



Outdoor Classrooms Ltd

Den Making Handbook



For further information, please contact us:

Website: www.outdoorclassrooms.co.uk

Email: orders@outdoorclassrooms.co.uk

Instagram: @outdoor.classrooms

Facebook: @outdoorclassrooms

Tel: 0113 2556342



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Den Making Handbook





A specially designed set of outdoor resources, providing fun and an interactive way to problem solve and learn a wide range of skills.

Engaging children's imagination and sense of curiosity.

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Den Making Pack Contains:

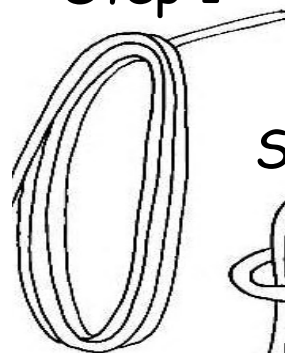


1 x 8 x 5ft Tarpaulin
2 x 5 x 5ft Throw Covers
1 x 5 x 5ft Ground Sheet
1 x High Visibility Rope
1 x Storage Bag

Extras
8 x Den Sticks

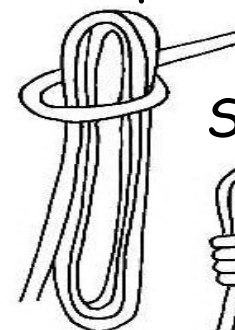
Coiling Rope

Step 1

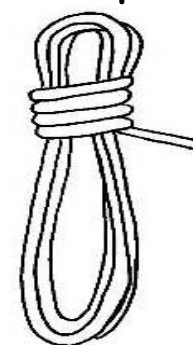


Make a coil of rope, leaving a sufficiently long length of rope. Wrap the the rope tightly around the coil, beginning just over half-way down and then working back up.

Step 2

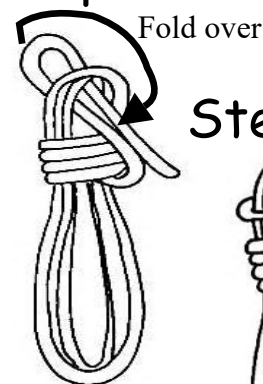


Step 3

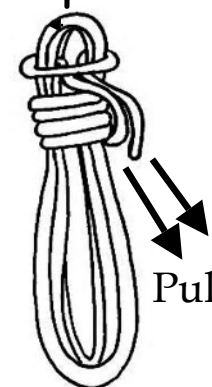


Using the palm of your hand, squeeze the coil turning it in the same direction as the rope is wrapped. This tightens it.

Step 4



Step 5



Leave a good length. Fold the rope and thread the folded end through the loop. Slide the coils up to 'lock off' the loop. Fold the loop over the top and pull tight.

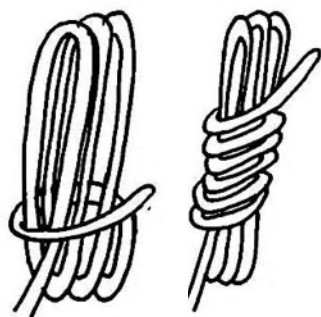


A method for installing the rope over a high branch.



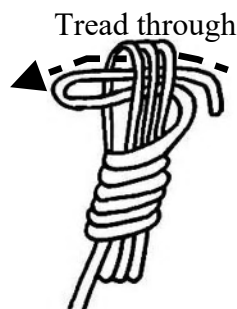
Step 1

Starting about 15cm in from the rope end, loop the rope back and forth into folded lengths.



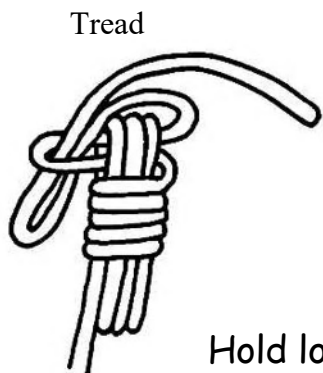
Step 2

Hold the loops together by using the shorter end to wrap around them. Keep the wrapping loose.



