

8 Essential Camping/Climbing Knots...

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.



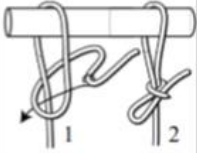
Coiling a Rope

Learn how to do this, it is important.



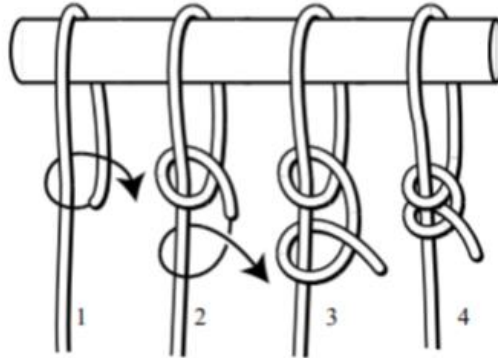
Hitching Tie

So cowboy, how do YOU tie your horse to the hitchin' rack? Learn how to tie this knot real fast and you can tie a rope to anything in about 3 seconds and untie it in nothing flat.



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.



Prusik Knot Instructions

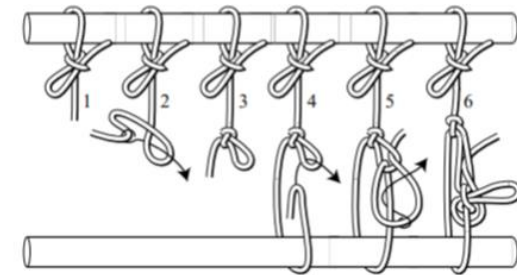
- 1 Make a loop and bring the junction point to the left of the thick central rope
- 2 Now pass it to the right side through the loop just formed
- 3 Turn it round the central rope thrice
- 4 Finally, take it out of the last loop formed passing it to the left
- 5 Tighten the knot

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The Trucker's Knot

This is the most useful knot I know of. Use it to make a very tight rope between two objects. The knot in step 1 can be a clove hitch, two half hitches, or my favorite the hitching tie as shown. The knot in step 3 is called the slip knot. In step 4 after you have pulled the "bight" (bight means "rope folded in half") through the slip knot as tight as you can, pinch the crossing with your left thumb and forefinger so your right hand can tie the knot in step 5. The knot formed in step 5 is called a slippery half hitch or a slipped half hitch. By the way, a hitching tie is actually a slipped slip knot for anyone who cares about such things.

If you tie the trucker's knot using a hitching tie as shown, the whole conglomeration can be untied with only four pulls in the right places. See if you can figure out which are the four right places.



Double Fisherman's Knot Instructions

- 1 Make a loop with the red rope
- 2 Loop once more and feed end into it
- 3 Make a loop with the blue rope
- 4 Loop again and tuck its end into it
- 5 Tighten the two individual knots by their tag ends
- 6 Pull the standing parts to draw the knots close together

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Clove Hitch Tutorial

- 1 Hang rope from the support
- 2 Loop around the support with the end
- 3 Pass it from behind the rope
- 4 Pull to tighten
- 5 The knot is complete

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How to Tie a Bowline on a Bight

- 1 Form a loop by passing the end of a bight over the standing part
- 2 Pull it out through the loop thus formed
- 3 Open up the bight and bring it round the entire knot
- 4 Continue to bring it up till it encircles the standing ends
- 5 Hold the standing part and pull the loop downwards to tighten

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Tying a Double Figure 8 Knot

- 1 Make a loop with a long bight of rope
- 2 Pass the end through the loop making an "8"
- 3 Pass the end through the "8"
- 4 Open up the end loop and take it to the front from the back
- 5 Pass it to the right
- 6 Hold end and pull to tighten
- 7 It resembles a set of bunny ears

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