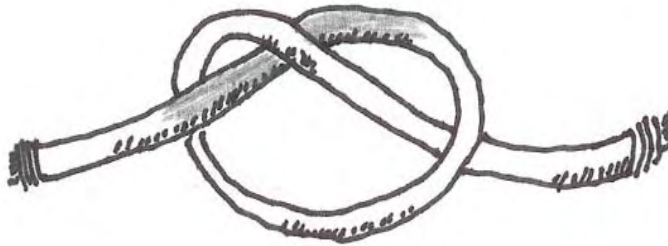


The Rabbit Method for Knot Tying

Ralph Upchurch BSA Troop 93

Overhand Knot



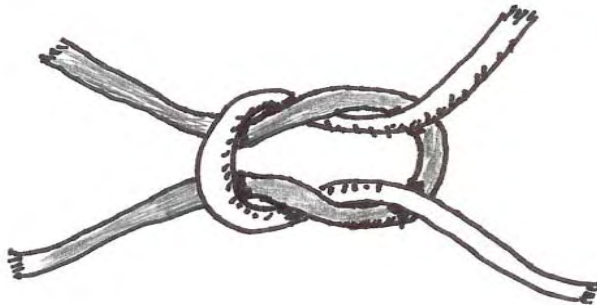
Make a loop near the end of the rope.
Pass the working end through the loop.

Or

The Rabbit goes around the tree and into the hole.
Set.

Use as a stopper knot.

Square Knot



Left over right and around, right over left and around.
The Rabbit comes out of its hole, around two trees, and back into its hole.

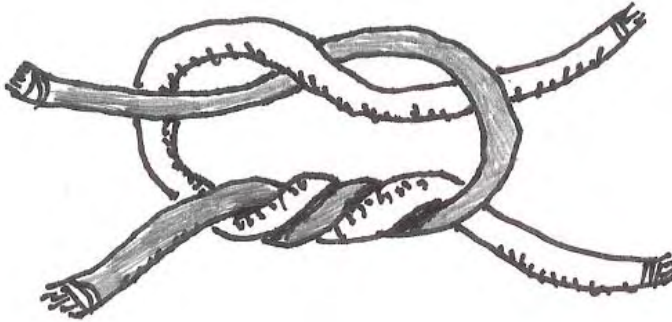
Use to tie two ropes of equal size together.

Good to secure a load.

Never hang a load from a square knot.

Watch out for "Granny" or Thief knots.

Surgeons Knot

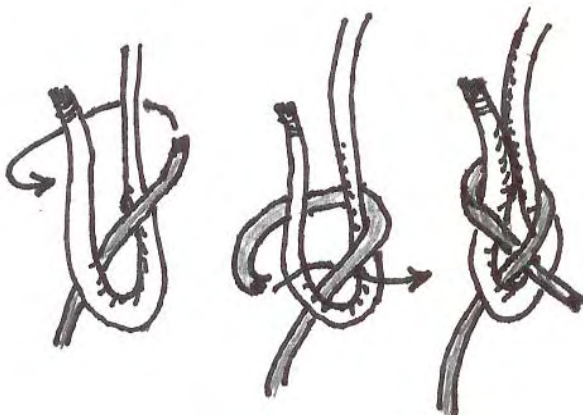


Left over right and around twice, right over left and around.

Actually used by surgeons.
Less likely to loosen than a square knot.

Sheet Bend

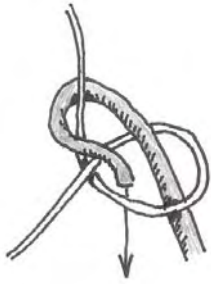
Bight Way



Bight Way

The Rabbit (small rope) comes out of the hole (big rope); around two trees, and goes under its tracks.

Loop Way



Loop Way

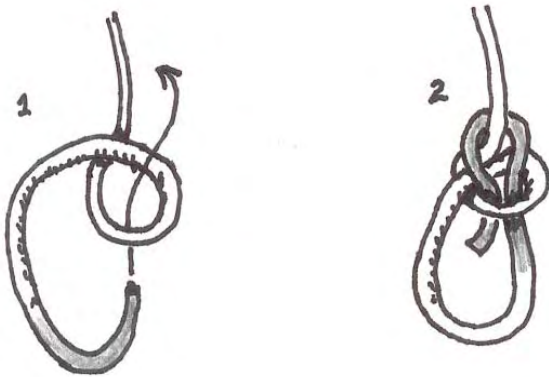
The Rabbit (big rope) comes out of the hole, around one tree (small rope)

Set by pulling the trees and the rabbit track.

Use to tie two ropes of unequal size.

The Sheet Bend and Bowline is essentially the same knot.

Bowline



Start with an underhand loop (the hole).

The Rabbit comes out of its hole, around one tree, and back into its hole.

Set by pulling the tree, rabbit, and tracks.

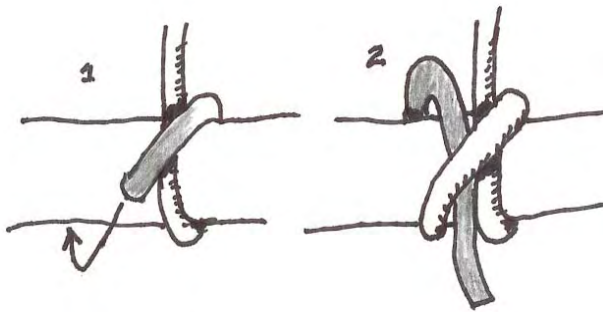
A common knot that will not tighten or slip under load.

Use for lifting men or loads.

For extra safety, leave a long working end (Rabbit) with a stopper knot.

