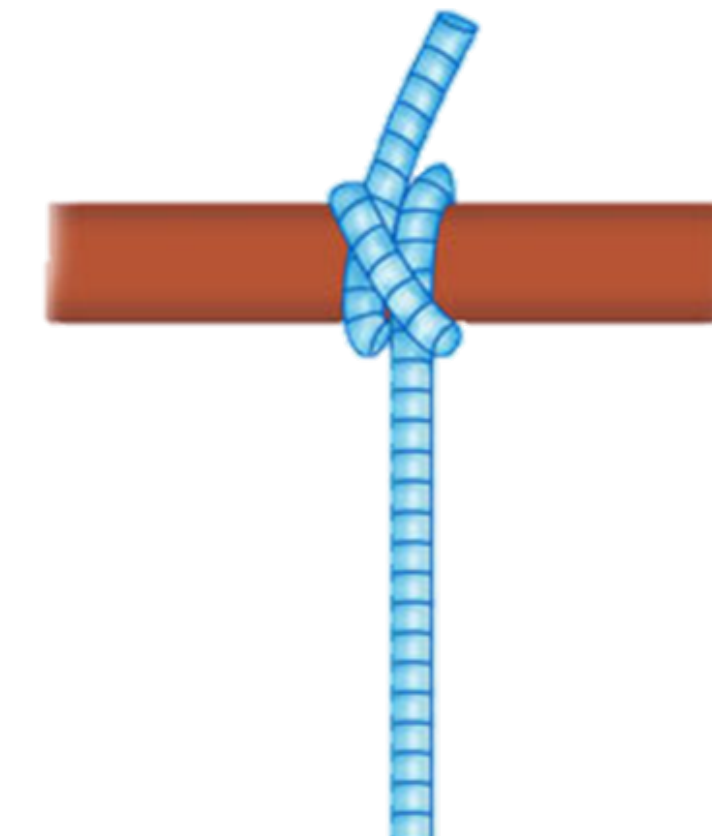
3. Pass it from behind the rope.



4. Pull tight!



5. The knot is complete.



Tips

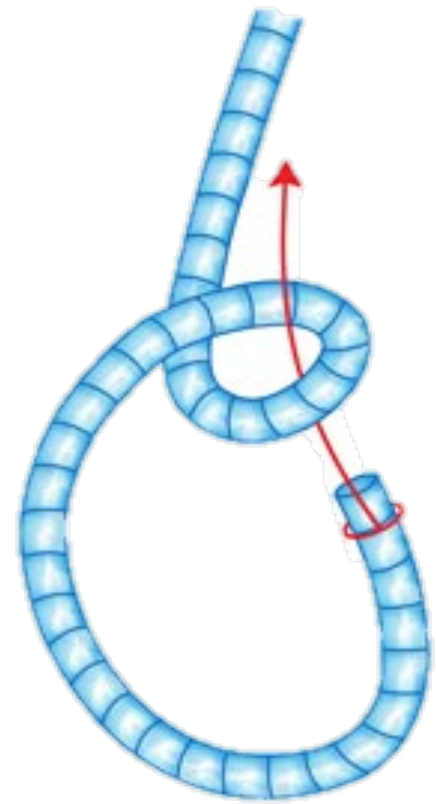
1. The direction of pull in the 4th step should be opposite to each other.
2. Instead of the linear support, e.g. post, tree, you can have a ring.

