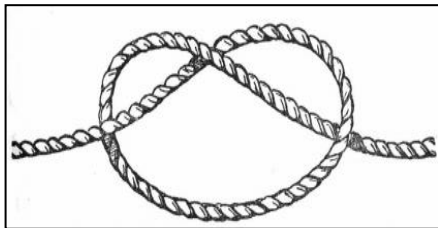


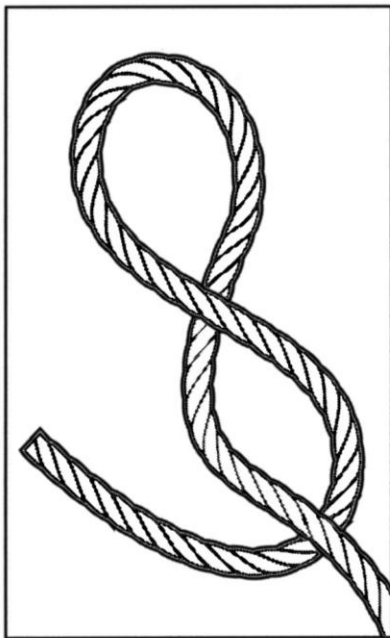
Useful Knots for Forest School

The Overhand Knot

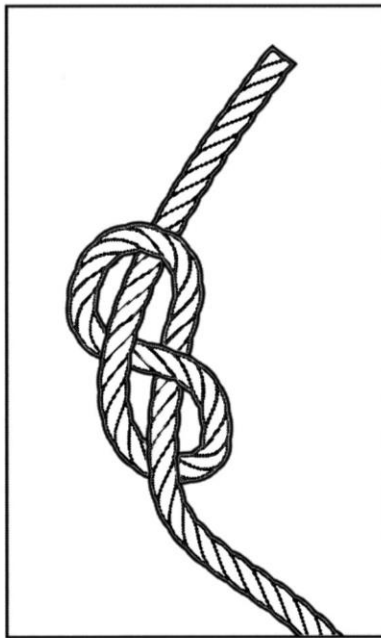


1. Cast an overhand loop. Take the working end and push it through the loop.

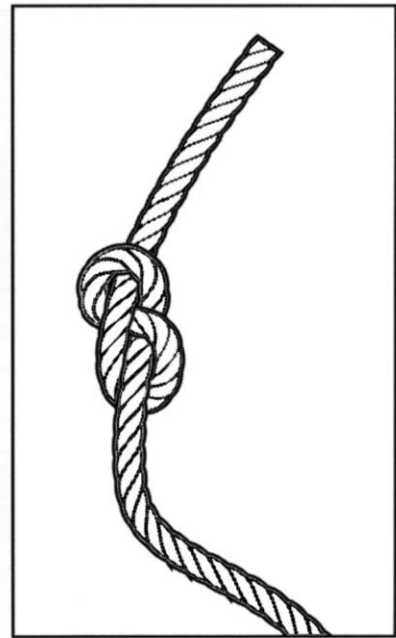
The Figure of Eight Knot



1. Form a loop and pass the end under the standing part.



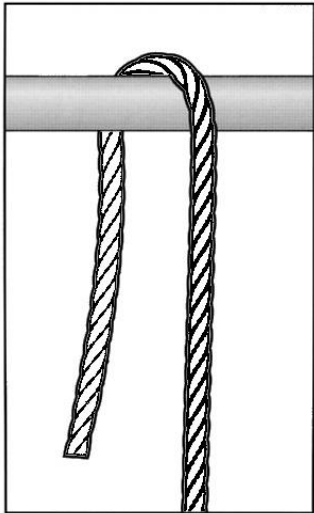
2. Pass the end through the top loop.



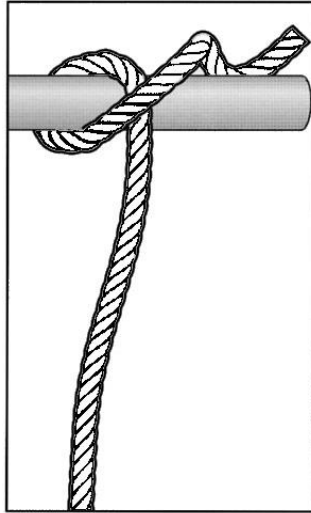
3. Pull tight.