Clove Hitch

The Rabbit Way

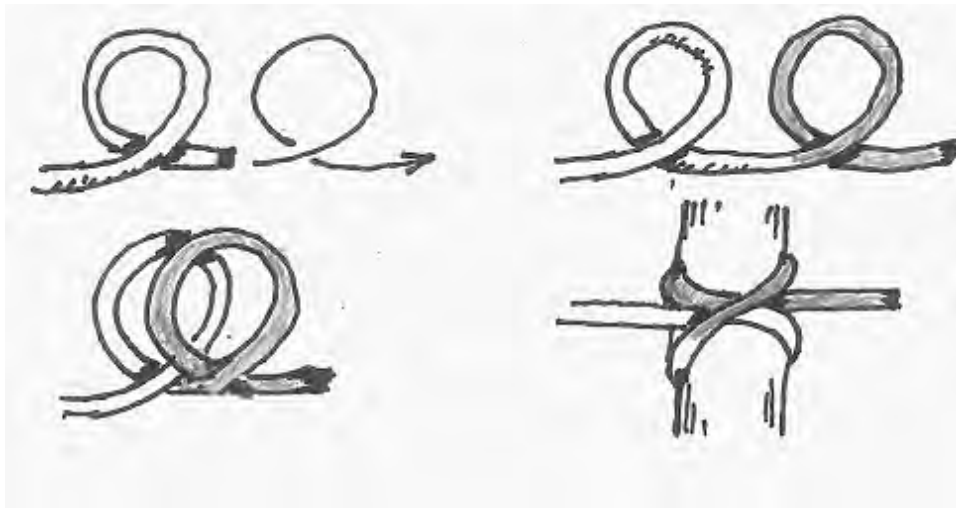


Start with a pole (the tree).

The rabbit goes around the tree, over its tracks, around the tree once more, and under its tracks.

Set by pulling the Rabbit and where he came from.

The Loop Way



Start with two loops.

Overlap, with the working end and standing part to the inside.

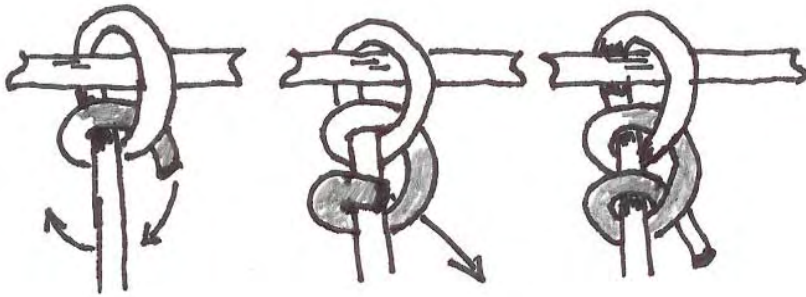
Hitch.

Use to fasten a rope to a pole or timber.

Can be used with the center of a rope (The Loop Way).

Use for lashings.

Two Half Hitches



Start with a turn on a pole or ring.

The Rabbit goes down around the tree and under its tracks.

The Rabbit goes up the tree, around, and under its tracks.

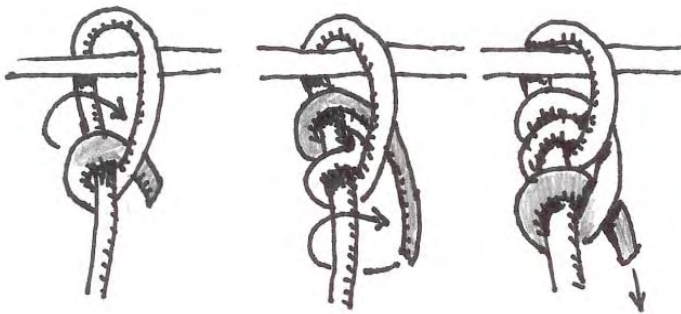
The Rabbit always leaves the tree from the opposite direction it came from.

Set by holding the Rabbit and pulling the tree.

Used to secure a rope to a pole.

An extra turn around the pole can be added to reduce sliding.

Tautline Hitch



Start with a turn on a pole or ring.

The Rabbit goes up the tree then turns down around the tree **twice** and under its tracks.

The Rabbit goes up the tree, the down and around, and under its tracks.

The Rabbit always leaves the tree from the opposite direction it came from.

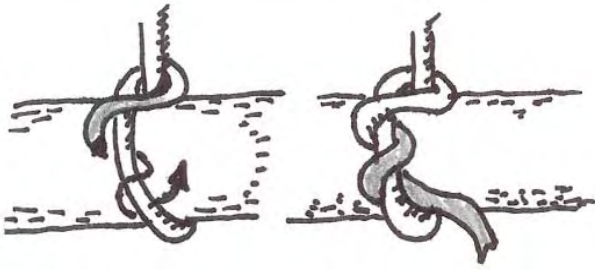
Set by holding the Rabbit and pulling the tree.

Best used for securing tents or tarps.

Slides to take up slack.

When tied tightly, it will hold its position.

Timber Hitch



Start with a turn on a log.

The Rabbit goes around the tree.

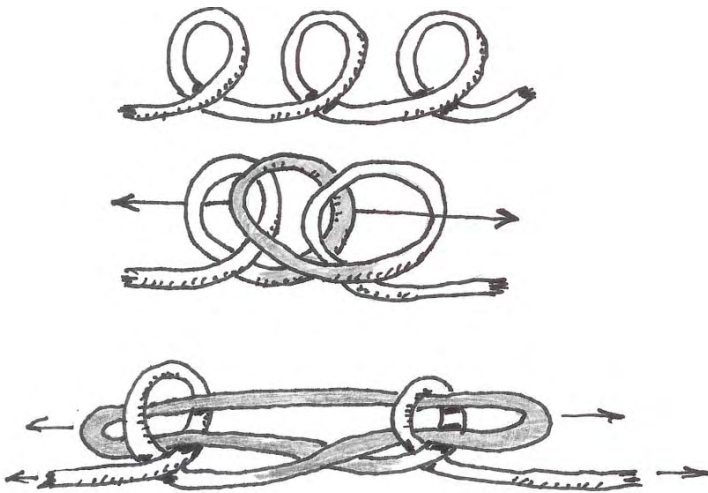
The Rabbit goes around and around and around its tracks until it can't go any more.

Set by pulling the tree.

Used by loggers to pull timber.

Run loops up the log for more control.

Sheepshank



Start with three loops over lapped.

Reverse the overlaps of the middle loop.