Some Uses of the Clove Hitch Knot

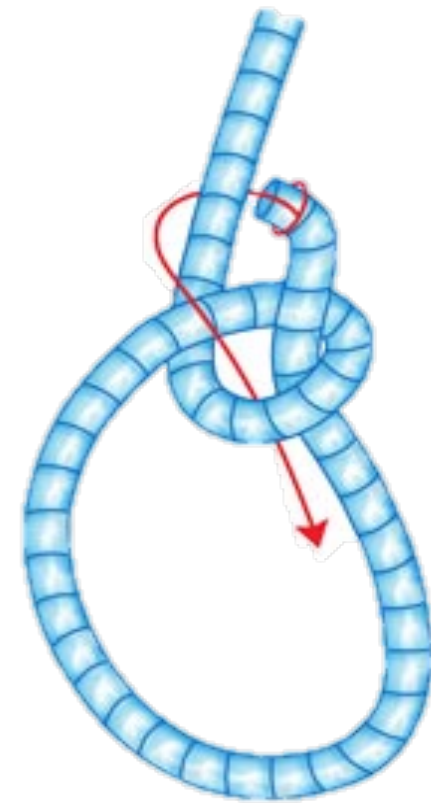
1. Hoisting.
2. For tying bandages (arm slings) in case of injuries and for first aid.
3. To tie a fender to a rail on a moving boat.
4. To set up teepees.
5. Aircraft wiring.

Bowline Knot: A Step-by-Step Guide

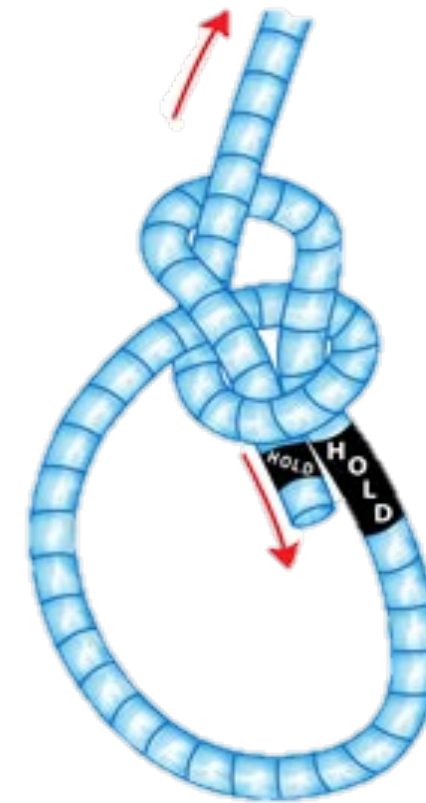
1. Pass the tag end through the rope loop.



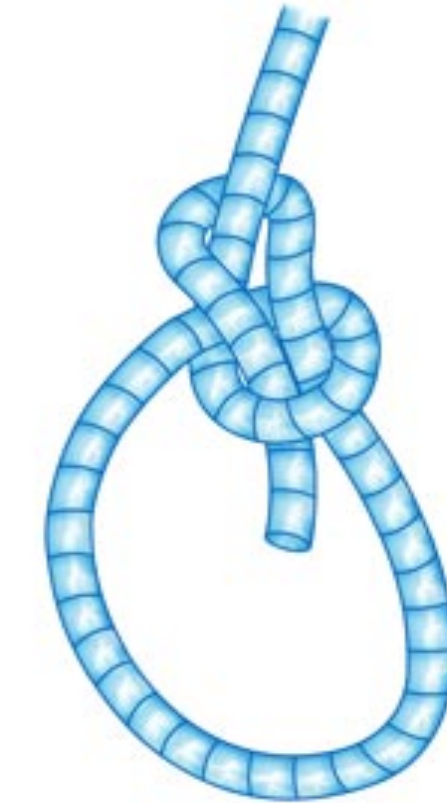
2. Pass it behind the standing part and through the loop again.



