

Atlantic Challenge Ropework

Each knot, whipping, splice or seizing shall be scored to a maximum of 10 points each.

5 knots or hitches, 3 whippings or seizings and 2 splices will be tied by each team. Each team will be invited to execute the same number and type of knots, etc. and any one team member will only have to tie one knot, whipping or splice.

6 point maximum awarded for the execution of the correct knot, whipping or splice in a neat and seamanlike manner

2 points for identification of the function of the knot, whipping or splice.

2 points for completion within the allotted time;

- 20 seconds per knot.
- 10 minutes per whipping.
- 25 minutes per splice/seizing.

Required Knots

Reef Knot

Slipped Reef Knot

Figure of Eight

Bowline

Running Bowline

Half Hitch

Clove Hitch

Anchor Hitch with Seizing

Sheet Bend

Double Sheet Bend

Spar Hitch

Rolling Hitch

Sack Knot

Round Turn and Two Half Hitches

Halyard Slip Hitch

Splices

Short Splice

Eye Splice

Whippings and seizing

Common (Simple) Whipping

Sail Maker's Whipping

Sail maker's Whipping made with Palm and Needle.

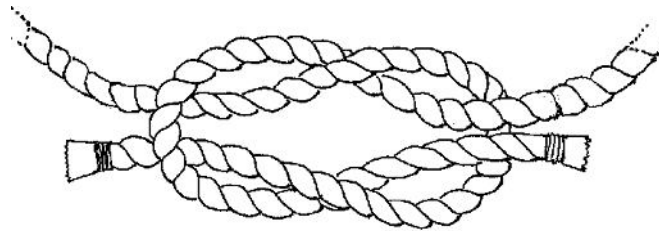
Racking Seizing

Knots - Noeuds

Reef Knot

Noeud plat

Råbåndsknob

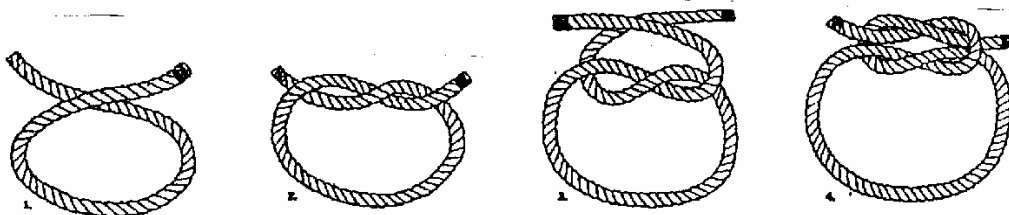


Use: Tying two similar diameter ropes together, particularly used when reefing a sail.

Can jam if over-tightened or if ropes are of unequal thickness.

Method: Remember 'left over right' then 'right over left' to avoid tying a granny knot!

A granny knot is not secure and will shake undone.



Reef Knot tied as a slip knot (half bow)

Use: When reefing a sail, this provides a secure knot which can be released quickly to shake out the reef.

Method: Made like tying a shoelace, but with only one half of the bow.

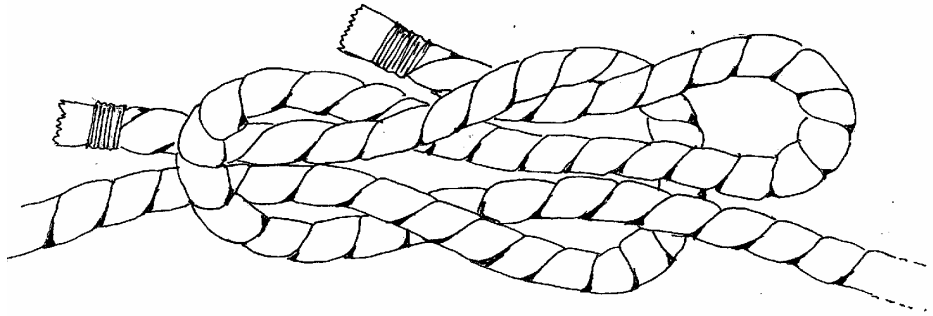


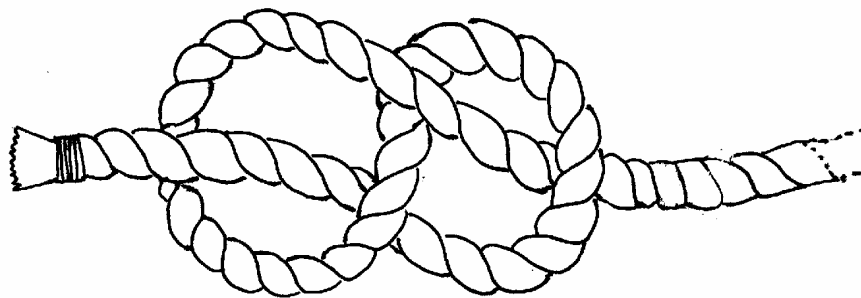
Figure of Eight Knot

Noeud d'arrêt ou de 8

Ottetalsknob

Use: As a stopper knot on a line to secure it from running freely through a block.