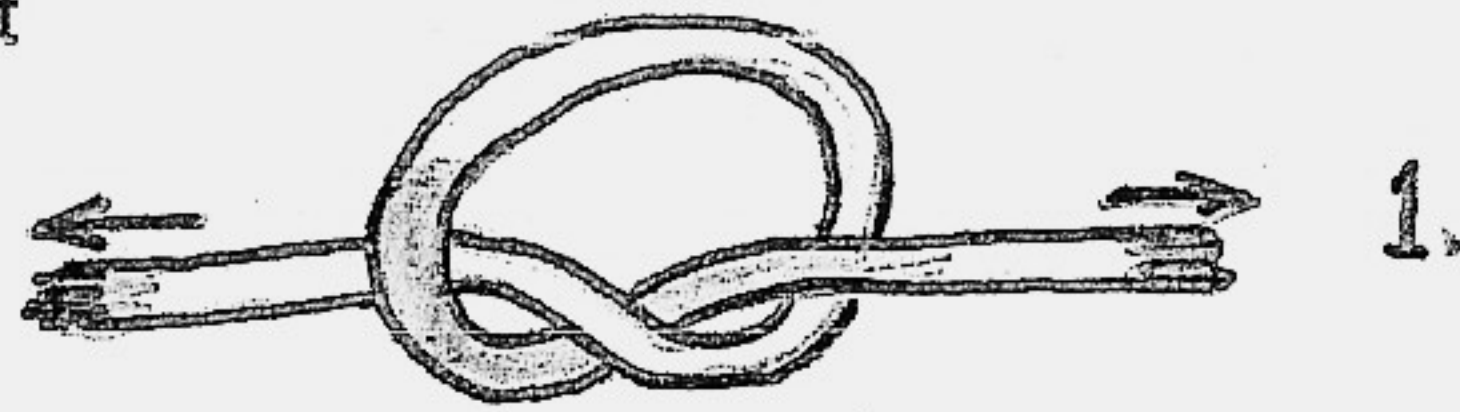
Pass the sides of the middle loop through the end loops.

Set by holding the middle loops sides, and pulling the two rope ends.

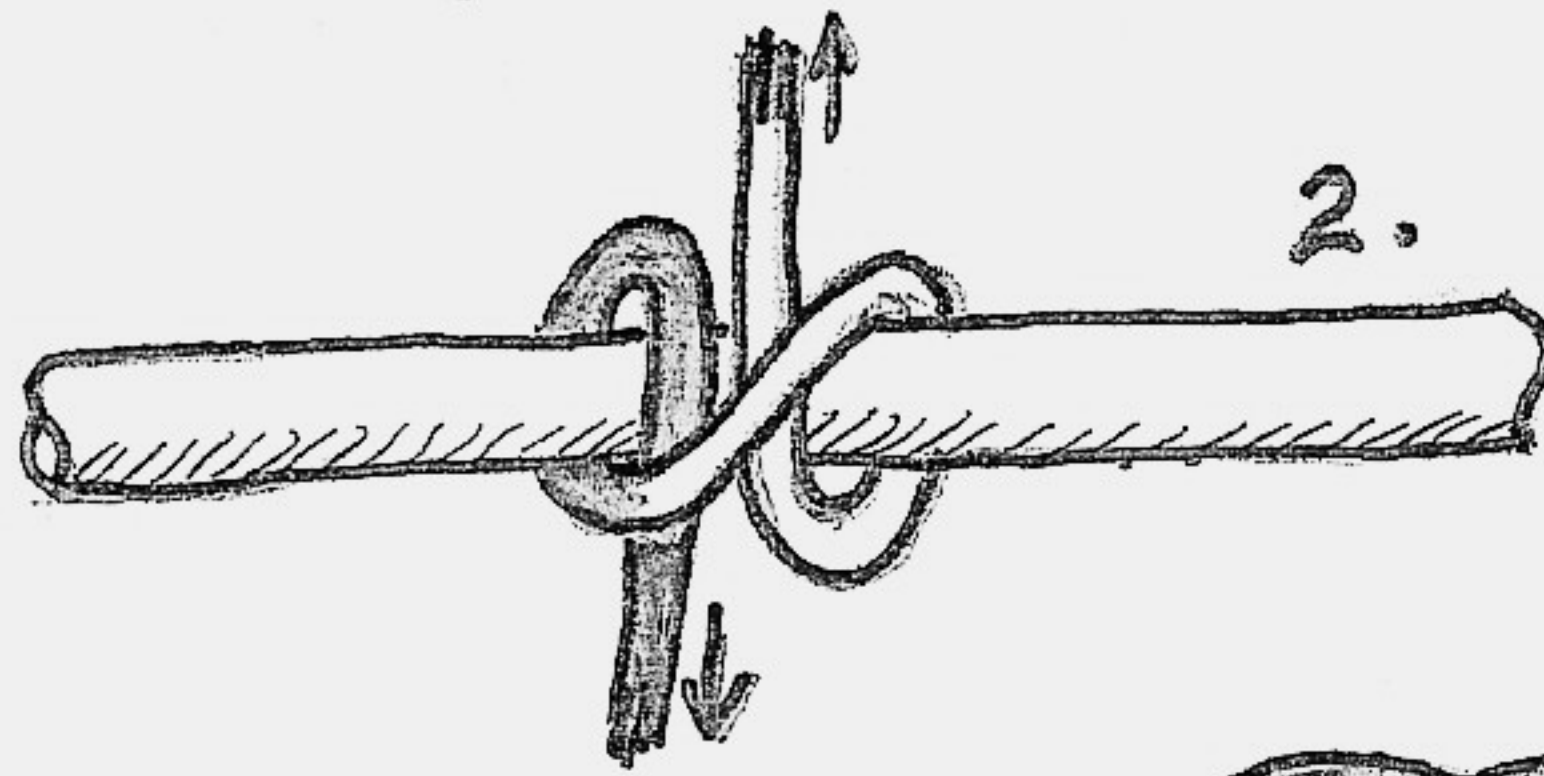
Use to shorten a length of a rope without cutting it.

Use to by pass a weak spot or knot in a rope.