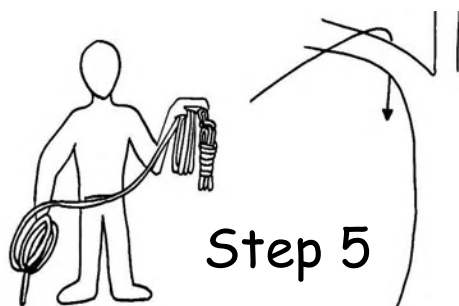
Step 3

Fold the rope and thread through loop ends.



Step 4

Hold long end of the rope in loose coils so it can be 'played-out' out as you throw the other end. Once the rope is over the branch, shake the rope to undo the knot.



Step 5



Care and Safety Instructions:

Please keep these instructions for further reference.

Den-making activities should always be carried out under adult supervision.

When den-making with children it is important to teach them the safe use and maintenance of the den equipment. The main safety aspects are:

- Keep ropes away from adult / child's neck area
- Watch out for suspended ropes
- Look out for ropes and pegs at ground level
- Do not wrap each other up in fabric covers
- Keep naked flames away from fabric, trees, fences etc
- Carry long sticks and poles with pointed end always pointing downward to the ground

The nature of den-making is to use other available resources around you i.e. standing trees and branches. Be aware of hazards created by these introduced materials.

As a supervisor, monitor the structural safety of the den as it is being constructed, making alternative suggestions as necessary.

Tool Safety:

You may wish to introduce a range of hand-tools into the activity. It is important to teach the correct and safe use of any tool. For example, when installing anchor-pegs, use a wooden mallet to fix them into the ground.

Maintenance:

After use, pack your Den-making Kit away safely in the fabric bag. If fabric or rope gets wet, dry before packing away. Muddy fabric and rope can be either brushed off when dry, wiped with a damp cloth or cleaned in a washing machine on a cool wash without detergent.

Always inspect the kit for damage, including tears and fraying on ropes and fabric. Look out for splits and splinters on pegs and poles. Fix as necessary.



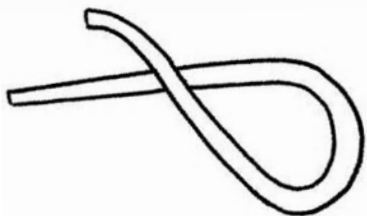


The Knot Tying Handbook

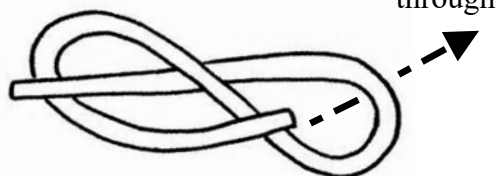
By Karen Beard

End Line Knot

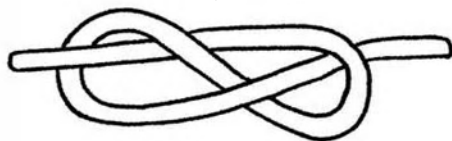
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3

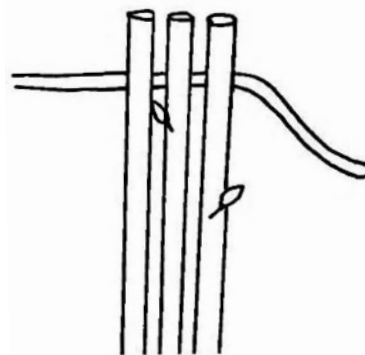


Step 4

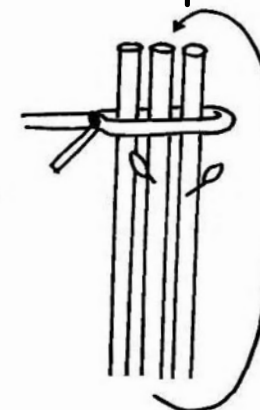


Tripod knots

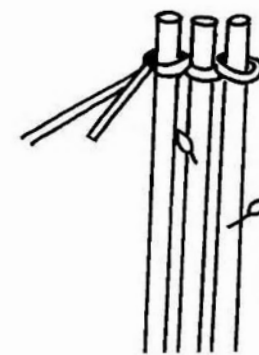
Step 1



Step 2



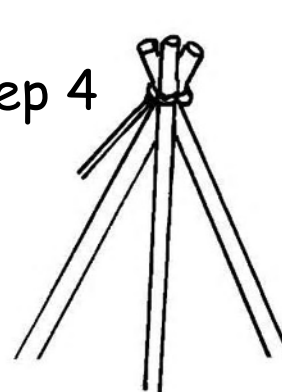
Step 3



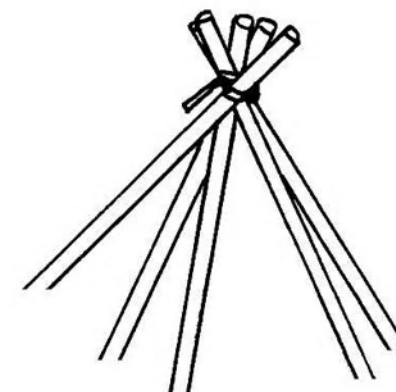
Lay the poles on top of the rope.