Method: Pass the rope's end around as shown.



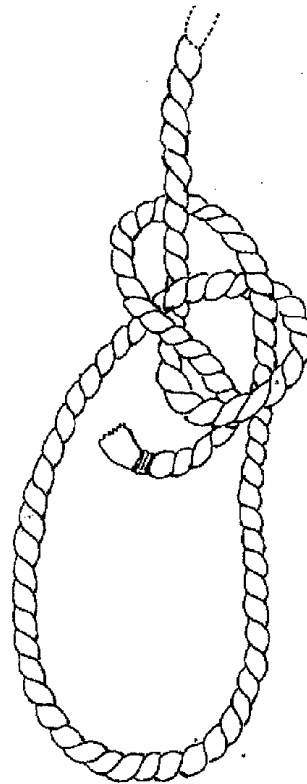
Simple Bowline

Noeud de chaise

Pælstik

This is the most useful of all knots. Once learned, it is easy to make and does not slip or jam.

Use: To secure a line around any object or to make a soft eye in a rope's end. This knot is often used to attach a sailing vessel's sheets to its sails. Two ropes may be joined by placing a bowline on each one.



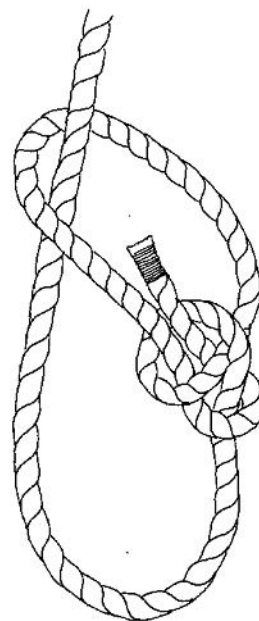
Running Bowline

Noeud de Laqui

Lekke med pælstik

Use: Where a running noose is required that will be easy to untie after strain has been put on the knot.

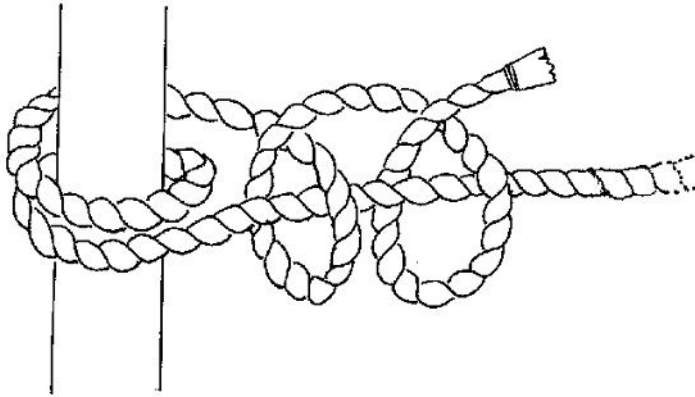
Method: Tie a bowline in the usual way but first pass the rope around the standing part.



Round turn and two Half Hitches

Tours morts et demi-clefs

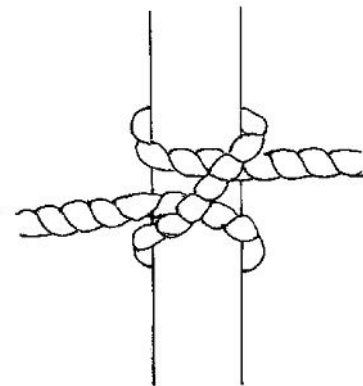
Use: To attach a shore line to a ring bolt, either in the boat or on the shore. It may also be used to attach a rope to a spar. The complete round turn takes the strain on the rope, the first half hitch stops it slipping and the second half hitch secures it. With slippery synthetic ropes it is as well to apply a third half hitch.



Clove Hitch

Use: To attach a rope to a spar so that it will not readily slip, or to make fast the inboard end of a heaving line

Method: Make two half hitches tied in opposite directions.

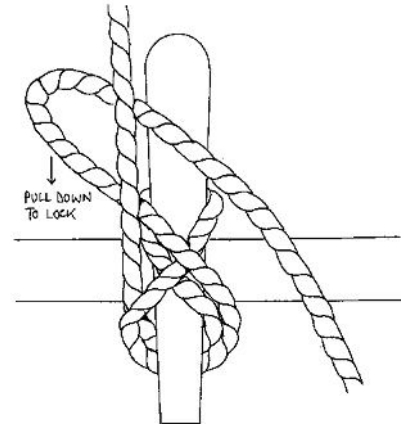


Halyard Slip Hitch

Noeud de drisse

Slipstik

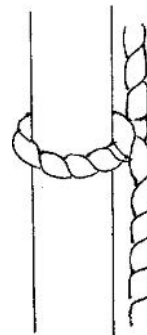
Use: To lock the fall of the halyard on the belaying pin with a quick release facility.



