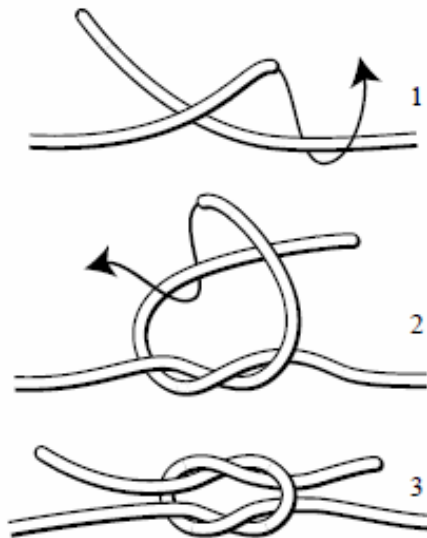


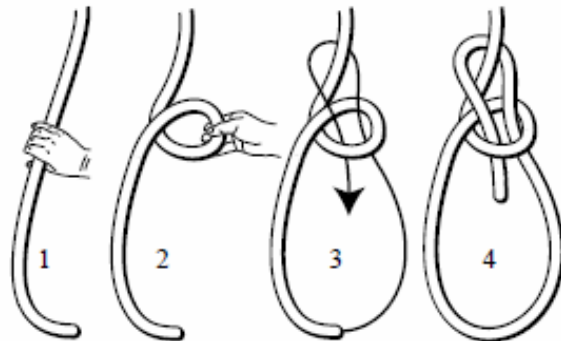
Square Knot

The square knot is used as a binding knot for such things as clamping a pad on a wound, tying a gathering rope on the male end of an extension cord, or as a shoestring knot. The bowknot we all use to tie our shoes with is really just a double slipped square knot. The books say not to use the square knot to tie two ropes together because it can untie itself under the right conditions but I have used a single slipped square knot to tie two ropes together for years without a problem yet.

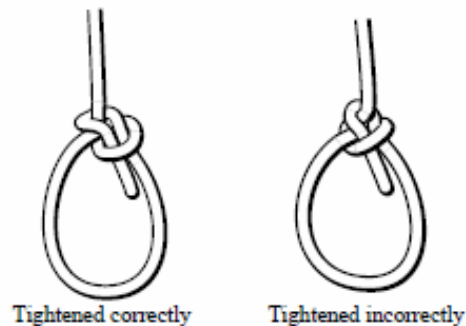


Bowline

The bowline is used to make a non-slip loop on the end of a rope. It is called the king of knots and it is so dependable that it can be used for rescue work.

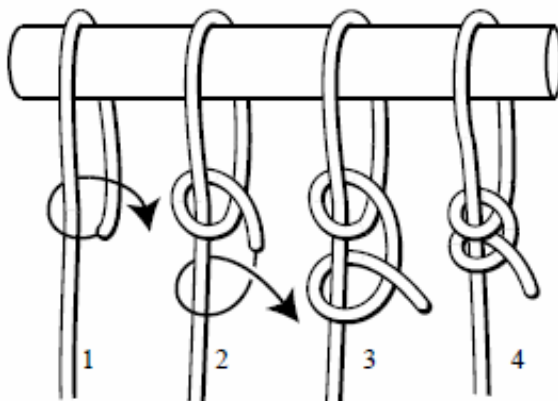


After the bowline has been formed, you must tighten it correctly like this.



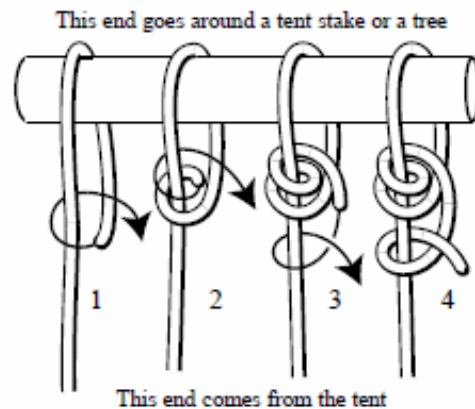
Two Half Hitches

Two half hitches is my favorite knot. You can tie onto almost anything with it. In the first step, if you go around the post one and a half times instead of just one half time as shown, you will make a knot called "a round turn and two half hitches" which will grip onto the post extremely well. If you go around the post two and a half times or more, you will make a knot called "the pipe hitch" which will form a death grip on the post.



Taut-line Hitch

The taut-line hitch is my least favorite of the six boy scout knots. It is used as an adjustable knot in tent guy lines and that's about all it is used for. This knot has to be internally tightened quite tight for it to work properly. Two half hitches works almost as well as this knot for tent guy lines and the trucker's knot works even better.



Overhand Knot

Use this knot on both ends of your rope to keep it from unraveling and as a “stopper” knot. I have found that I like a stopper knot better than “whipping” because both can come off the end of the rope but you can retie an overhand knot quickly and without having to find some whipping material.

