



Knotty Fun Making Knot Boards or How to Teach Knots!

By

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Are Knots useful today?

Absolutely!

- Repair tents (Tautline Hitch)
- Cooking (Not just the Tripod!)
- Trailer repair (Lashings)
- Flag poles (Camping/Lashings)
- Rescue (Slip Knot & Bowline)
- First Aid (Square, Sheetbend, Overhand)
- Clothesline (2 Half Hitches & a Tautline)





Overhand Knot

aka Pretzel Knot/Half Hitch



Use the Cub Scout “Magic Trick” to teach this knot! Anybody who says they can’t tie a knot can with the “Magic Trick”. Arms crossed, one hand up, one hand down. When they straighten their arms, the Overhand appears.

After they do it, ask them “I thought you said you couldn’t tie a knot?” It breaks the mental barrier.





Slip Knot

The 1st Rescue Knot



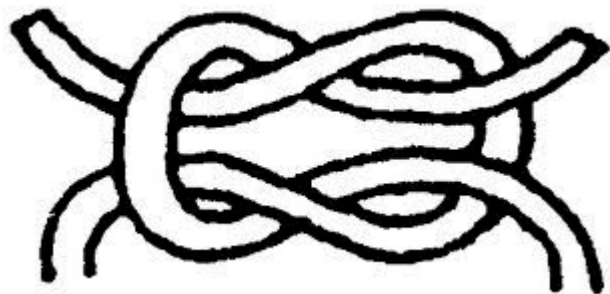
A Slip Knot is an Overhand with a loop. Nothing more. Use it to teach the rope likes to be pulled, not pushed. Paracord, Nalgene water bottle with water and a slip knot. Teaches the “Throw” part of water rescue.

Use this with a rock and a tarp to make a tent!





Square Knot (Reef) vs Thief's Knot



Standard knot for joining ropes of EQUAL DIAMETER!!!

Teach some history with the Thief's Knot aka reinforce paying attention to details. The Thief's Knot has the tails opposite (1 up, 1 down) versus the Square having both tails on the same side.

How do you untie an overly tight Square Knot? Make it a Larks Head!





Sheet Bend Knot

Ropes of unequal Diameter



Use a thick rope and paracord to teach this one. Start with a Square knot and do Tug a War! It slips instantly even when tied correctly. Now tie the Sheet bend. Do Tug a War and let them pull you!

“The Rabbit comes up through the hole, around the back of the tree. Sees the fox, goes under his trail to confuse the fox.”





Bowline Knot

The 2nd Rescue Knot (aka self-rescue)



Use the One Handed Bowline to teach this knot. They will remember it better! This is a no-slip knot. Useful for hauling things vertically, hoisting sails and self-rescue.

Make a number 6 like you do with a pencil. The Rabbit comes up through the hole, around the back of the tree, and back into his hole.





Other resources for Knots and Lashings

The Six Boy Scout Knots

<http://meritbadge.org/wiki/images/5/5d/Six-Boy-Scout-Knots.pdf>

Know Your Knots

<http://www.bsamdsc.org/sites/default/files/Training/LEAD%20Handouts/BOY240%20Know%20Your%20Knots%20LEAD%202012%20Course%20Outline-1.pdf>

Learning, Teaching and Having Fun with Knots

<http://www.cubpack2.org/forms/leaders/TeachingandHavingFunwithKnots.pdf>

Ian's shoelace Site <http://www.fieggen.com/shoelace/index.htm>

Animated Knots by Grog, The Scouting Knots

<http://www.animatedknots.com/indexscouting.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animateknots.com>

Boy's Life- Learn to Tie Knots

<http://boyslife.org/video-audio/644/learn-to-tie-knots/>





Let's Make a Knot Board!