Half Hitch

Use: As part of other knots to secure the rope's end.
Also used for lashing (bending) the sails to the yards.

Method: Easy! See diagram.



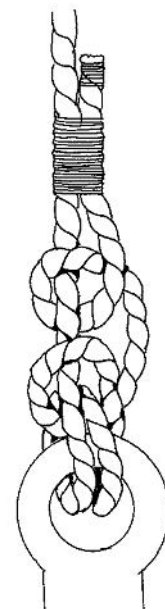
Anchor Hitch with Seizing

Noeud de grappin

Ankerstik med bændsel

Use: For attaching a warp to an anchor. It will not slip and the more strain that is put on it, the tighter it becomes. For this reason it can be very difficult to untie.

Method: As in diagram.



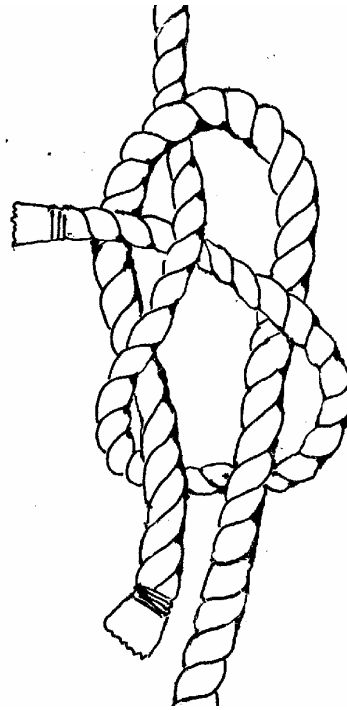
Sheet Bend

Noeud d'écoute simple

Flagknob

Use: To tie two ropes of unequal thickness together so that they will not come apart when under tension, but will come apart easily when no longer under tension.

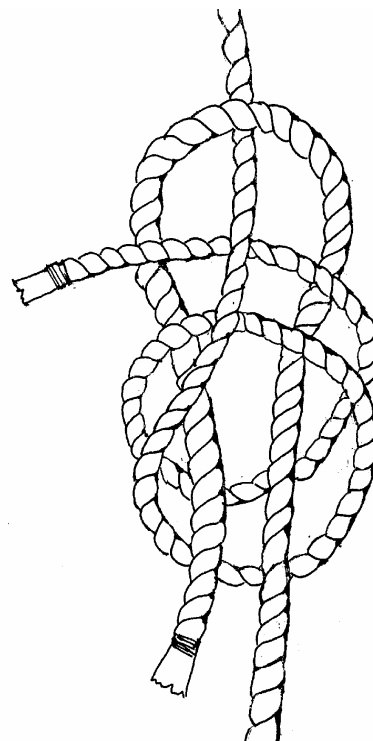
Method: Make a loop in the end of the thicker rope. Pass the end of the thinner rope up through the loop, back around the two parts of the loop and down underneath so that a half hitch is formed on the loop, as in the diagram.



Double Sheet Bend

Use: To tie two ropes together when they are of very unequal diameter and a single sheet bend cannot cope.

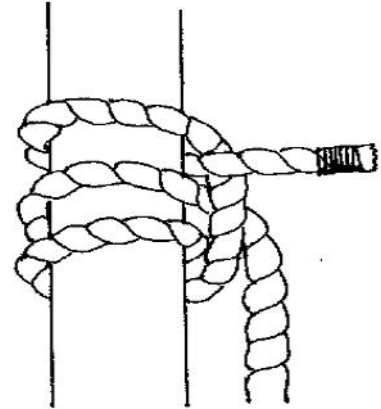
Method: Double the sheet bend by passing the working end around behind the eye again and follow the first pass, tucking the end under the first pass of the working end.



Rolling Hitch

Use: For attaching a rope to a spar, line or stay when you need to know that the knot won't slip along the spar.

Method: Take the tail of the rope and wrap it around the stanchion a couple of times, on the side of the standing part from which the strain will come (under the standing part, in this example). Push the turns together and bring the tail of the rope up across the turns, keeping everything together and aligned. You're preparing to hitch the tail above the knot, on the side away from the expected strain.

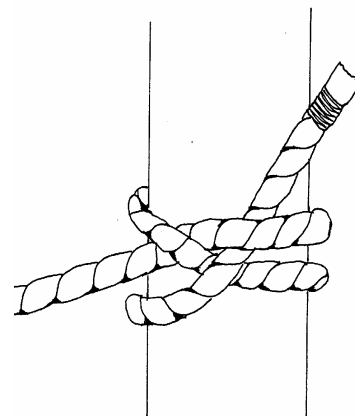


Put a half hitch around the upper side of the stanchion, in the same direction as the round turns and snug everything up tight. You should end up with a clove hitch with an extra turn on one side.