Both the Overhand and the Figure of Eight can also be done 'on the bight' i.e. in the middle of a rope (by pulling up a fold).

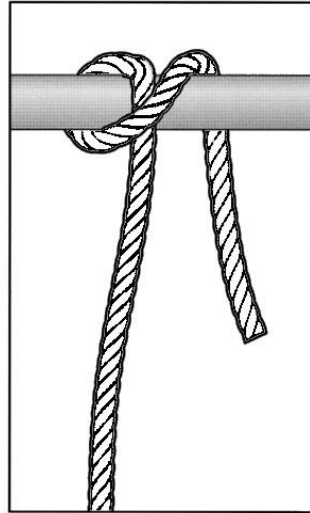
The Clove Hitch



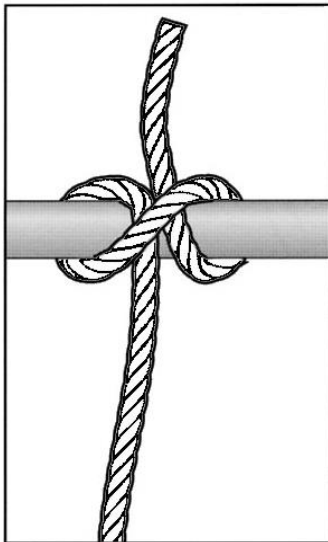
1. Pass working end over post.



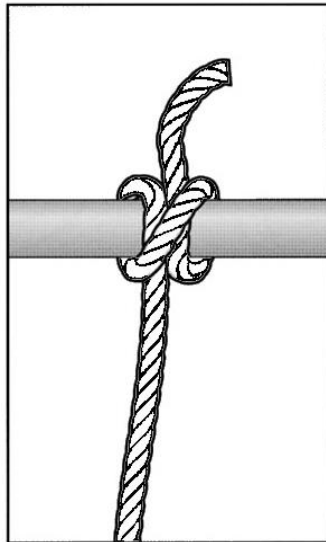
2. Bring it back over the standing part.



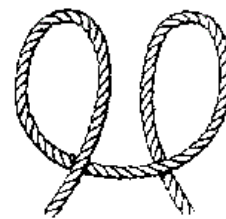
3. Pass around post again.



