

Knots: Figure of eight, round turn and two half hitches, clove hitch, reef knot, sheet bend, timber hitch, trucker's hitch, bowline, shear lash, square lash.



Clove hitch There are two ways of tying a clove hitch knot. If the object has an open end then you can make two loops, put one behind the other and then place this over the top of the open end and pull. Alternatively, if the object does not have an open end, pass the rope around the object twice, crossing it over and passing under the loop of rope at the front. The clove hitch is easy to tie and release meaning that it is a good all-purpose knot, useful in setting up shelters; for adjusting stage curtains in a theatre; or for positioning a fender when boating.



Trucker's hitch A trucker's hitch allows for the line to be pulled very tight and is therefore mainly used to tension guy ropes on a tent. It can also be used for secure heavy loads on trucks, to fasten objects onto cars or to tie up canoes.



Sheet bend The sheet bend is mainly used by sailors for uniting two ropes of different sizes. If you only have two short pieces of rope you can use the sheet bend to fasten them together to make a bigger rope to hang things on or to tie something to.



Bowline Going from right to left, do the following: make a rabbit hole, bring the rabbit up out of the hole, around the tree, back down the hole and pull. This creates a non-slip loop at the end of the rope and can be used to hoist someone or to pull something out of a hole. Climbers use a bowline to hang from a tree or to tie to a harness. Sailors use it to secure boats in docks. It can also be used in camping for tying through tent grommets or hanging things up.



Timber hitch A timber hitch can be used to drag, lift or pull heavy equipment or logs. It can also be used as a base knot for lashing things together.



Round turn and two half hitches

Used to secure the end of a rope to a tree, pole, fence or any fixed object, this knot is often used in sailing to tie up a boat. It is not difficult to untie.



Figure of eight This is used both in climbing to attach a rope to a harness and in sailing as a stopped knot, as it ensures that ropes do not come out of their retaining devices.



Reef knot Making two ends, pass the right end over the left and then pull. Next, pass the left over the right and pull again. This is a good binding knot, as it can be used to join two pieces of rope together or secure the rope around an object.