How not to tie it? Taking the last turn in the same direction as the standing part will result in a wrongly tied hitch, although it probably will hold for a short while.

Spar Hitch

Use: To attach a rope to a spar, e.g. the mizzen halyard to the mizzen yard. This knot is self locking under strain but can always be untied, it is quicker to tie than a rolling hitch and will take strain in all directions.



Method: Pass the rope around the spar as for a clove hitch, but instead of passing the rope's end under the last turn, go over the last turn and under the first turn.

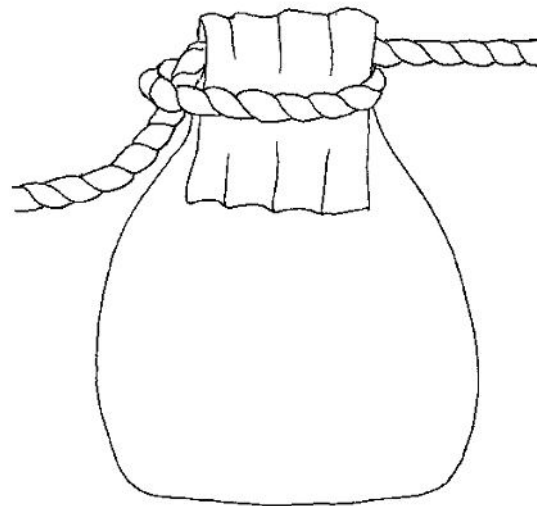
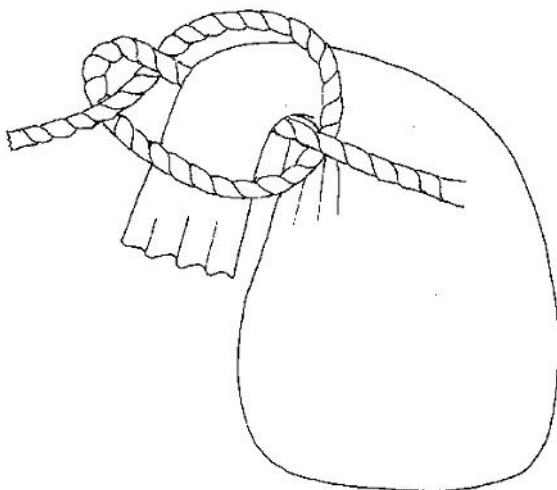
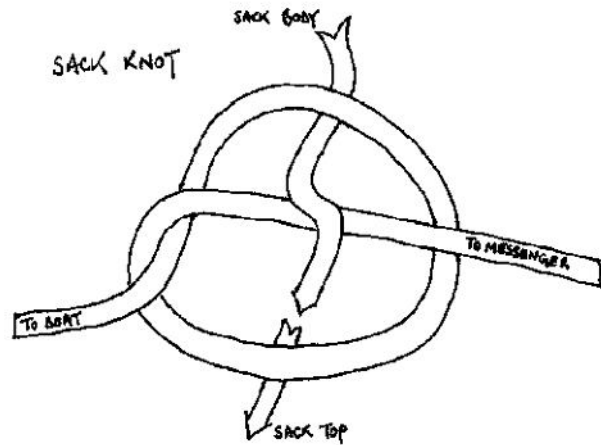
Sack Knot

Noeud de sac

Sækkeknob

Use: For securely attaching a sack to a line, e.g. In the Jackstay Transfer.

Method: Make a large loop in the rope, as shown, where you wish to attach the sack. Now reach your hand through the loop from front to back going over the centre cross. Pull the top of the sack back through the loop and secure by pulling on each end. As you do this, dress the outside loops down along each side as shown below.



