

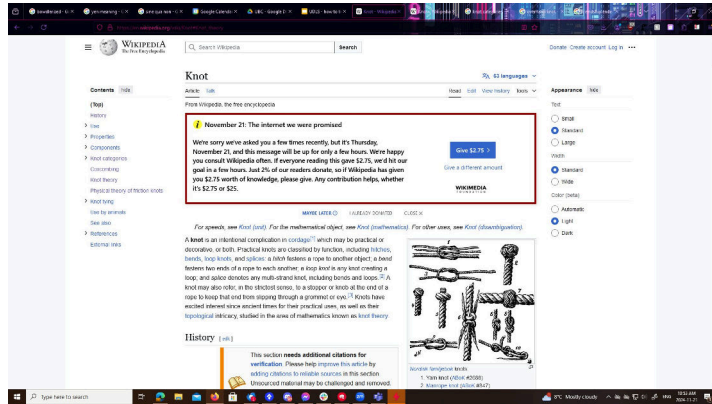
Cool Knots

A guide on how to tie cool, useful knots
by rocco ruan

now featuring choose-your-own-adventure!



intro to knots



Chinese knotting

A photograph of a red Chinese knotwork ornament, specifically a 'Double Happiness' knot (囍结), which is a diamond-shaped knot with two interlocking circles and two tassels hanging from the bottom.

Example of Chinese knotwork

Chinese name

Traditional Chinese 中國結
Simplified Chinese 中国结
Literal meaning Chinese knot
Transcriptions [show]

Use by animals [edit]

The **hagfish** is known to strip slime from its skin by tying itself into a simple overhand knot, and moving its body to make the knot travel toward the tail. It also uses this action in reverse (tail to head) to pry out flesh after biting into a carcass.^[19]

Teaching [\[edit \]](#)

While some people can look at diagrams or photos and tie the illustrated knots, others learn best by watching how a knot is tied. Knot tying skills are often transmitted by [sailors](#), [scouts](#), [climbers](#), [canyoners](#), [cavers](#), [arborists](#), [rescue professionals](#), [stagehands](#), [fishermen](#), [linemen](#) and [surgeons](#). [The International Guild of Knot Tyers](#) is an organization dedicated to the promotion of knot tying.



knot categories (of course there's a taxonomy)

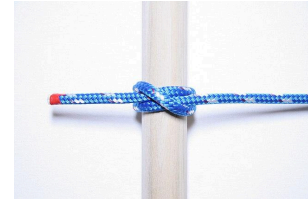
stopper



bend



hitch



loop



lashing



stopper



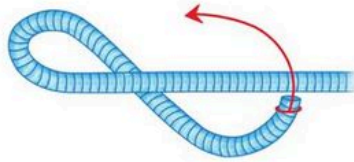
overhand knot is cringe

- hard to untie
- weakens rope a lot
- belies lack of knot tying knowledge

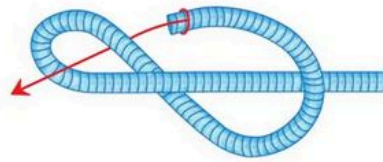
tie the figure 8 knot instead!

- easier to untie
- much stronger
- looks cool
- can be adapted to a loop or bend

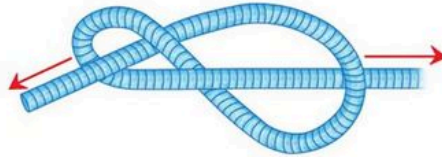
Figure 8 Knot Instructions



- 1 Make a loop with an end



- 2 Now pass the end through it



- 3 Pull both sides to adjust the knot



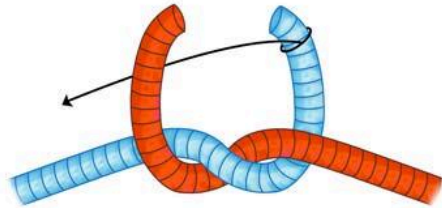
- 4 The finished knot resembles an "8"

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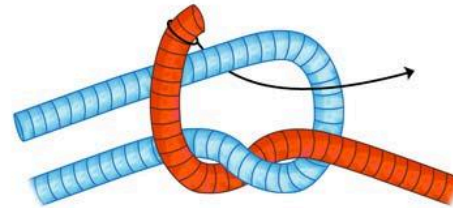