4. Pass under the crossing section.

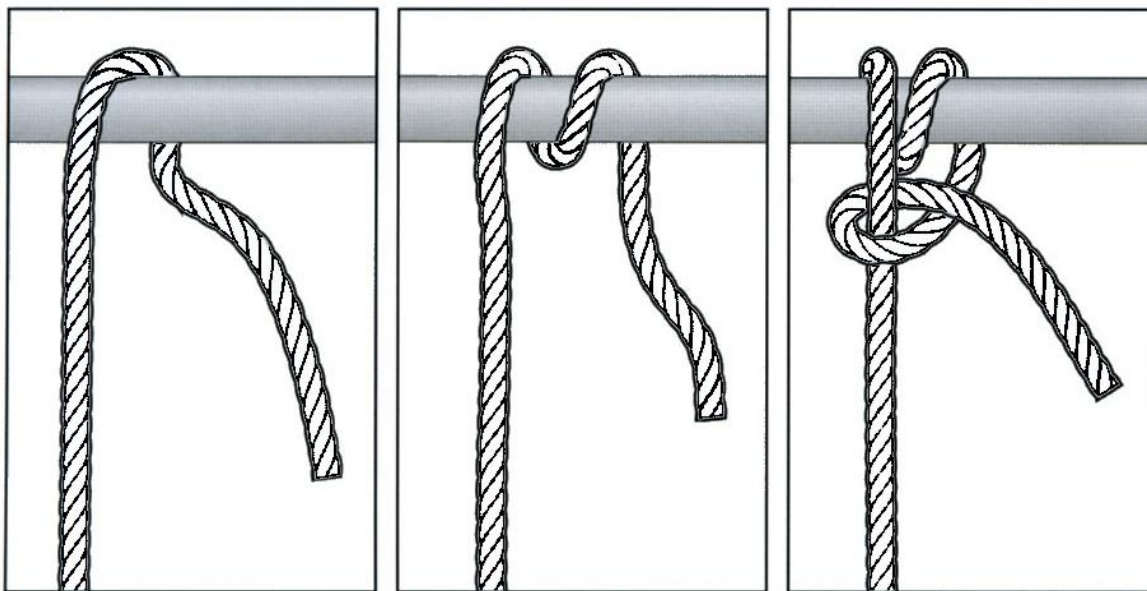


5. Pull tight by pulling both ends apart.



NB. You can also tie the Clove Hitch 'on the bight' (in the middle of the rope) by casting 2 loops in the same direction and then overlapping them. You can then slide the loops over the post – if there is an open end.

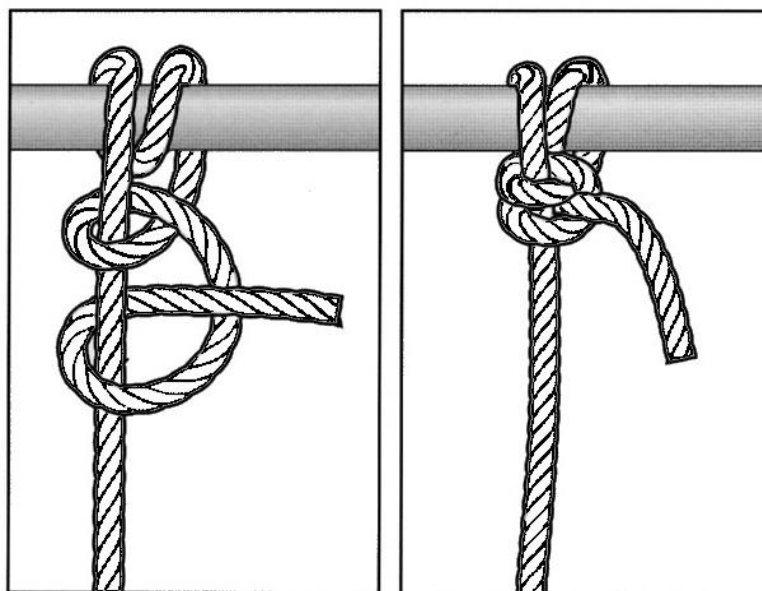
The Round Turn & Two Half Hitches



1. Pass end around bar.

2. Take another complete turn.

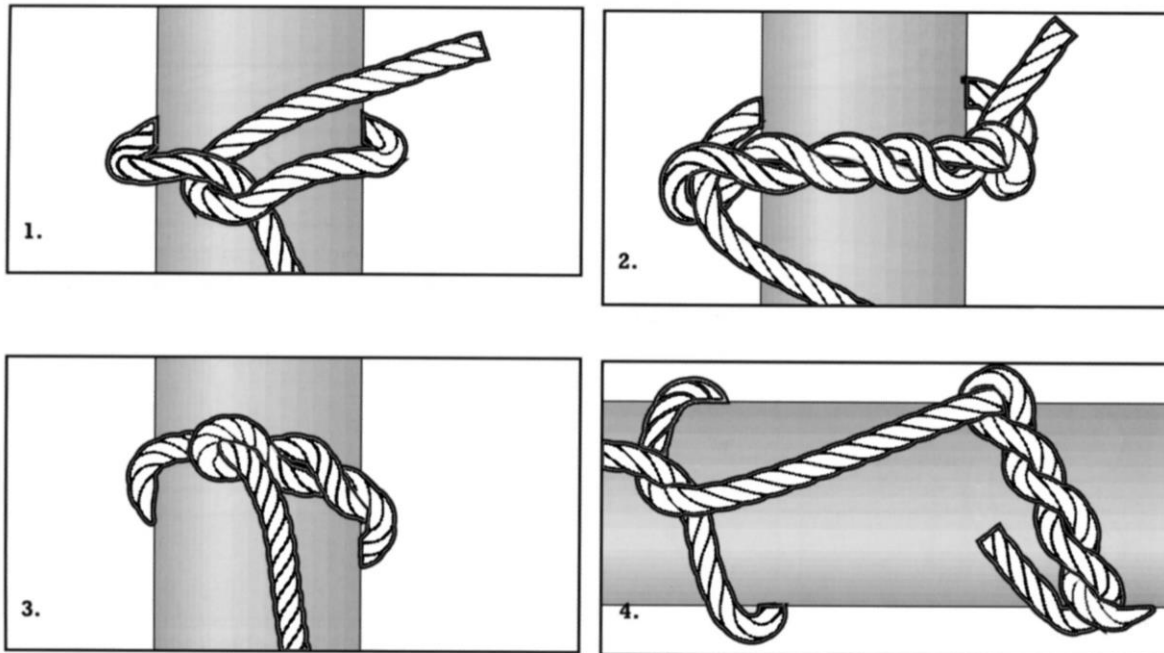
3. Pass end over standing part, around it and back through to form a half hitch.