Splices - Epissures

Eye Splice

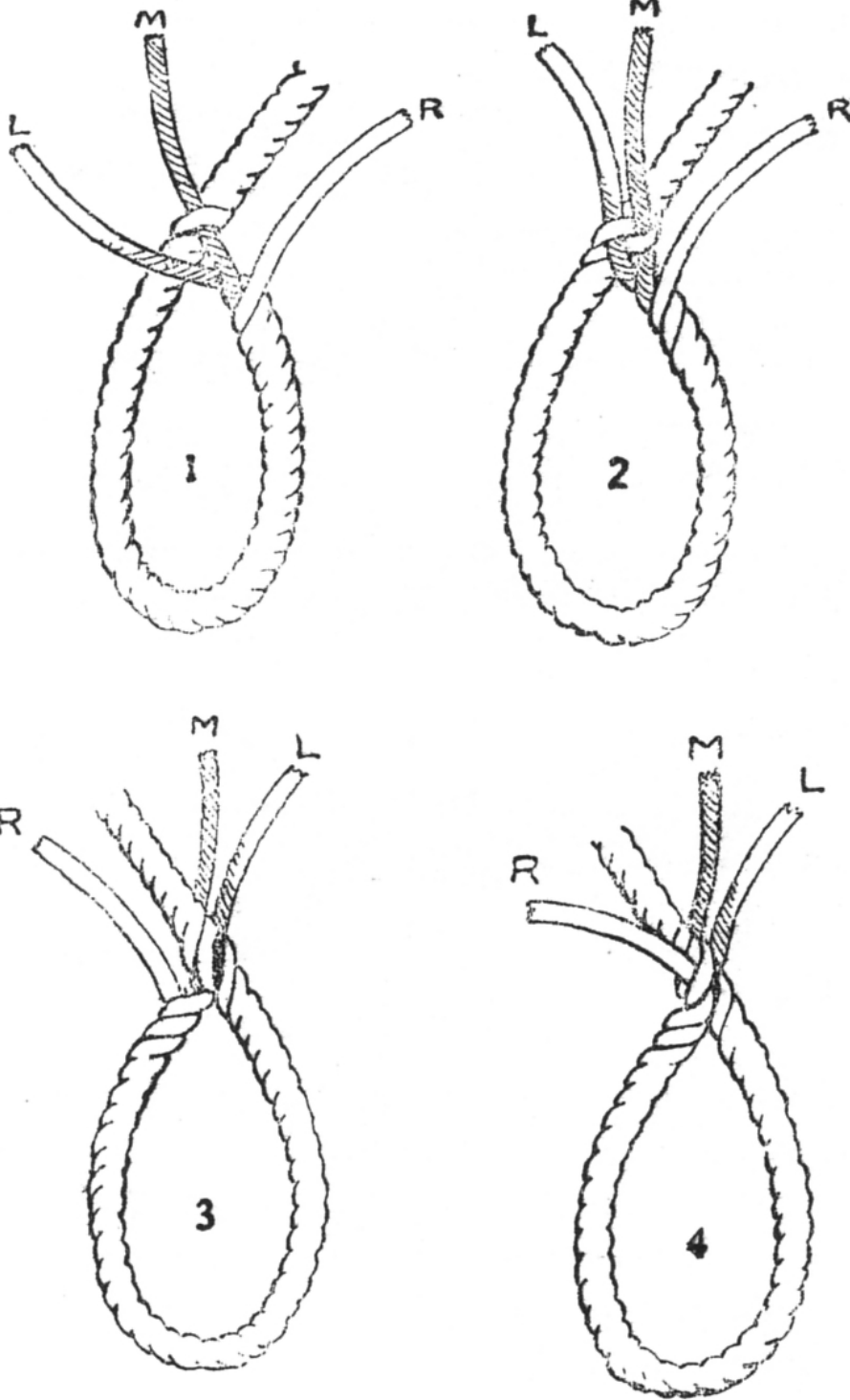
Oeil classique

Øjespillejsning

Use: To put a permanent eye in the end of a rope.

Method:

- 1) Unlay the strands of the rope, a whipping may be added to the ends of the strands to stop them fraying and a stop may be whipped onto the main rope to prevent the strands unravelling further than required.
- 2) Make the eye the required size and offer up the unlaidd strands to the main rope until the stop is hard against the rope (see diagram).
- 3) Tuck the middle strand through the top strand in the main rope (1).
- 4) Lay the strand to the left over the first tuck and tuck it under the next strand (see diagram (2)). Take care to ensure that the left strand remains to the left of the middle strand.
- 5) Turn the splice over and tuck the right strand through the only remaining strand which does not have a rope tucked under it (3 & 4).
- 6) If completed properly, all the strands should exit the main rope at the same level when the rope is allowed to hang vertically.
- 7) Complete two more tucks of all three strands.
- 8) To finish, remove the strand whippings and taper the splice by reducing the strands and continuing to tuck them each time. A whipping may be applied over the cut or tapered strands to prevent them from coming free.



