

Knot Sense

by Steve Whinham

Knots are often the weakest link in our fishing tackle. Many fish have been lost because of a poorly tied knot. Use the off-season, or time between fishing trips, to practice tying knots.

Materials

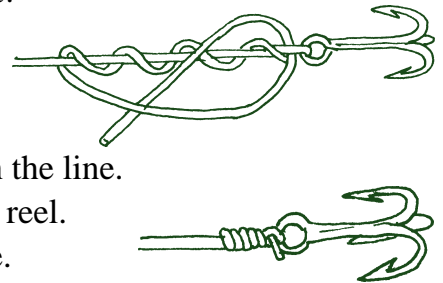
- * Pieces of old fly line or nylon parachute cord 6 inches to 12 inches long.
- * Practice-casting plug, or clothespin with screw eye attached.

With these materials, practice these important knots. Practice while watching TV! Make sure you don't lose a big one next time because of a poorly tied knot!

Clinch Knot

Used for attaching hooks, lures and sinkers.

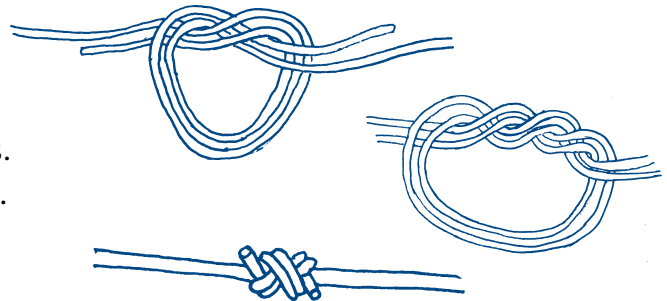
1. Thread the line through the hook eye and double back on the line.
2. Wrap the loose end around the line five times toward the reel.
3. Thread the loose end through the first loop above the eye.
4. Pull the knot tightly.



Surgeon's Knot

Used to attach line to line, or line to leader.

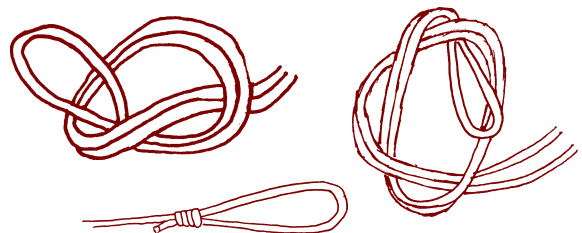
1. Place six inches of each line side by side.
2. Tie a loose overhand knot using both lines.
3. Pull the loose ends through the knot again.
4. Pull the knot tightly.



Surgeon's End Loop

Used to attach snelled hooks, swivels and lures.

1. Make a loop about two inches long.
2. Using the loop, tie a loose overhand knot.
3. Pull the loose ends through the knot.
4. Attach hook by threading loop through the eye and passing the loop over the hook.



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