4. Repeat to form a second half hitch

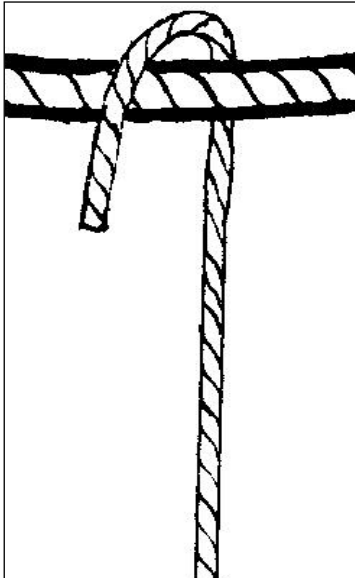
5. Pull tight.

The Timber Hitch (sometimes called the 'Elephant knot') & Killick Hitch

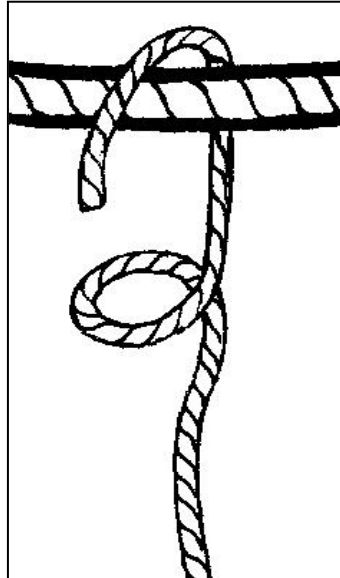


1. Pass the working end around the post and all the way around the standing part of the rope, until it touches itself (360°).
2. Wrap the working end around itself, to create a kind of noose.
3. Draw the hitch up tight by pulling on the standing part. The 'noose' should tighten around the post.
4. If you want to drag the post in a particular direction, or are bundling many posts together you may wish to expand this into a 'Killick Hitch'. After tying a timber hitch, pull the standing part in the direction of drag. Take the rope around the post and tuck under itself to tie a half-hitch. You can add as many half hitches as required.