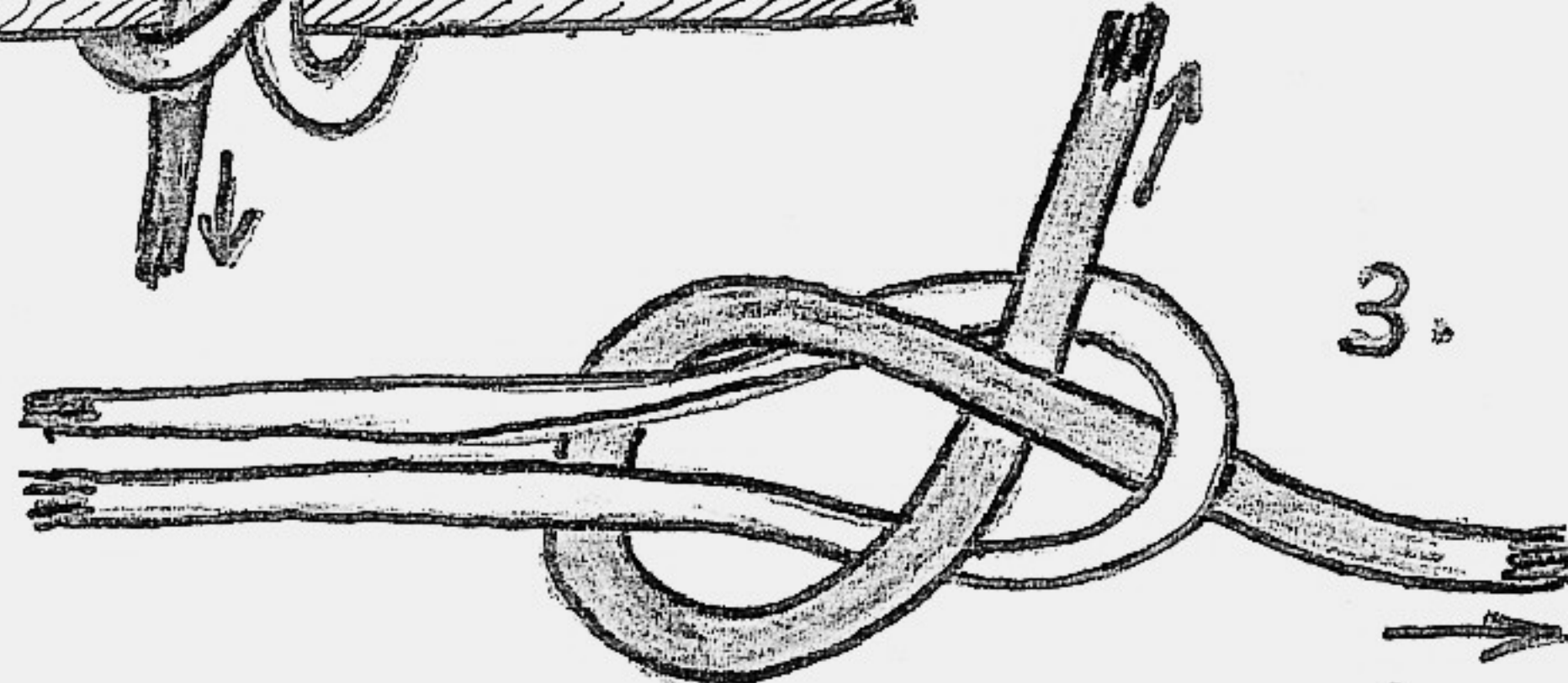
1. Overhand knot



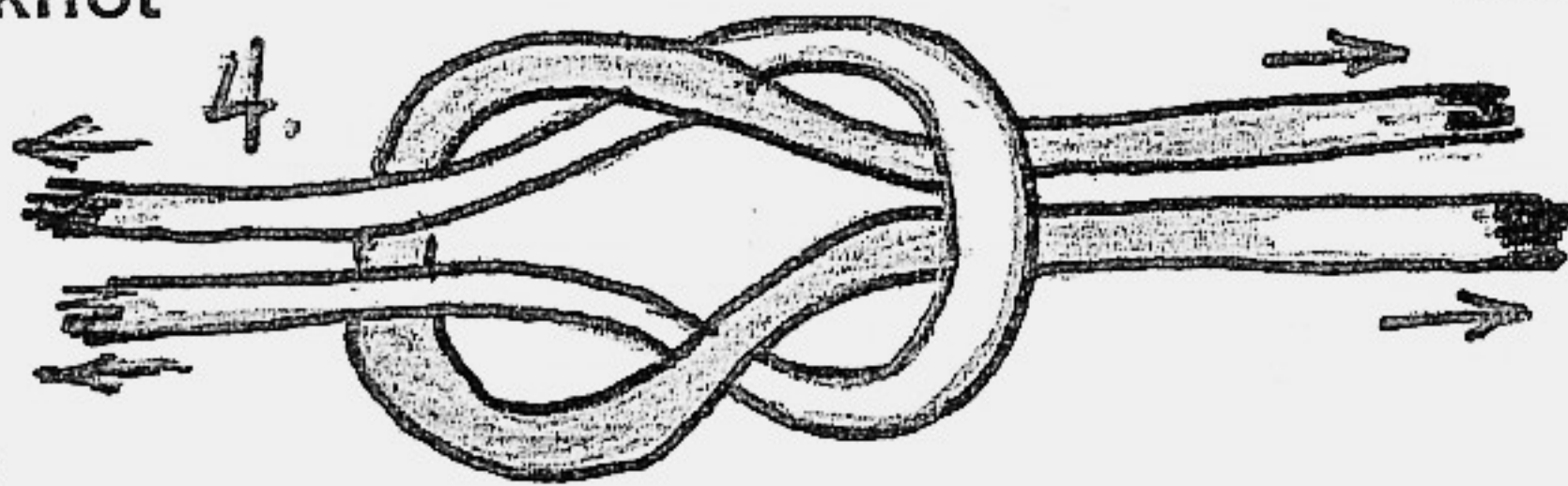
2. Clove hitch



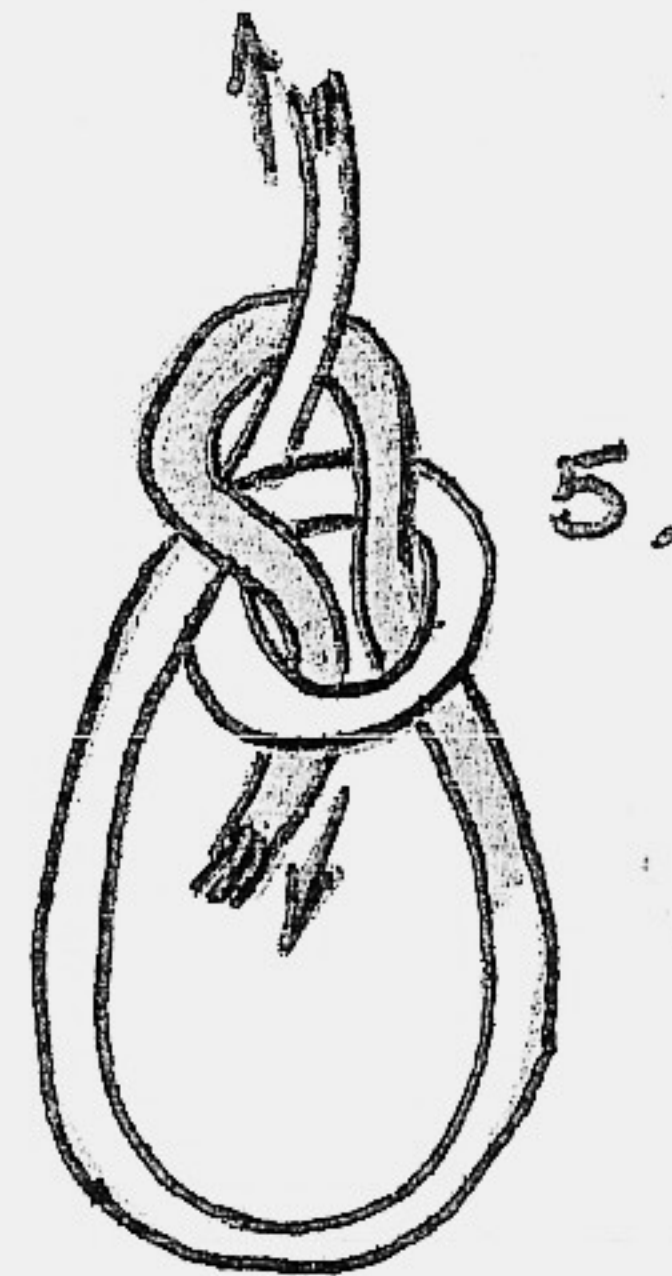
3. Sheet bend



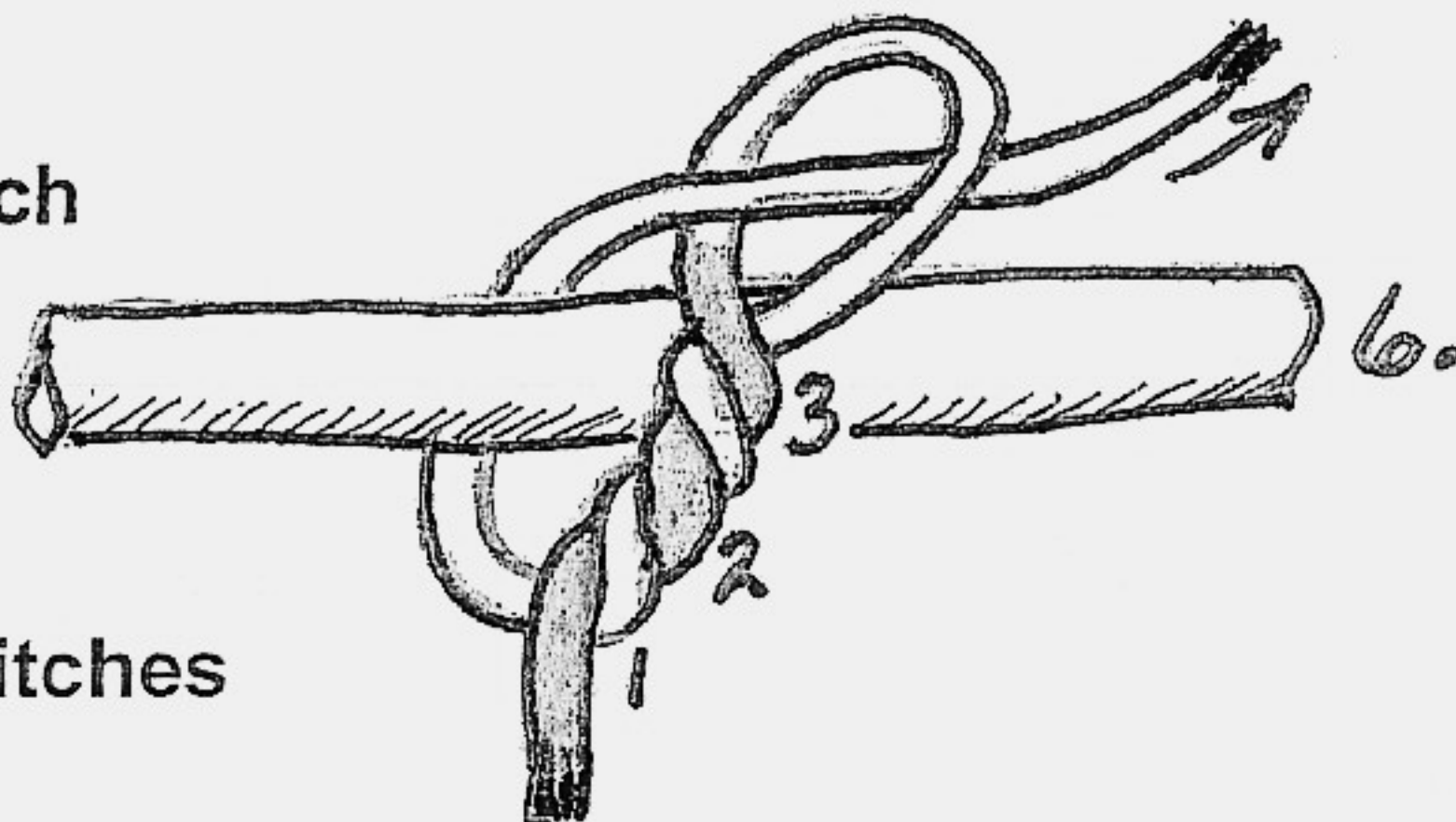
