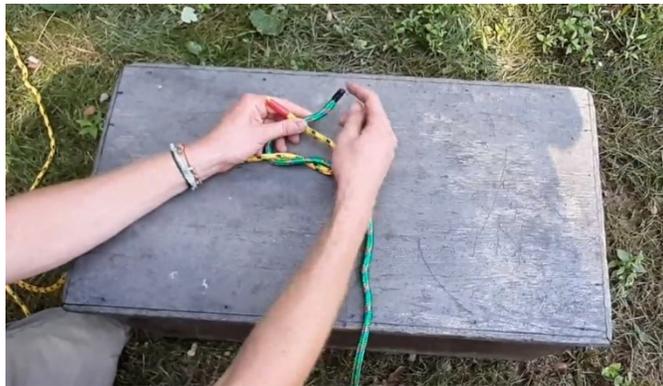


KNOT TYING

Knowing how to tie a few simple knots is an important skill that you will use in your everyday life, even if you are not a mountain climber, sailor, or hammock-maker.

Whether you are setting up a tire swing in your backyard, moving bulky supplies that need to be tied down, or crafting a beaded bracelet or necklace, knot-tying comes in handy. In fact, knowing



which knot to tie in a certain situation and how to tie it properly can even save lives.

Let's learn how to tie three basic knots: **square knot**, **bowline**, and **clove hitch**. If you purchased a camp kit, go ahead and take out the ropes that were included. If not, any kind of rope or twine 3mm or larger will work. You can even use a dog leash!



Square Knot

A square knot is used to tie two lines together. It can also be used to tie two ends of the same rope together to make a loop.

If possible, use two different ropes, (preferably of different colors) to practice. This allows you to see more easily how the ropes should fit together.

**Tip for tying: Right over left, left over right



Bowline

A bowline is also called a rescue knot. It is used to create a loop in a rope that is secure. You can use a bowline to secure cargo, to fasten a safety line around your chest, or to pull someone out of the water.

****Tips for tying:** The loop is the “hole,” the end of the rope is the “rabbit.” The rabbit goes up the hole,

around the tree, and back down through the hole



Clove hitch

A clove hitch is used to secure a rope to a fixed object.

Pass the rope around the object you want to attach it to. Pass it around itself again, but the opposite way. The rope should create an “x” around the fixed object. Then, take the loose end and pass it

under the “x” so it is pointing straight up underneath both ropes. Finish by pulling tight.

Can you make your own sculpture, fort, or tripod using sticks and branches? Try incorporating ribbons or fabric as well as makeshift musical instruments.

Learn how to tie other knots and see step-by-step videos [here](#).