3. Hold the loop and tag end and pull tight!



4. The knot is complete.



Tips

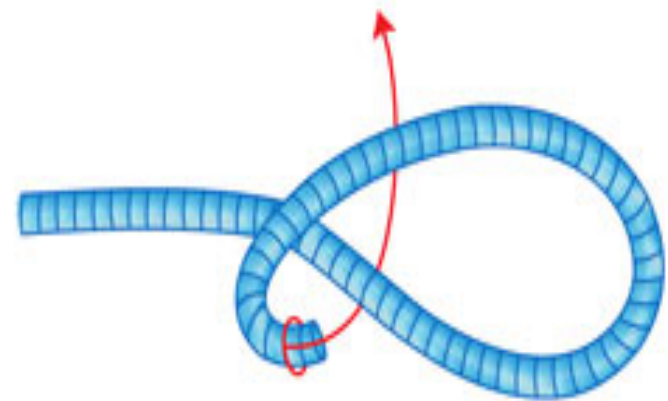
1. Use the poem, "Up through the rabbit hole, round the big tree; down through the rabbit hole and off goes he."
2. It can be tied with one hand, in case you are injured etc.
3. You can interlock the loops of two bowlines to join two ropes.

Some Uses of the Bowline Knot

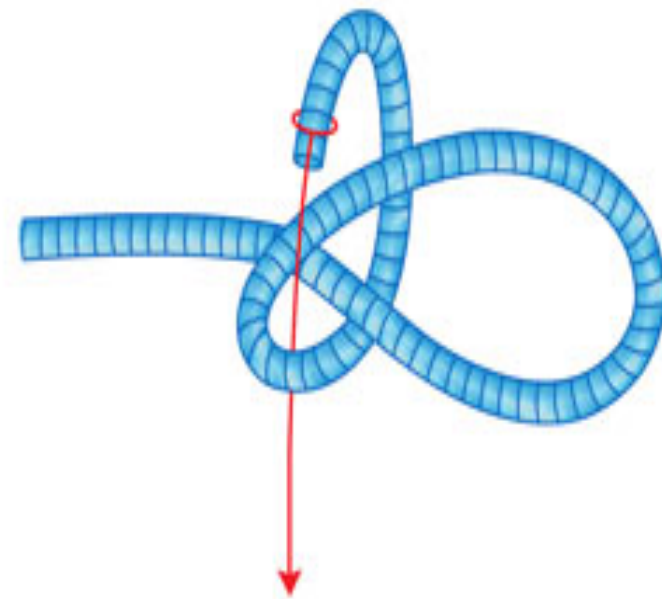
1. To tie a mooring line around an object.
2. tying a jib sheet to the clew of a jib

Ashley Stopper Knot: A Step-by-Step Guide

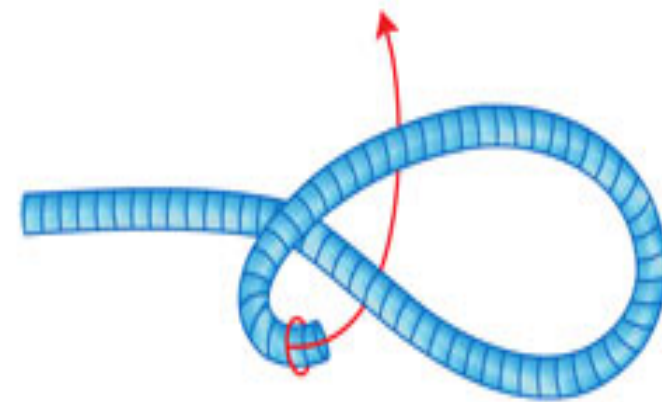
1. Pass the rope end from the back of the rope, forming a loop.



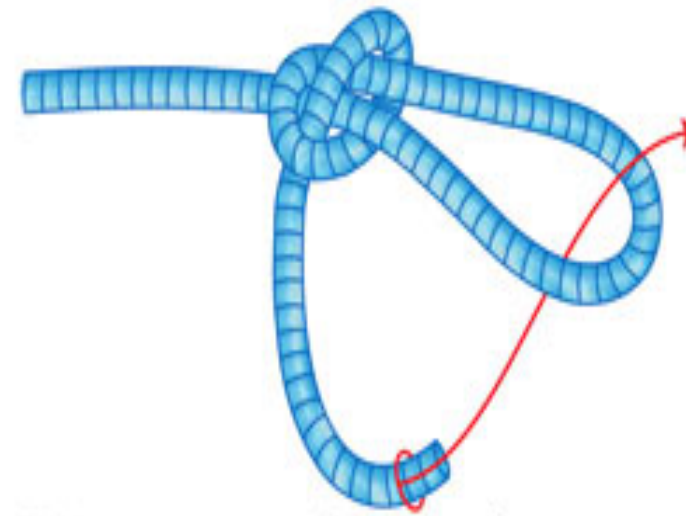
2. Pass it through the loop it just formed.