4. Square knot



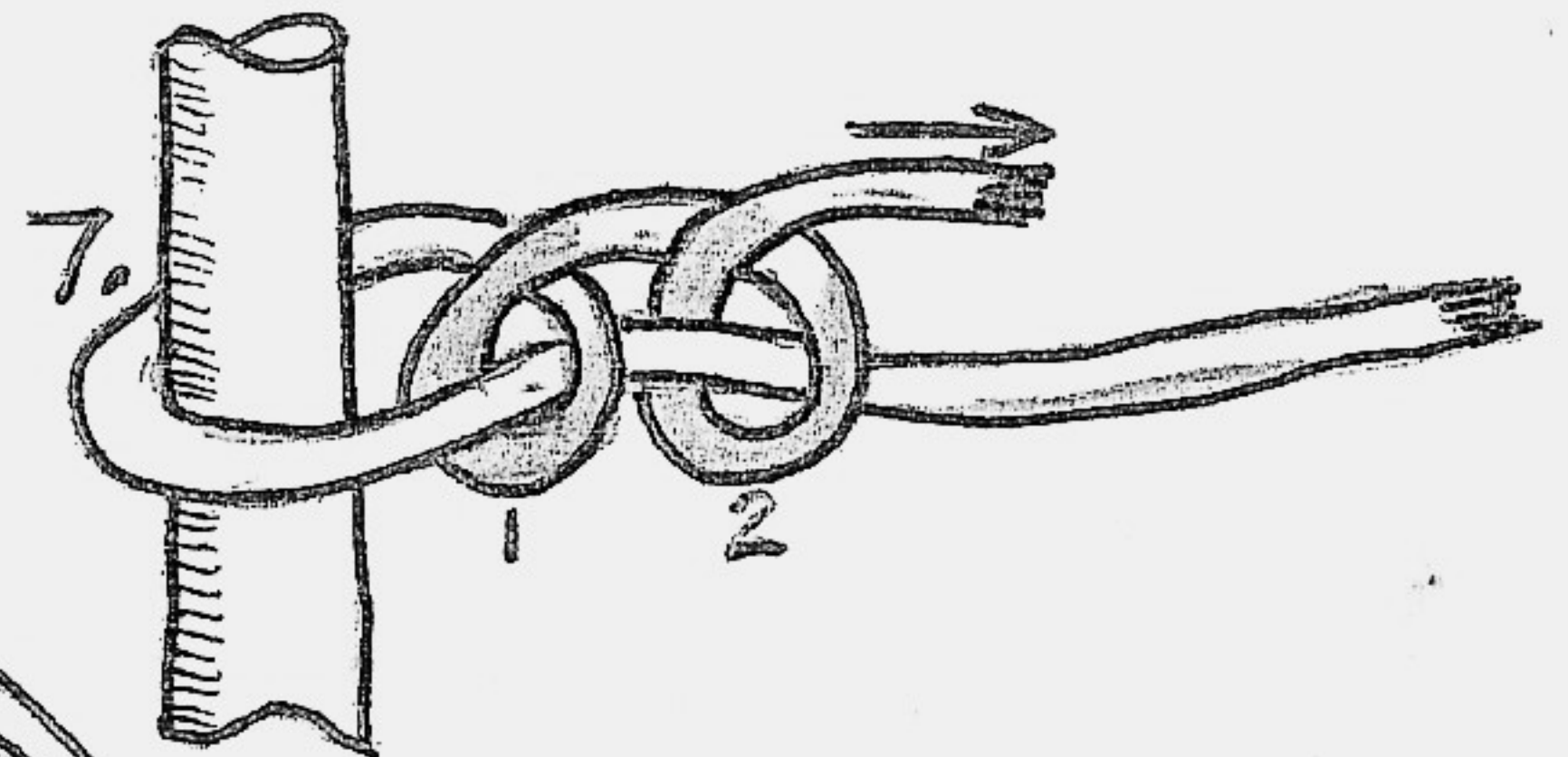
5. Bowline



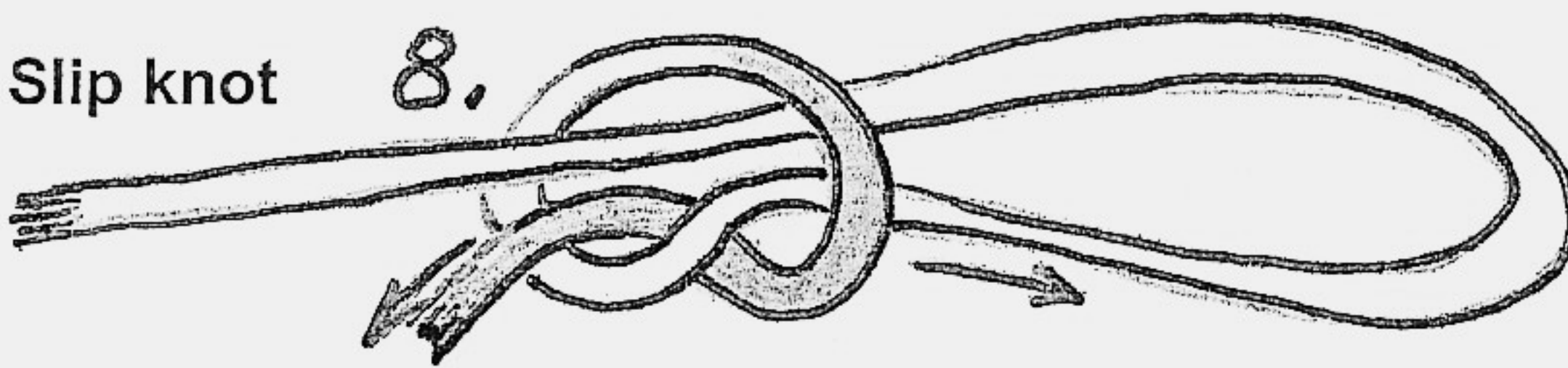
6. Timber hitch



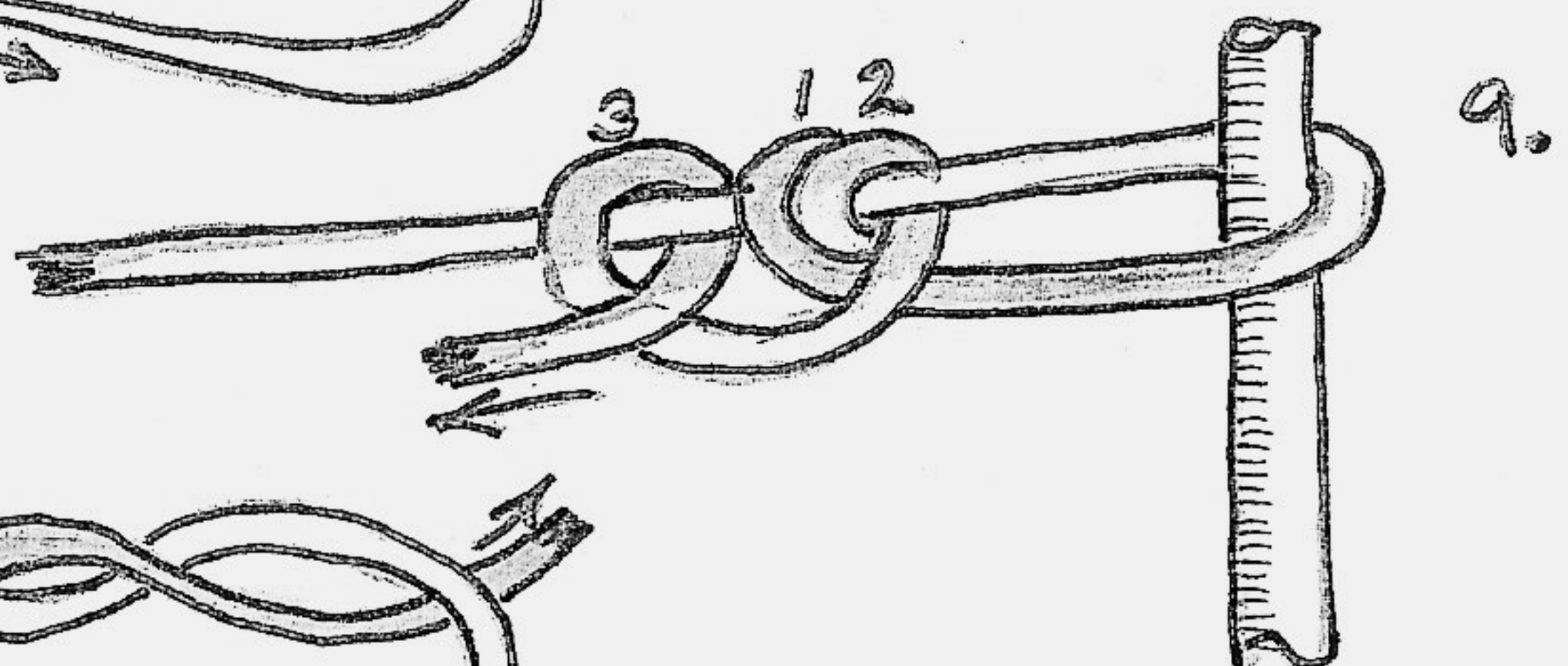
7. Two half hitches



