

The Overhand Knot

The simplest knot there is — the humble seed every other knot grows from.

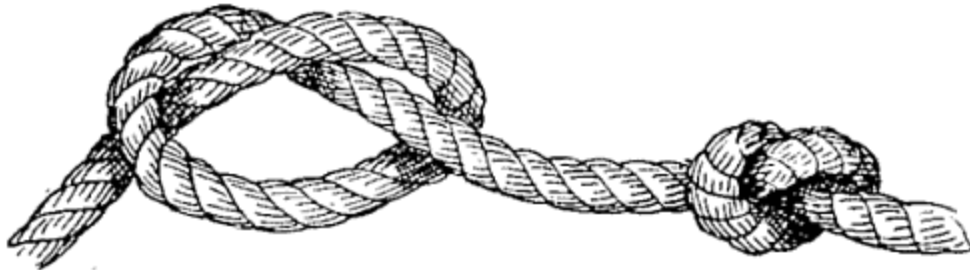


FIG. 7

FIG. 8

FIGS. 7 and 8.—Overhand knots.

From A. Hyatt Verrill's Knots, Splices and Rope Work (1917) · public domain

"Over the standing part and through the loop — the first knot anyone learns."

1

Form a loop

Pass the loose end of the rope over the standing part to form a simple loop (Verrill's 'cuckold's neck').

2

Through the loop

Bring the end through that loop.

3

Draw tight

Pull both parts to snug it down. Simple as it is, it's used everywhere to keep the ends of yarns and strands from slipping while splicing, whipping, and seizing.

Practise until your fingers remember it. — Widow Maker · wmc.penguinboissoftware.com · a Penguinboi News Network show