Use the surgeon's knot to loosely tie the three poles together. Lift middle pole (up and over) the knot, until it stands back level with the two outside poles. See Steps 2 & 3

Step 4



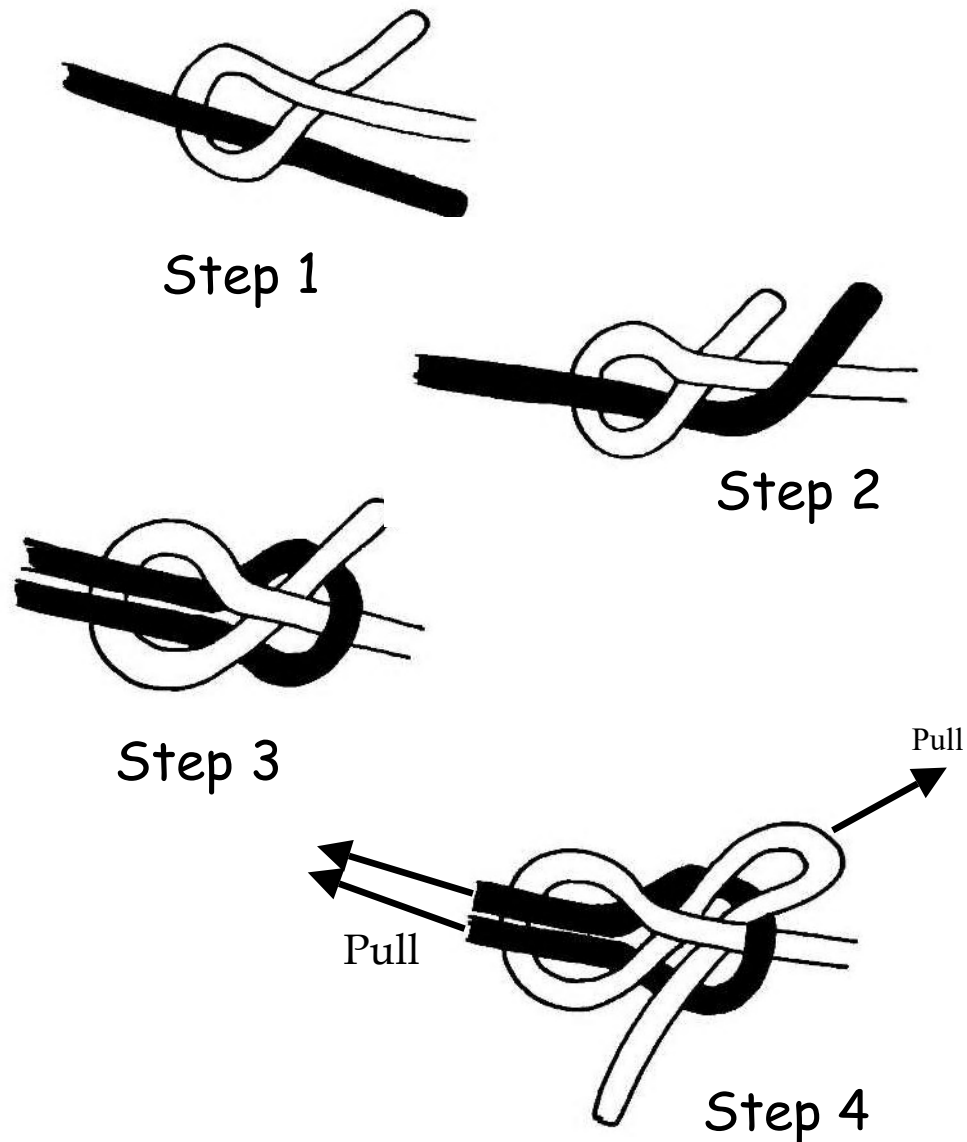
Place the poles into a tripod.