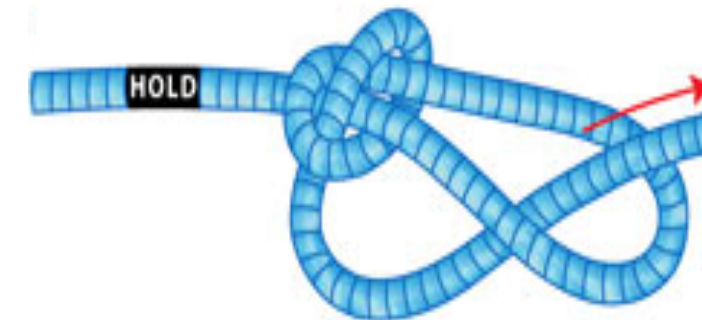
3. Take it through.



4. Pass it through the first loop.



5. Pull to tight!



6. The knot is complete.



Tips

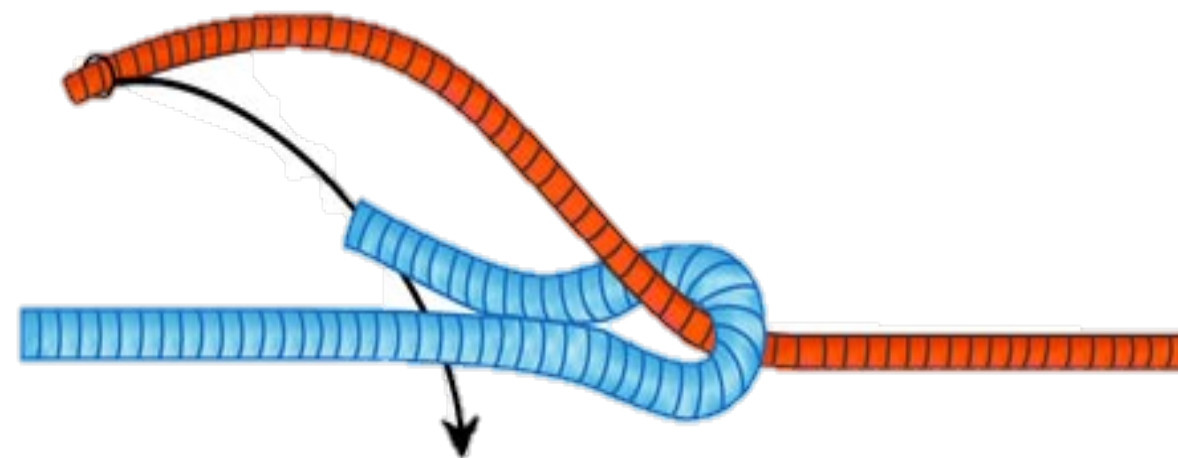
1. Offers greater resistance when pulled through an opening.
2. Secure (it is far less prone to shake loose than the more popular figure 8 knot).
3. Easy to get tightening sequencing wrong.