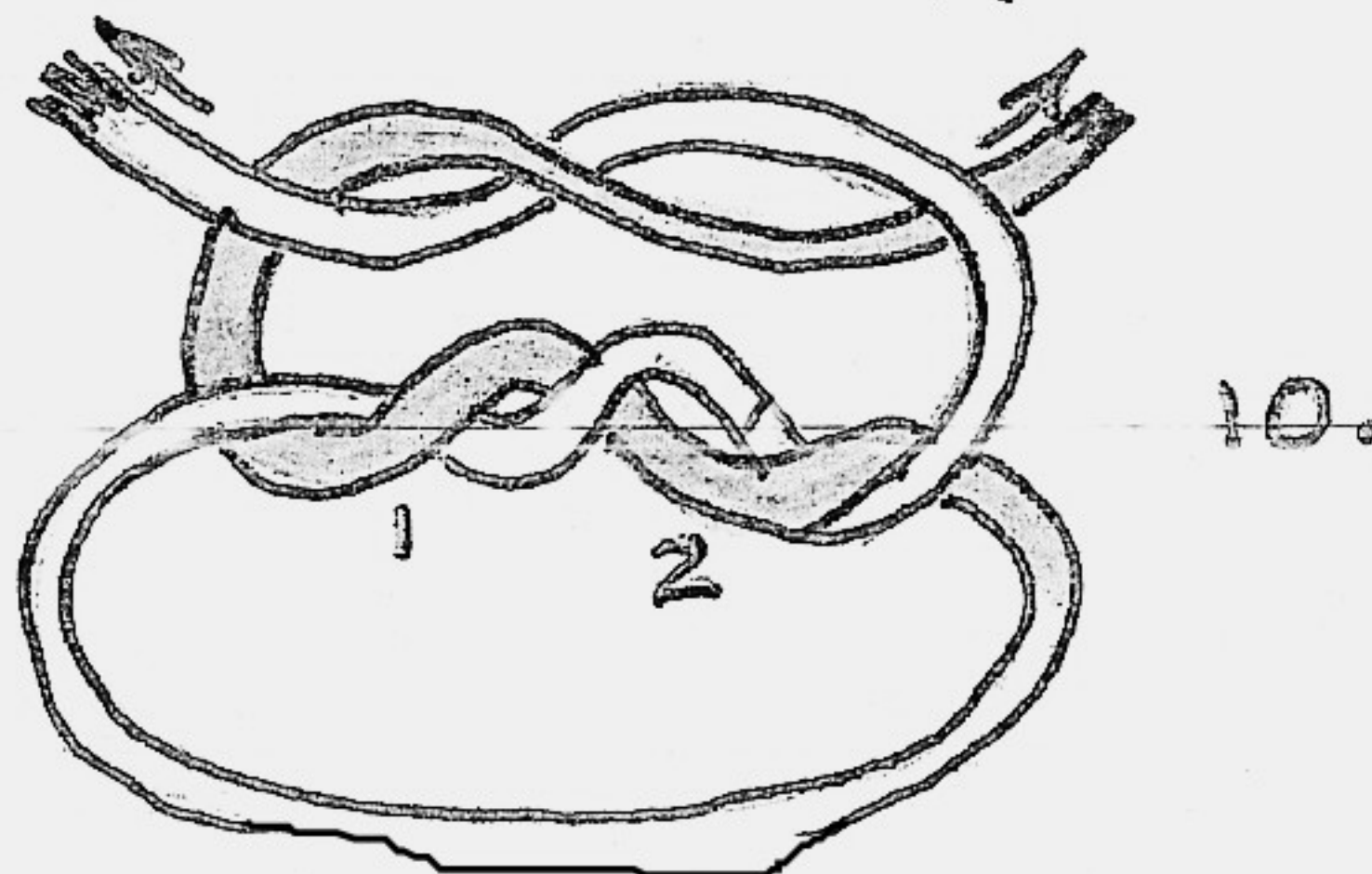
8. Slip knot



9. Taut-line hitch



10. Surgeons knot



Rope Terms

Working End - the free or working end of the rope. “**The Rabbit**”

Standing Part - the balance of the rope, excluding the working end. “**Rabbit Tracks**”

Knot - the intertwining of the end of a rope within a portion of the rope. A good knot must be easy to tie and untie and must hold without slipping.