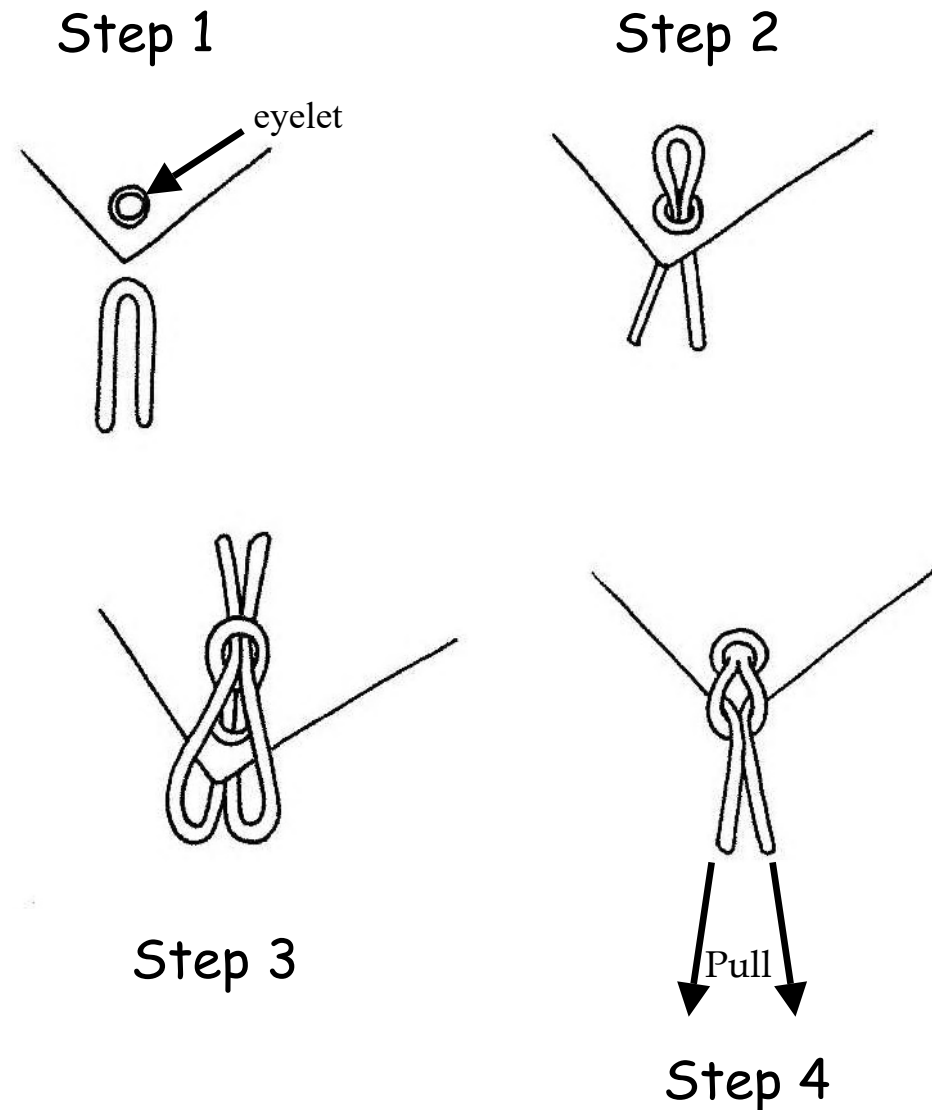
Tie extra poles to the tripod using the end of the rope and finish off with a timber hitch knot.



