

FIVE USEFUL KNOTS

Five knots cover almost everything: loops, tie-offs, tarps, joining ropes and heavy loads.



SEE IT TIED

Scan for a step-by-step guide

1 Bowline

A loop that won't slip or jam. Loop round a post or tree, or a handle on a bag.

1. Make a small loop in the rope, with a long tail.
2. Push the tail up through the small loop from underneath.
3. Take it round behind the main rope.
4. Bring it back down through the small loop.
5. Hold the tail and pull the main rope tight.



SEE IT TIED

Scan for a step-by-step guide

2 Clove hitch

Quick tie to a post or rail. Tying off a line fast. Can slip if the pull keeps changing.

1. Wrap the rope round the post.
2. Cross over the first turn and wrap round again.
3. Tuck the end under the second wrap.
4. Pull both ends tight.



SEE IT TIED

Scan for a step-by-step guide

3 Taut-line hitch

A loop you can slide to tighten. Tarp and tent guy lines.

1. Pass the end round the peg.
2. Wrap it twice round the main line, working towards the peg.
3. Take it once more round the main line, outside those wraps.
4. Tuck it through and pull tight.
5. Slide the knot to tighten or loosen the line.



SEE IT TIED

Scan for a step-by-step guide

4 Sheet bend

Joins two ropes, even different thicknesses. Making a line longer.

1. Make a U-shape in the thicker rope.
2. Pass the thinner rope up through the U.
3. Wrap it round behind both sides of the U.
4. Tuck it under itself – not through the U.
5. Pull tight. Both tails should end up on the same side.



SEE IT TIED

Scan for a step-by-step guide

5 Round turn & two half hitches

Holds a heavy, steady pull. Tying to a tree, post or ring.

1. Wrap the end round the post twice.
2. Take it round the main rope and through – one half hitch.
3. Do it again the same way – two half hitches.
4. Pull tight.



Not for climbing or lifting people. Use these knots for tarps, lines and bags only. Practise until you can tie each one without looking.