Bend - the intertwining of the ends of two ropes to make one continuous rope.

Bight - a U-shaped curve in a rope. “**The Hole and Two Trees**”

Dress - to remove slack in the knot by drawing up the knot neatly; to make sure the knot is tied correctly, that all parts are where they should be.

Fusing - Melting the ends of nylon or plastic rope to stop fraying.

Hitch - the attachment of a rope to a post, pole, ring, hook or other object.

Line - another term for rope.

Loop - a fold or doubling of the rope through which another rope can be passed to form a knot or hitch.

Overhand Loop - made when the working end is passed over the standing part of the rope. “**The Hole and One Tree**”

Underhand Loop - made when the working end is passed under the standing part of the rope. “**The Hole and One Tree**”

Round Turn - the same as a turn, with the running end returning in the same direction as the standing part. “**Goes Around Twice**”

Set - to fully tighten a knot by pulling on all parts.

Slip - to use a bight of rope instead of the end when finishing tying a knot; used to make untying a knot easier.

Splice - the joining of the ends of two ropes, or, the end of the rope with the body of the rope by weaving the strands over and under the strands of the other part.

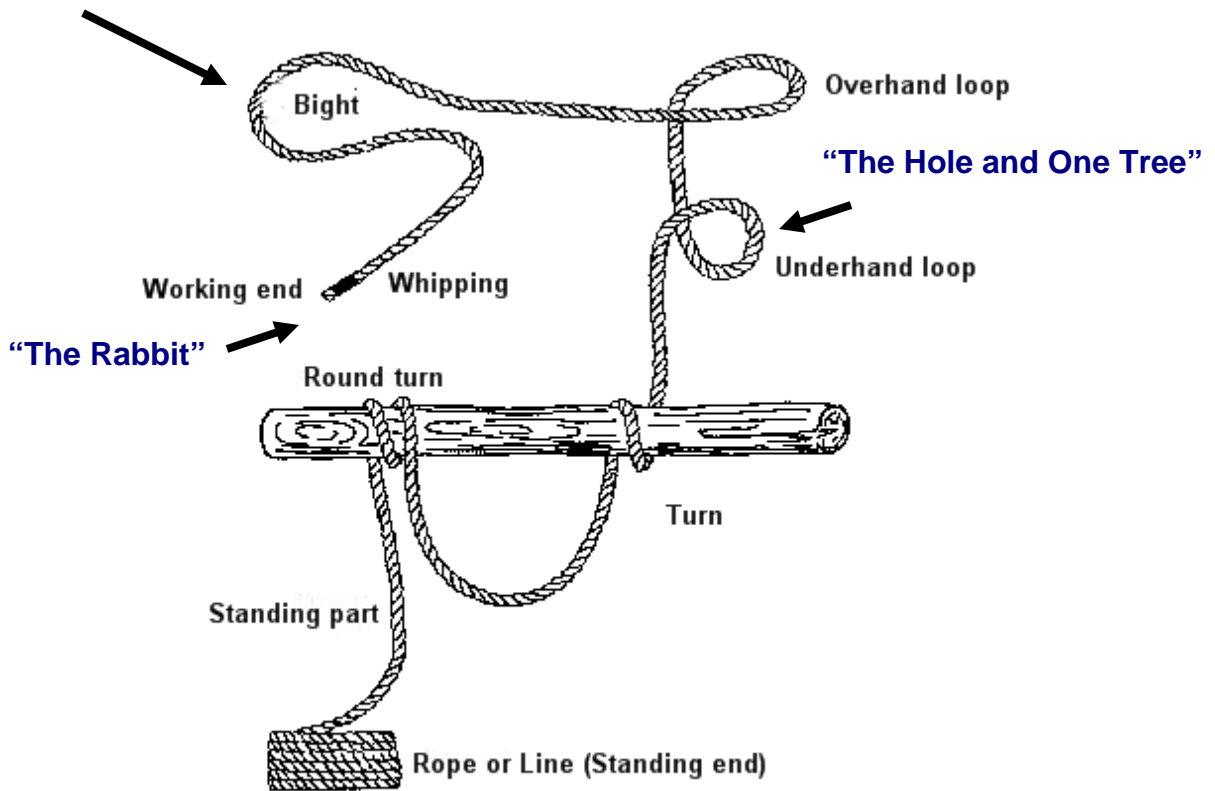
Stopper knot - a bulky knot that is used to prevent the rope from pulling through a hole or pulley.

Turn - the same as a loop, but usually used to describe the placing of a rope around a specific object such as a post, rail or ring, with the running end continuing in the opposite direction from the standing part. **“Goes Around”**

Whipping or Seizing - a means of fixing the end of a rope so that the strands will not unravel.

Rope Diagram

“The Hole and Two Trees”



Whipping and Fusing

Whipping is the common way of preventing a rope from unraveling.

To make a whipping, use a fine yarn or string. Make a loop in the end of the yarn and place the loop at the end of the rope.

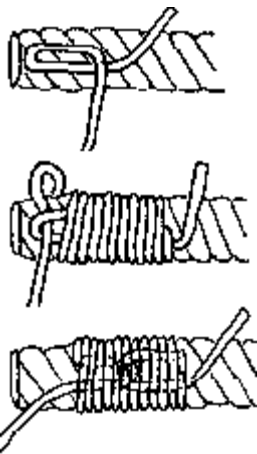


Wind the standing part around the rope approximately 15 - 20 times, covering the loop of the whipping, but leaving a small loop uncovered.



Pass the remainder of the standing end up through the small loop, and pull the dead end of the yarn - thus pulling the standing end and the small loop through which it is threaded back toward the end of the rope underneath the whipping.

Continue pulling the dead end of the yarn until the small loop with the standing end through it reaches a point midway underneath the whipping. Trim both ends of the yarn close up against the loops of the whipping.



Fuse nylon and plastic ropes by melting over a flame or by cutting with a hot knife.