Double Sheet Bend Knot



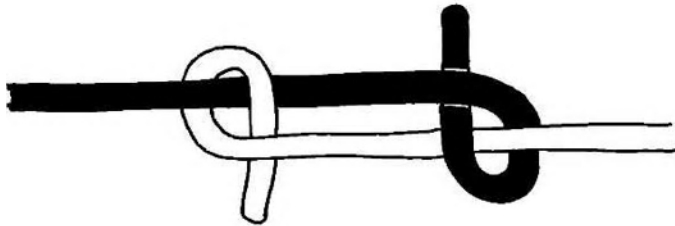
Eyelet Loop Knot



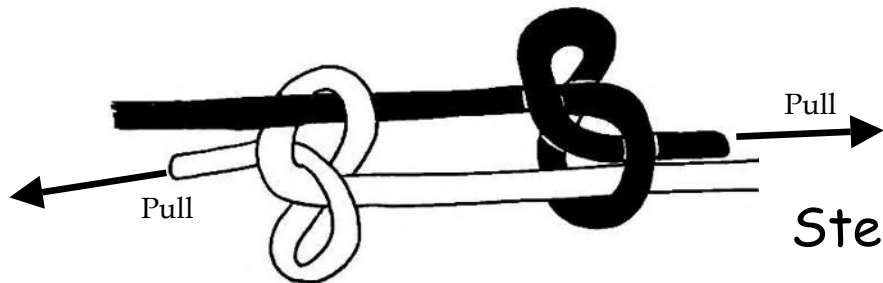
Fisherman's Knot



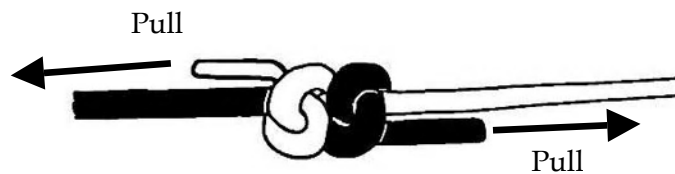
Step 1



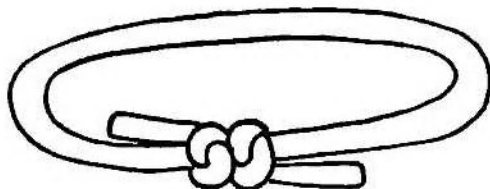
Step 2



Step 3

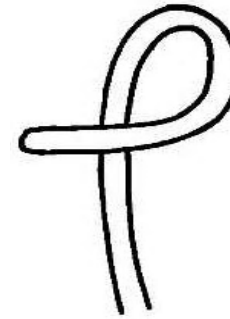


Step 4

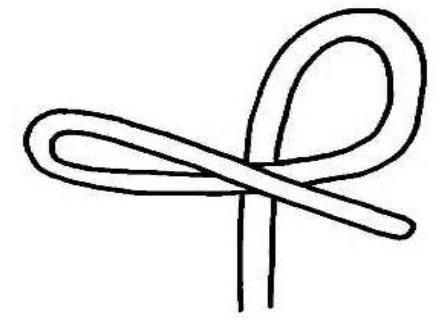


This knot is used to make a continuous loop, or to tie two ropes together.