Some Uses of the Clove Hitch Knot

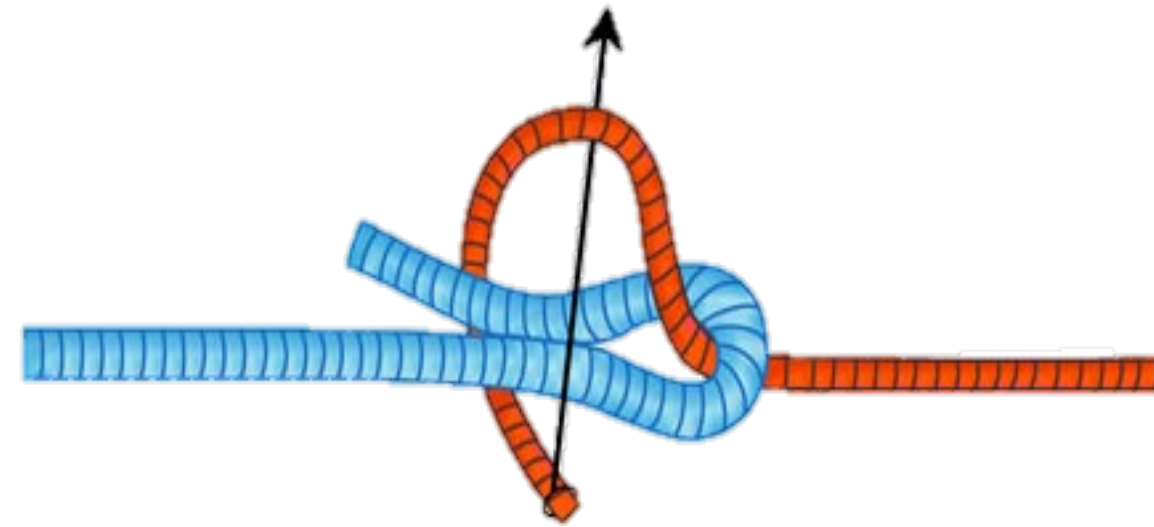
1. Sailing
2. By arborists
3. For lariats

Sheet Bend Knot: A Step-by-Step Guide

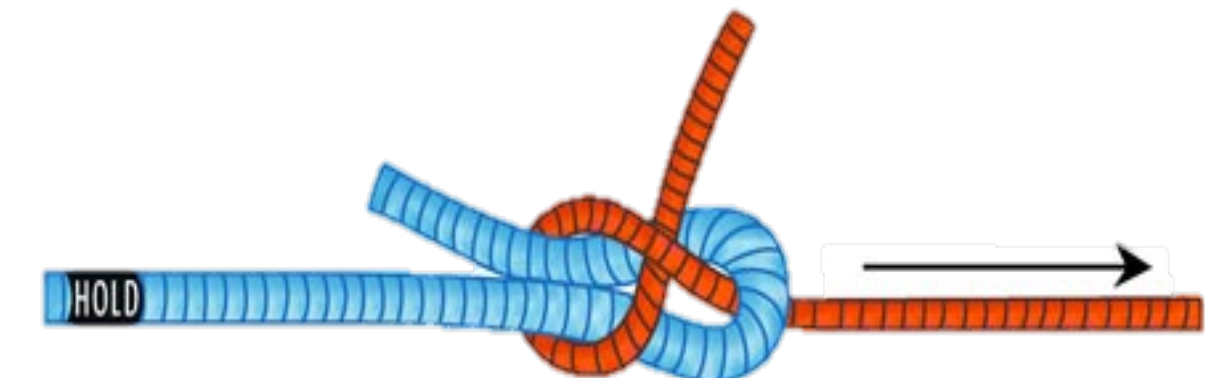
1. Pass the thinner rope through the thicker rope.



2. Wrap the thinner rope around the bight (thin bit in loop) and tuck it under itself.



3. Hold the thick end and pull the thinner rope to tighten.



Tips

1. Note that the couple of free ends land up on the same side of the knot. If they are on the opposite sides, you have a less reliable alternative.

Some Uses of the Bowline Knot

1. To temporarily join two ropes, especially if they are of different sizes and materials.
2. Along with the Carrick bend, it is most commonly used for making the junctions of nets, including climbing and cargo nets.
3. For building hammocks.
4. For boating purposes.