Starting the eyesplice

Short Splice

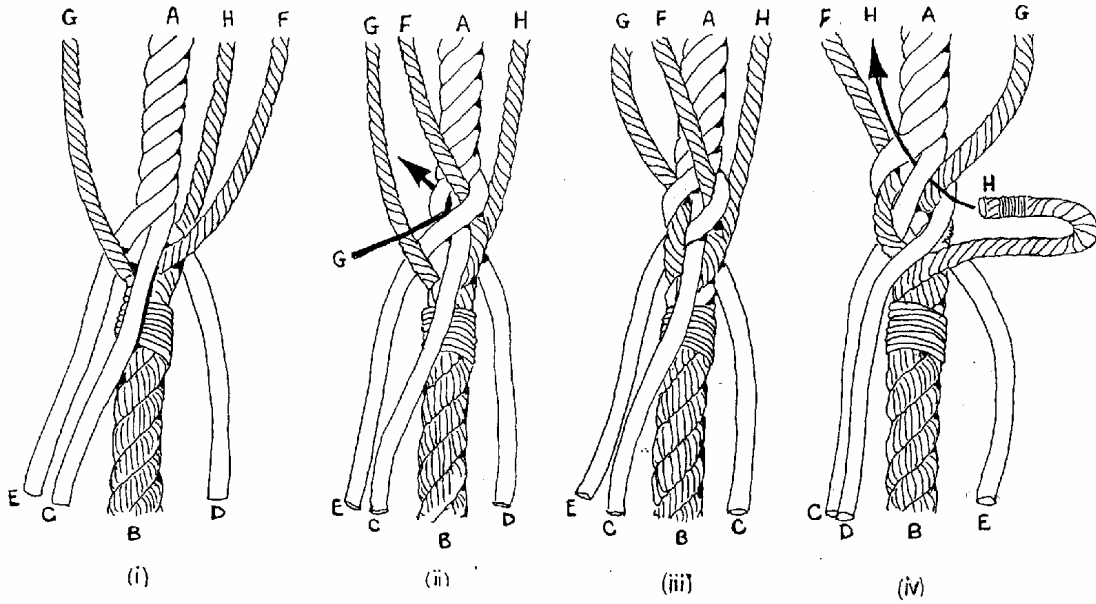
Epissure carré

Use: To join two lines together. The resultant splice is thicker so do not use if the line will be passed through a block.

Method: The strands of each rope are tucked between the strands of the other rope against the lay, each strand being taken over the strand on its left, then under the next strand and emerging between this and the subsequent strand. In the diagram the ends of the ropes are lettered A and B, and their unlayed strands C, D and E, and F, G and H respectively. (certain whippings and stops have been omitted to show the tucking of the strands more clearly)..

1. Whip each rope at a distance from its end equal to five times the size of the rope (this whipping has been omitted from rope A in the diagram).
2. Unlay the strands to the whipping and whip their ends (these whippings have also been omitted).
3. Marry the two ropes so that one strand of each lies between two strands of the other (i)
4. Having ensured a close marry, whip the strands strongly round the join to prevent them slipping and stop ends C, D and E to rope B with a strong stop (whipping and stops have been omitted)
5. Cut the whipping on A.
6. Take F over C, under E, and bring it out between E and D (ii).
7. Take G over E, under D, and bring it out between D and C (ii and iii).
8. Take H over D, under C, and bring it out between C and E (iii).
9. Stop G, F, and H to A, Cut the stop and whipping on B, and tuck C, D and E in a similar manner.
10. Heave all six strands equally taut with a heaving mallet.
11. Again tuck each strand over the strand on its left and under the next one, and then repeat this operation a third time.

12. To finish, remove the strand whippings and taper the splice by reducing the strands and continuing to tuck them each time. A whipping may be applied over the cut or tapered strands to prevent them from coming free.



Whippings - Surliures

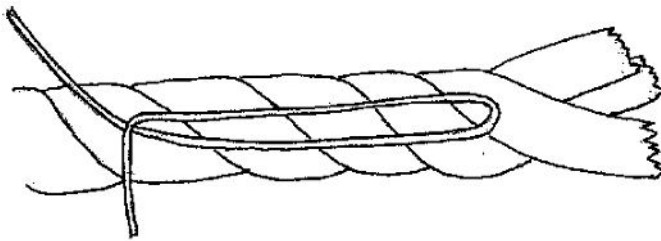
Use: To stop a rope's end from fraying.

A whipping must be tight with no overlapping turns. The length of the whipping must be 1 to 1.5 times the rope's diameter. There should be 3 to 5mm of rope left between the whipping and the rope's end, in proportion to the rope's diameter, so that the whipping does not pull off..

Simple or Common Whipping

Method A - A la voilière

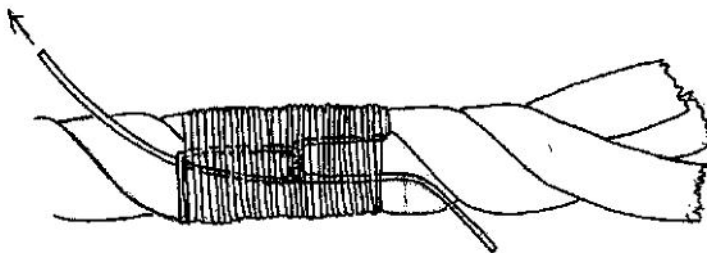
Make a bight in the whipping twine and lay the loop of the bight at the end of the rope. Turn the long end at right angles to the rope.



Make two turns against the lay of the rope.