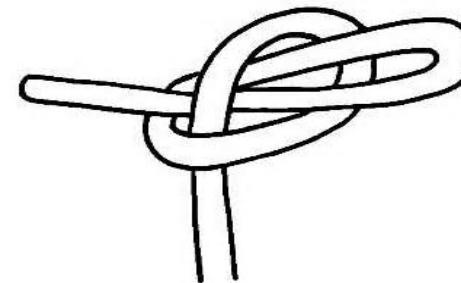
Quick Release Knot



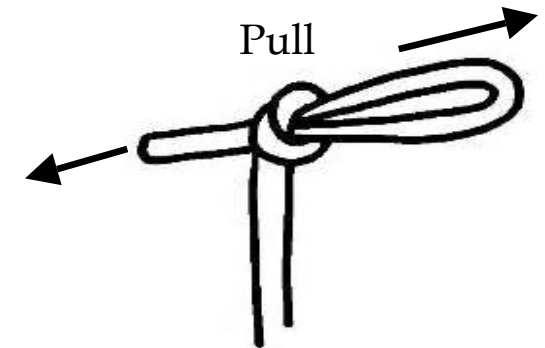
Step 1



Step 2



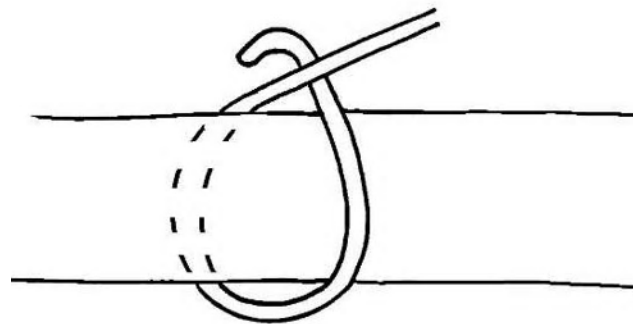
Step 3



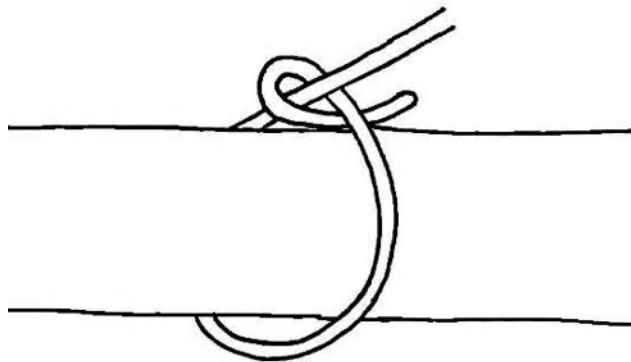
Step 4



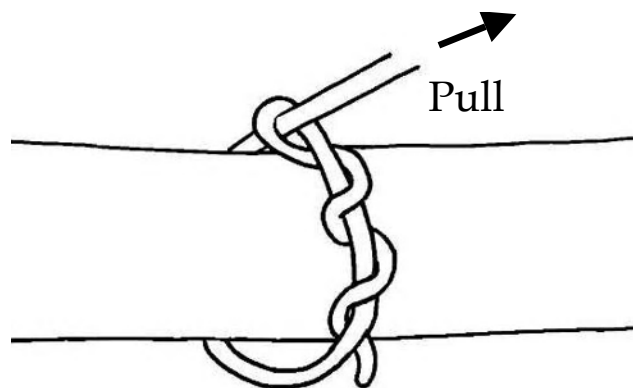
Timber Hitch Knot



Step 1

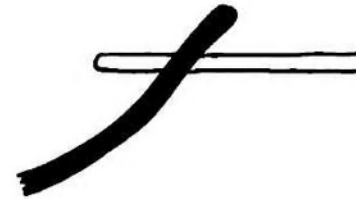


Step 2



Step 3

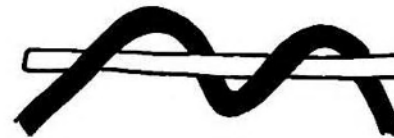
Surgeon's Knot



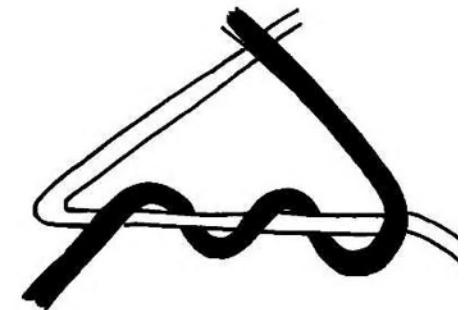
Step 1



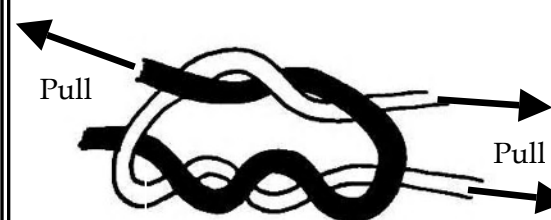
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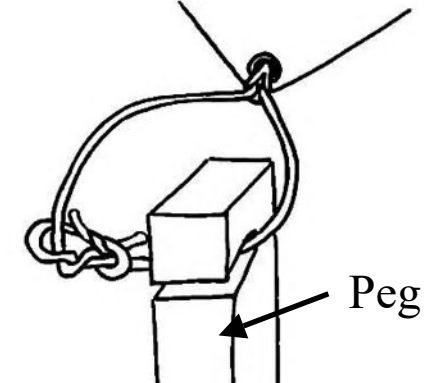
Step 3



Step 4



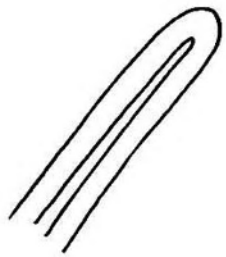
Step 5



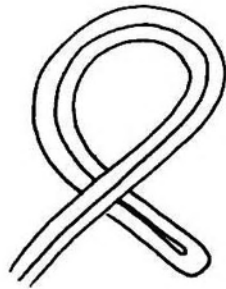
This knot is used with the eyelet loop knot to securely fix material down with pegs.