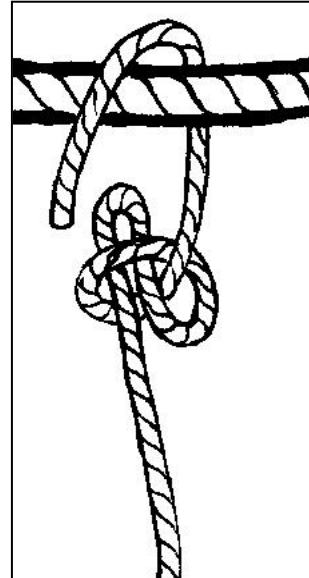
The Bowline



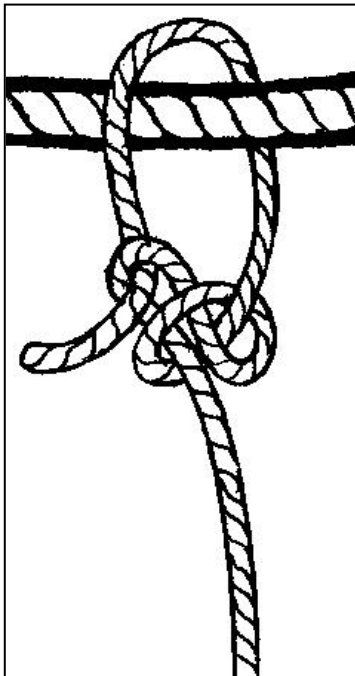
1. Pass working end over bar



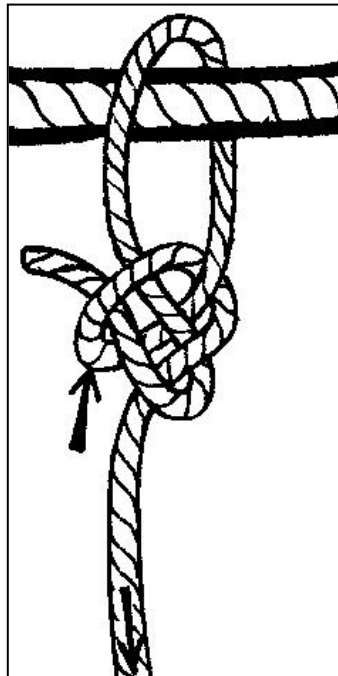
2. Form a loop in standing part



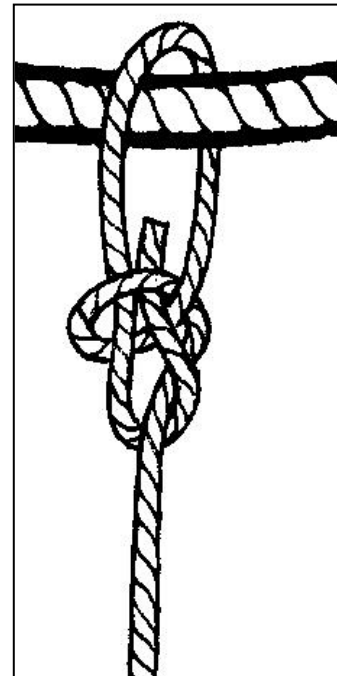
3. Pull bight through loop (this makes a 'slip knot')



