

Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Centurion Rope Work Manual



Rope Work

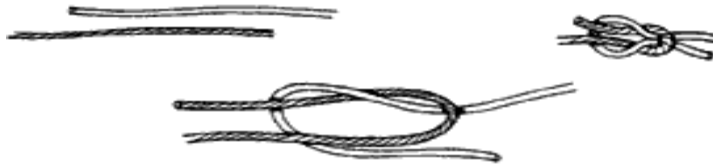
Seamanship is an important part of Sea Cadet training and it all begins with basic knots.

A **knot** is: Used for anything that is not a bend, splice or hitch

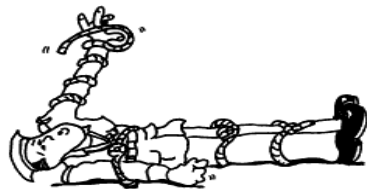
A **hitch** is: Used to secure a rope to a spar, ring or hook

A **bend** is: Used to join two ropes together

You can practice knots, hitches and bends anywhere. All you need is a piece of line and patience, so get some rope and let's get started!



A Reef Knot is used to tie two ropes of equal thickness together. It is the standard knot for reefing a sail.



A Figure Eight Knot is a stopper knot that prevents the end of a rope from sliding back through a block or fairlead. It may be used in the end of jib and main sheets.



A Sheet Bend ties two ropes of unequal thickness together. It may be used in sailing to secure the main halyard to the clew outhaul when de rigging or it may be used to secure the forestay to the bow deck plate



• A Clove Hitch secures a rope to a rail or a spar (remember a spar is a pole). It may be used during a single tow when the line is attached to the mast

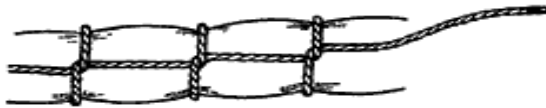


Did you know that in the days of sailing ships the mark of a good seaman was his ability to work with rope? With the passing of the tall-masted sailing ships, the amount of rope required onboard vessels today is greatly reduced

A Rolling Hitch secures a smaller rope to a larger rope or spar. It may be used for attaching a painter or bow line to a tow line when more than one boat is being towed or to hang some object from a vertical rope or spar.



A Marling Hitch lashes long bundles such as sails, hammocks, and awnings. It may be used for securing a mainsail to the boom for temporary storage



A Round Turn and Two Half Hitches secures a heavy load to a spar, ring, or shackles. It may be used to tie the bow line of a boat to a ring on a dock



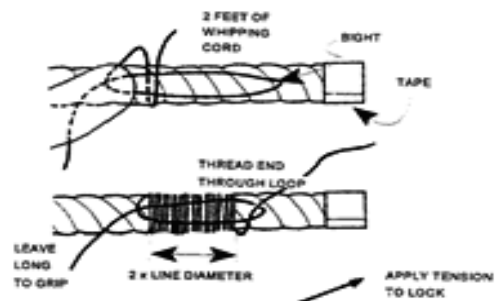
A Bowline makes a non-slip loop in the end of a line. It may be used for attaching sheets or halyards to sails or it may be used as a rescue knot that could be thrown to someone who needs a lifeline.



Common Whipping

A whipping is used on the end of a line to prevent it from becoming unlaidd or frayed. The steps are as follows:

- Hold the line in the left hand, the end to be whipped sticking out in front. Have a piece of whipping twine ready.
- Lay the twine on the line so that the loop end is even with the end of the line and hold the other end under the thumb where the whipping will start (this is called the bight).
- Wind the cord tightly around the bight to a length of twice the line diameter.
- Pass the cord end on the last turn up through the bight loop and slowly pull both cord ends.
- When the bight (or slack) moves to the centre, the new loop will be locked at the centre and both ends of the cord can be trimmed off.
- Trim the line half a line diameter from the end of the whipping and heat seal if the line is nylon or polypropylene





Conclusion

1. Draw a line to match the term to the correct definition:

- | | |
|-------|--|
| Knot | Used to secure a rope to a spar, ring or hook. |
| Hitch | A term for anything that is not a bend, splice or hitch. |
| Bend | Used to join two ropes together. |

2. Answer **true or false** to the following statements:

- a. A Figure Eight knot is used to join two ropes of equal thickness.
True False
- b. A Reef knot is a stopper knot.
True False
- c. A Sheet Bend ties two ropes of unequal thickness together.
True False
- d. A Clove Hitch secures a rope to a rail or spar.
True False
- e. A Bowline is used on the end of a line to prevent it from becoming unlaied or frayed.
True False
- f. A Common whipping makes a non-slip loop in the end of a line.
True False