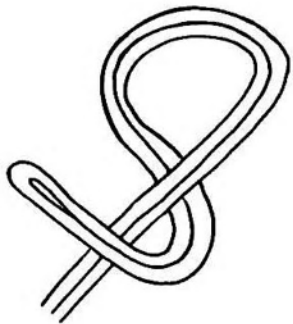
Double Figure of Eight



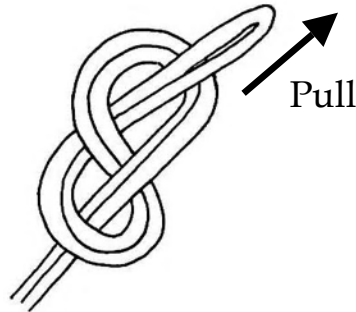
Step 1



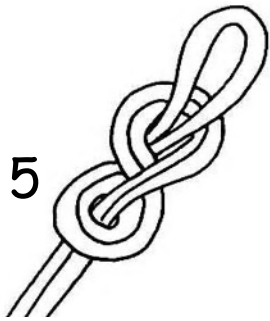
Step 2



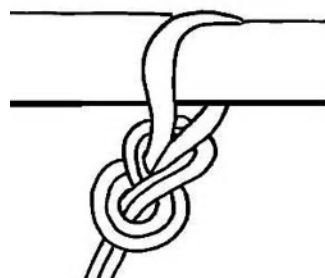
Step 3



Step 4



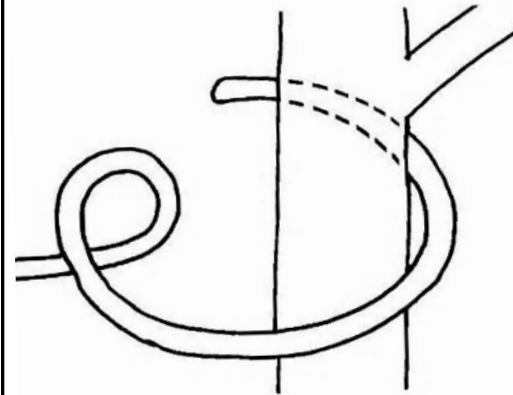
Step 5



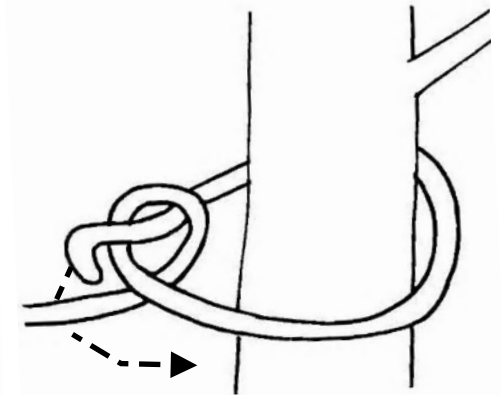
This knot is used to hang rope from a pole, leaving the two rope ends free.



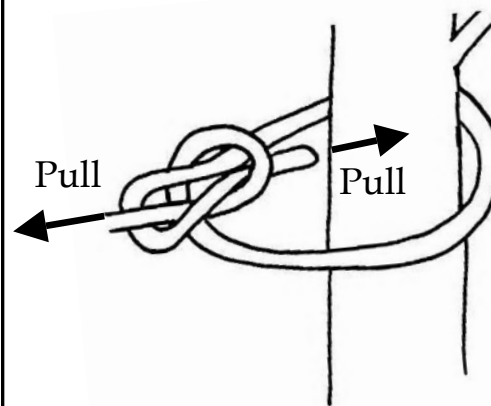
Bowline Knot



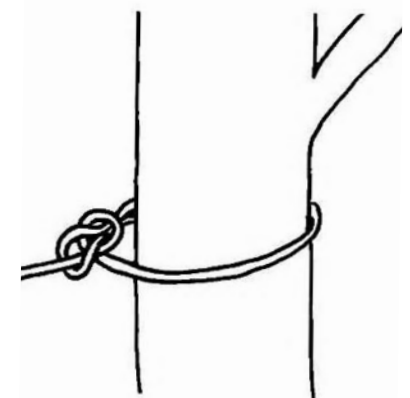
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4