4. Pass the working end through bight.

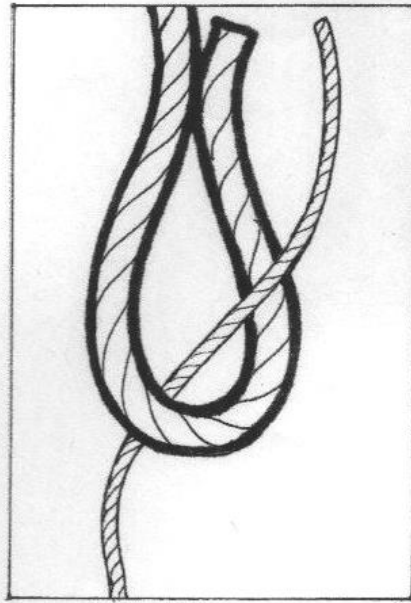


5. Pull on the standing part to trap the working end.

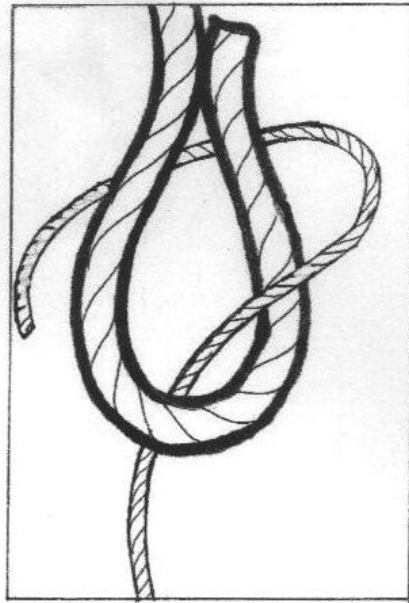


6. Slide fingers down standing part until the knot "pops" over.

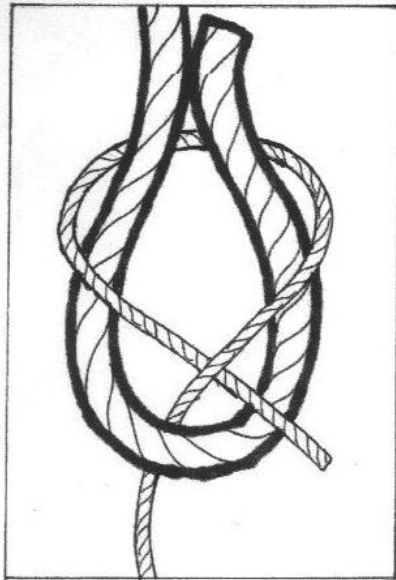
The Sheet Bend



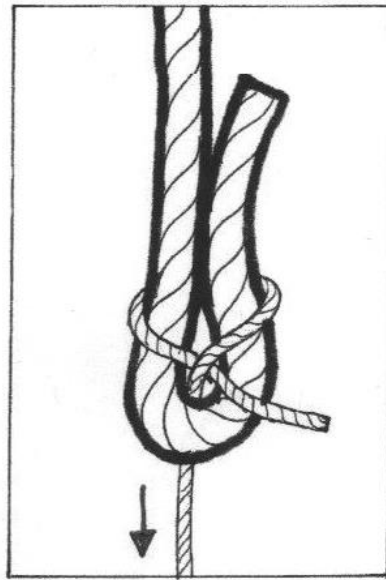
1. Form a bight in the thicker of the two ropes.



2. Pass the working end of the thinner rope up through from the underside of the bight.



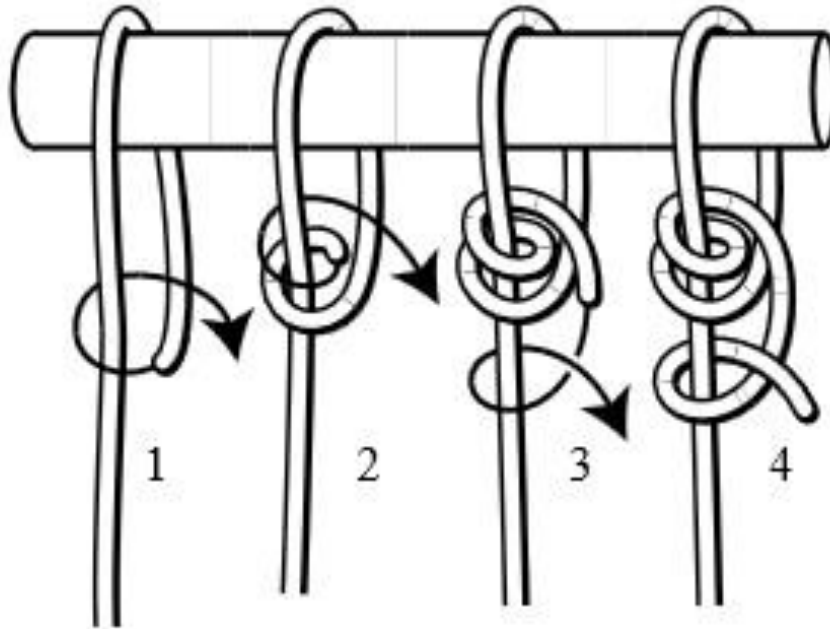
3. Pass this working end around the back of the bight keeping it high on the bight. Tuck the working end underneath itself (it does not go through the bight again) to make a half hitch around the bight.



4. Tighten by pulling on the standing part of the thinner rope. Ensure that you tighten the bend before the thin rope slips over the tip of the bight.

If the ropes are very different in thicknesses (or for extra security) you may need to do a 'Double Sheet Bend' by doing an extra wrap around the bight.

The Rolling Hitch or Taut-line Hitch



1. Pass the working end around the post/peg (if you are using for guy lines) and point it back towards the standing end.
2. Take the working end around the standing part and through the gap you have created (nearest the post/peg). Continue around a second time in the same manner.
3. Bring the working end over the knot and towards the standing end (the tarp side of the knot (if using as guy lines) or the direction of pull on the line). Do a third wrap around the standing part on this side of the knot, continuing in the same direction of circle.
4. Pull the hitch tight by pulling on the working end whilst holding the knot. You can tension the line by pulling the hitch towards the standing end of the rope.