Pull as tight as possible and continue laying on turns and pulling as tight as possible until approximately 5 mm of rope remains.

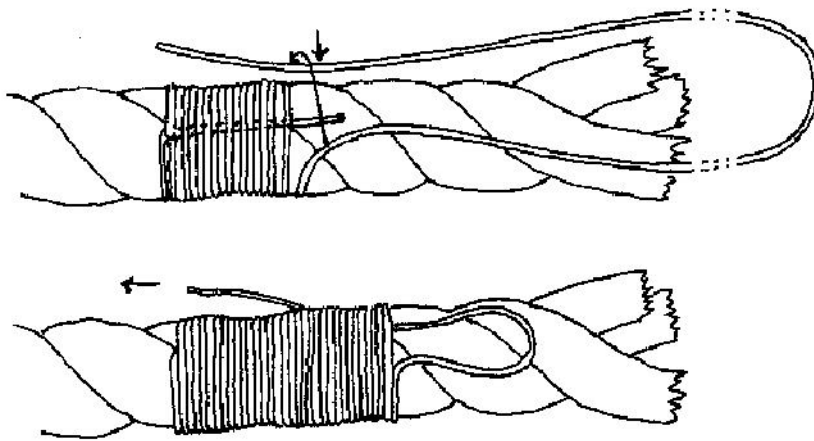
Pass the long end through the remaining loop of the bight.



Pull the short end through under the turns of the whipping until central.

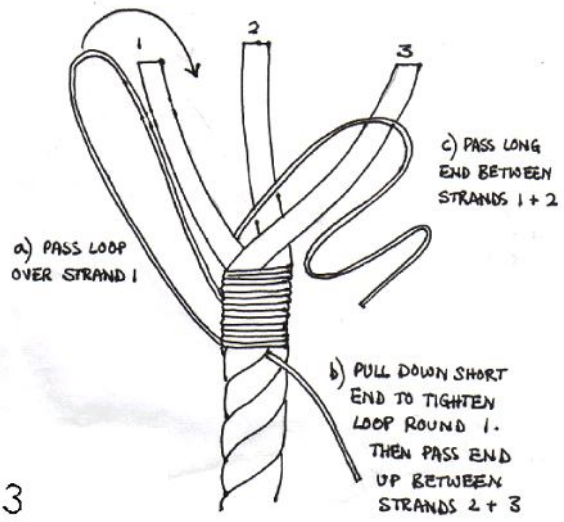
Method B – A tours morts

Lay the short end of the whipping twine along the rope, in the direction away from the rope's end. Then make at least half a dozen turns round the rope with the long end. Now loop the remainder of the long end as shown. Hold down the free end and whip over it with the other part of the loop, continuing the whipping nearly to the end of the rope. Now pull on the long, free end until all of the loop is pulled through. Trim off the end of the whipping twine and cut the rope's end to approximately 5 mm beyond the whipping.

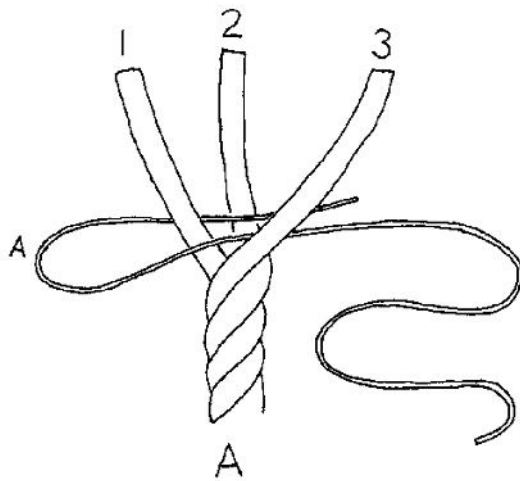
**Sailmaker's Whipping**

This is an excellent whipping since it cannot easily pull off. Unlay the rope a short way and slip a loop of whipping twine over the left hand strand (1). Make sure you keep a long loop hanging out (see A). Now twist up the rope again and wind the longer end of the whipping twine neatly and tightly towards the end of the rope, turning against the lay of the rope. When you get almost to the top, pass loop (A) over the strand (1) pulling it tight by the short end, which will project from the bottom of the whipping. Bring the short end of the line up to strand (3) and knot it firmly with a reef knot to the longer part between the strands. Trim off short.

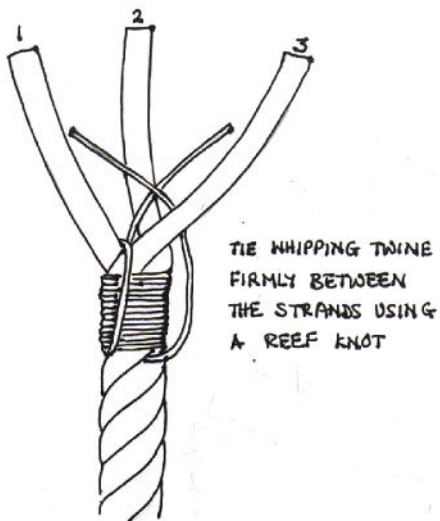
1.