bend: reef/square/shoelace knot

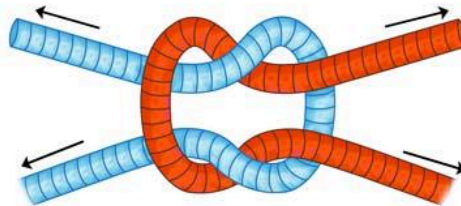
Square (Reef) Knot Instructions



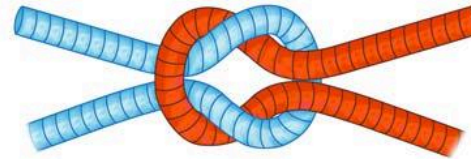
1 Cross the blue and red ends



2 Pass the red end through the blue loop



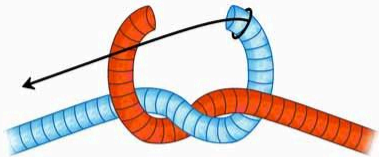
3 Pull the ends to tighten



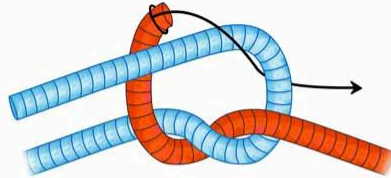
4 The knot is complete

funny reef knot facts

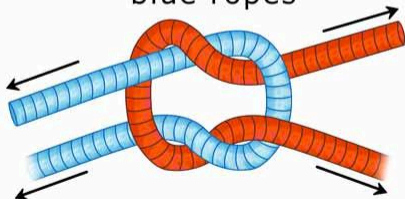
Granny Knot Instructions



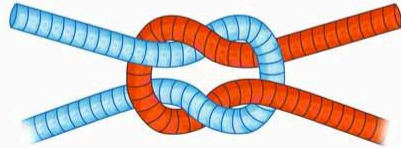
1 Overlap the red and blue ropes



2 Pass the red rope through the blue loop



3 Pass the blue rope through the red loop and tighten



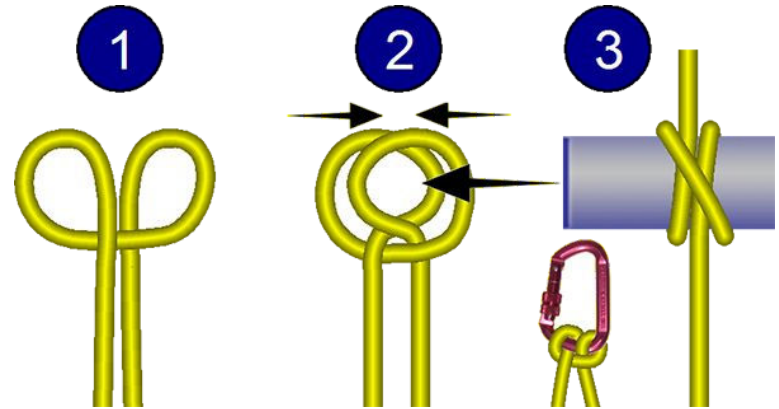
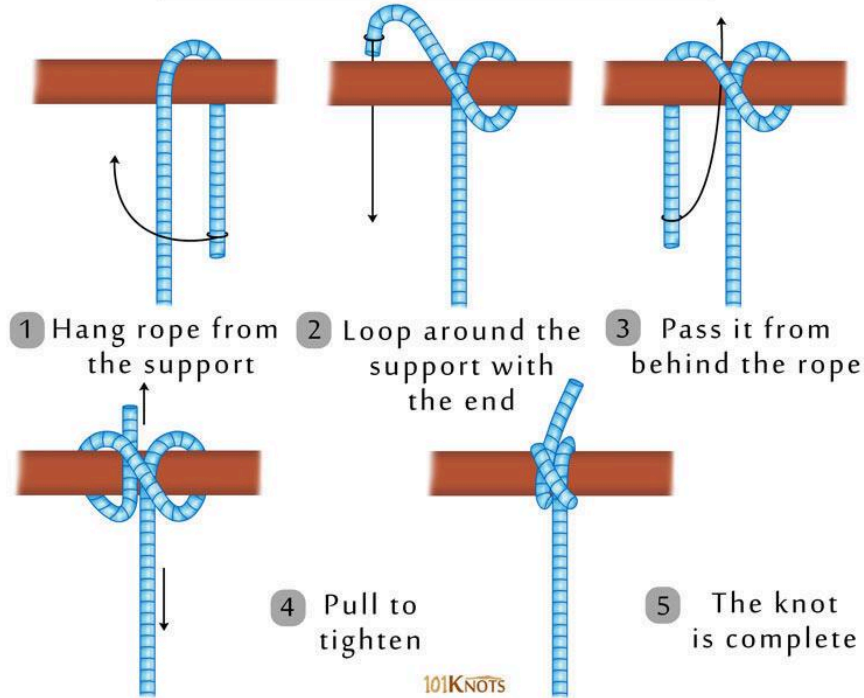
4 The red and blue ropes are now joined

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hitch: clove hitch

Clove Hitch Tutorial



loop: choose-your-own-adventure!

can choose:

- figure 8 loop (used in rock climbing)
- bowline (used if you are stuck in a hole with a cheeseburger)



bowline

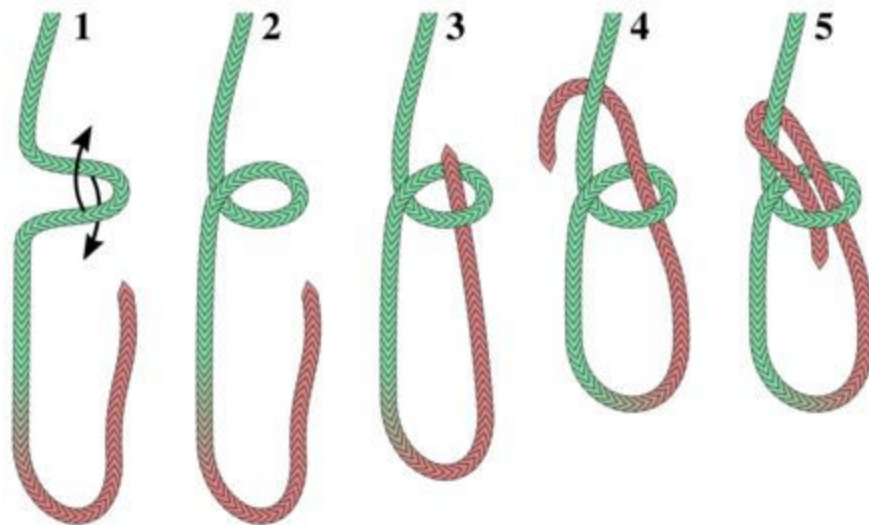


figure 8 loop

Figure 8 on a Bight Instructions

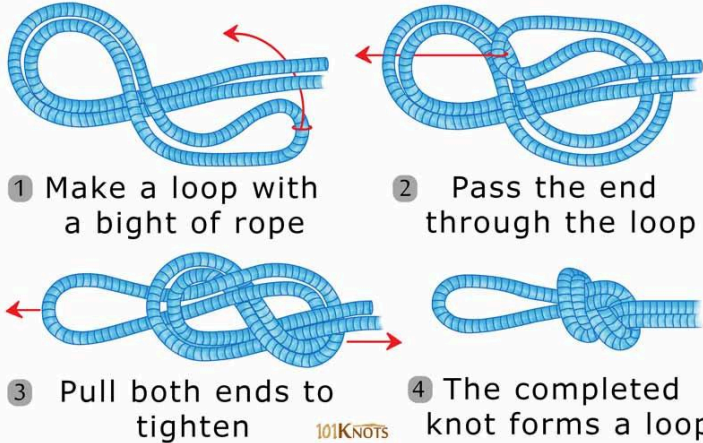
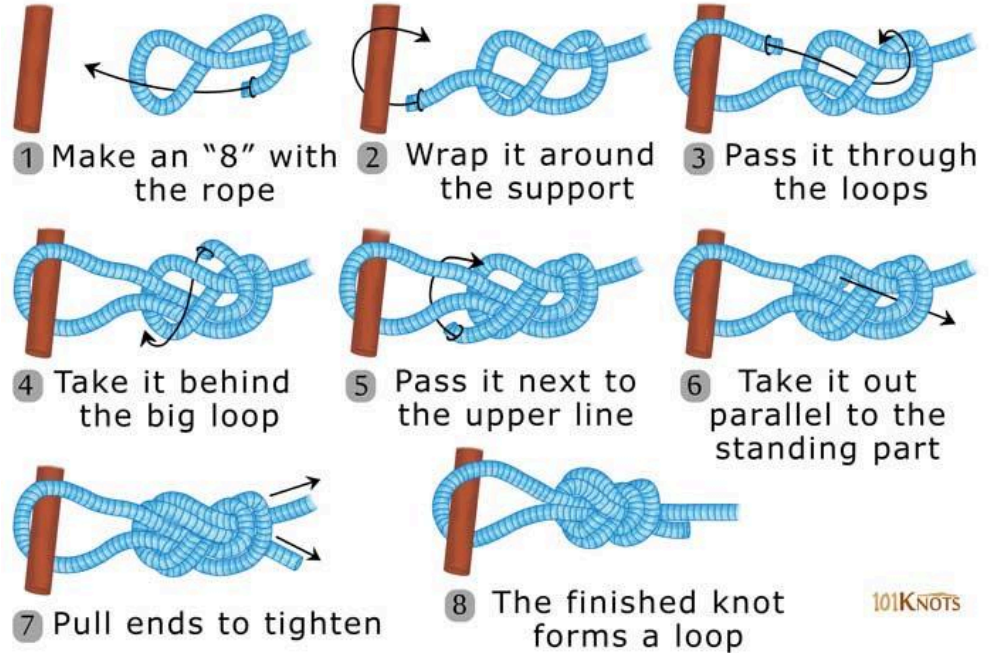


Figure 8 Follow Through Tying Steps



choose-your-own-adventure again!

can choose:

- lashing (tie 2 sticks together)
- trucker's hitch (adjustable tension, for tying things down)
- ...any knots you want to learn? situations where you think a knot could help you?
 - yes. i have googled how to do the cowboy lasso knot
 - and since forgotten how to do it so I'll have to google it again

