

The Magnus Hitch

A shipboard cousin of the rolling hitch, trusted by sailors for holding spars steady.

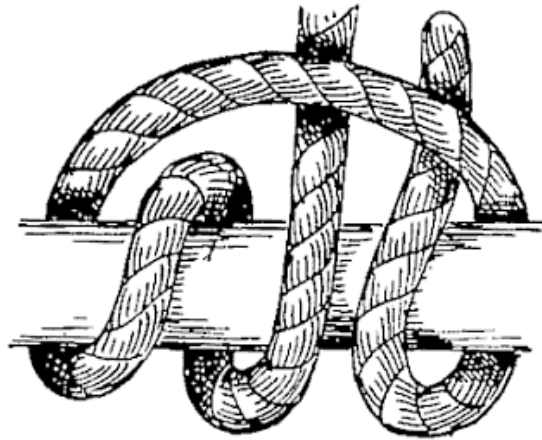


FIG. 49.—Magnus hitch.

From Knots, Splices and Rope Work (Verrill, 1917) · public domain

"Like a rolling hitch with its turns the other way — grip a spar and it stays put."

1

Take two turns around the spar

Pass the end around the spar twice, the turns riding against the direction of strain.

2

Cross over to the standing part

Carry the end up across both turns and over the standing part.

3

Tuck under itself

Bring the end around and tuck it under the last turn, jamming it like a clove hitch so the spar is held without sliding.