2.



3.



4.

THE FINISHED
SAILMAKER'S
WHIPPING



Sailmaker's Whipping made with Palm and Needle

Use: For finishing off a rope's end so that it will pass through an opening of the same diameter as the rope. For whipping the end of a braided rope.

A way of placing a marker on a rope.

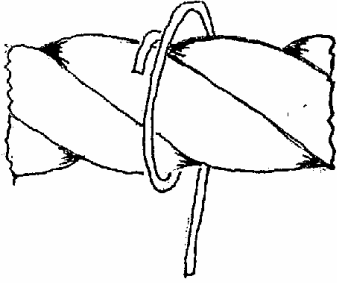
This whipping was originally made by sail makers using a palm and needle, hence the name. The palm and needle gives a better finish to the rope as it may be applied before the rope is cut. The normal method of unlaying the rope's end to place a loop of whipping twine around a strand disturbs the lay of the rope and is not as secure as the palm and needle method.

Method: The whipping twine should be sewn through the rope and then laid up against the lay of the rope and working towards the bitter end of the rope. Each turn must be pulled tight and should lie close to the previous turn so that the rope is not visible through the turns of the whipping. The length of the turns should be one to one and a quarter times the diameter of the rope. The needle is then used to sew the twine under a strand and over the whipping so that it lies between the two adjacent strands, passing under the left hand strand and being pulled down tight into the rope, so tightening the whipping. This process is repeated until each groove between strands has two strands of twine in it, lying neatly beside each other and of the same length. The twine should be pre-waxed, using bee's wax and the end should be sewn into the rope.

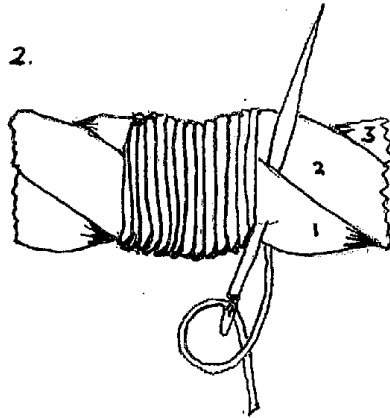
There should be 3 to 5 mm of rope showing at the end of the whipping when it is finished. The length of rope showing should be in proportion to the diameter of the rope.

1/2

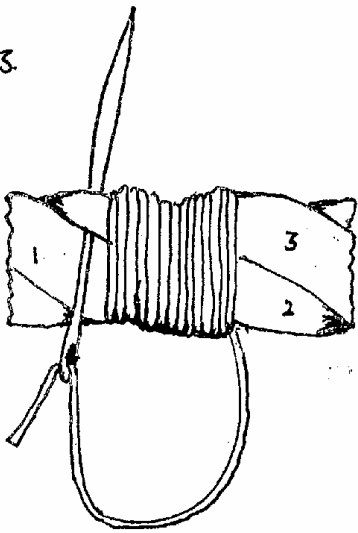
1.



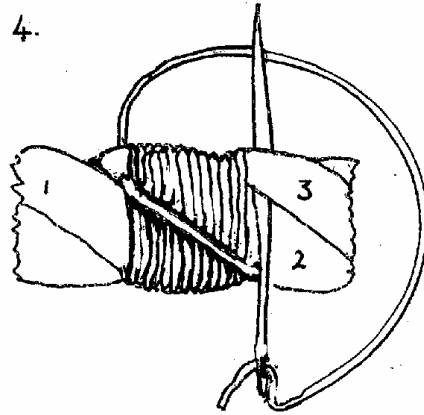
2.



3.



4.



Racking Seizing

Use: To seize two ropes together so that they cannot move in relation to one another.

To make a semi-permanent eye in the end of a braided or laid rope.

The greater the strain on the seizing the tighter the seizing grips the ropes.

Method: Make the seizing line secure to one of the ropes with a clove hitch. Holding the two ropes together in the desired position, pass the seizing line (cord rather than twine) around the two ropes in a figure-of-eight pattern pulling each turn tight. The length of the seizing should be at least twice the diameter of the rope as a minimum.

When the figure-of-eight turns are deemed long enough the twine is then passed around the seizing laying the turns between the figure-of-eight turns. When the end of the seizing is reached, each turn having been pulled as tight as possible, the twine is passed between the two ropes, along the seizing and then between the two ropes at the opposite end. Three to six turns are put on this way and the seizing finished by tying the free end of the twine to the working end with a reef knot between the two ropes, hauling taught and repeating at the other end of the seizing. The reef knots should be hardly visible and if waxed twine is used they will hold.

