

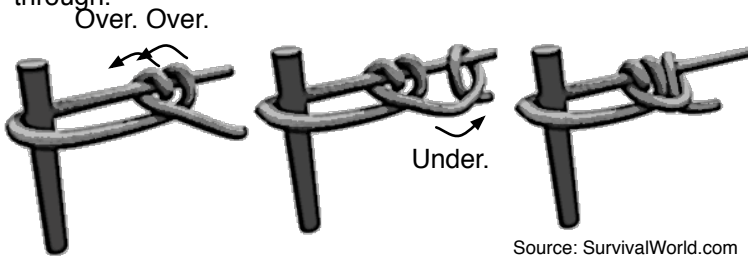


# Hitches

## Tautline Hitch

**About:** This forms an adjustable loop that secures nicely. It is often used to tie down tents since it can be tightened against a stake in the ground. Yes, this is the knot you are looking for! There are acceptable variations to this hitch, but be careful: there are also very insecure variations.

**How to:** Loop around the anchor object. Wrap the free end "over the top" around the standing end twice, both times inside the loop. Now on the outside of the loop ("further up" the loop) wrap the free end under the standing end and back through.

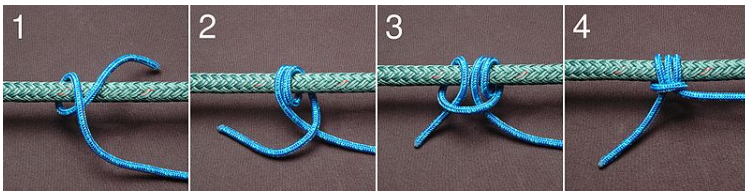


Source: SurvivalWorld.com

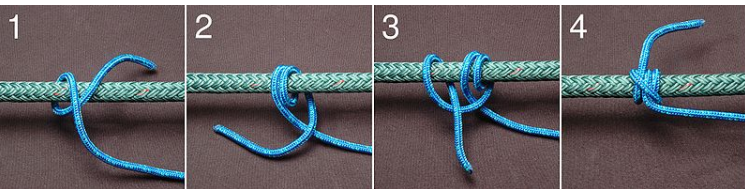
## Variations to Tautline Hitch

**About:** There are several variations to the tautline shown above, and there is not a consensus for the naming of all of these. You will see the names rolling hitch and magnus hitch. The tautline shown above is probably the best for the "tent stake" application. These variations are good for an improved clove hitch (basically they are a clove hitch with a double initial wrap) or when you need to pull along the length of the post you are attaching to.

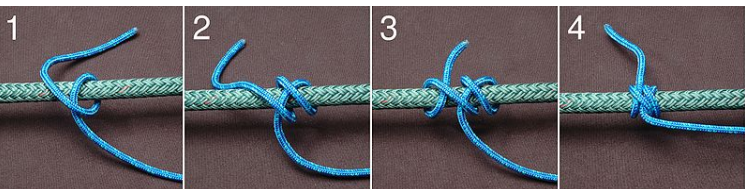
The tautline above for "tent stake" work:



Preferred for tying to a pole (clove hitch with extra initial wrap):



Preferred for tying to another rope:

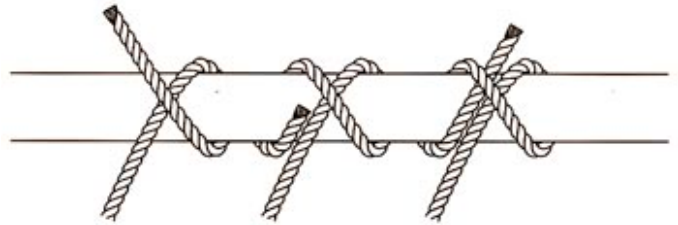


Source: Wikipedia.org

## Clove Hitch

**About:** Used to hold groups of things together (a "binding knot") but is often used to attach a rope to another object ("hitch"). Always inspect and give the knot a tug in the direction of pull as it can come loose when pulled wrong. On the other hand, if you secure the hitch with extra half hitches and apply a significant load, you may find that the knot is impossible to untie!

**How #1:** To tie around another object as a hitch, pass the rope over and around the object. Cross the loose end over the rope lying on the object, and go over and around the object a second time. Thread the loose end under the cross-over piece so that the two ends of the rope approaching and leaving the object are side by side, and the cross-over piece is over the top.



Source: ShorelineInsuranceAgency.com

**How #2:** To tie as a "bight" in the middle of a rope, form a loop in the rope. Then form a second loop the "same way up." Both loops should be identical. Then cross the loops one above the other so they form a knot instead of just two loops stacked on each other. Place an object in the knot.



Source: AnimatedKnots.com

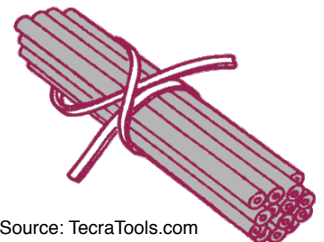
**How #3:** To tie as a "bight" in the middle of a rope, make a double loop in the rope by winding it round your fingers twice. Flip the two loops open so that they resemble a butterfly. Continue turning the loops until they meet again.



Source: NeedleSports.com



Source: Wikipedia.org

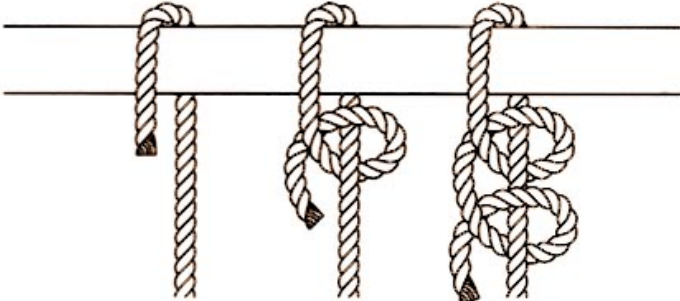


Source: TecraTools.com

## Two Half Hitches

**About:** Two half hitches together can be used almost anywhere you need to make a ropes snug around an object. It is not secure under heavy loads but is nonetheless used often and in many other knots.

**How to:** Pass the rope around the anchor object. Wrap the free end around the standing end, "inside" the loop just formed. Repeat.



Source: [blog.outdoorzy.com](http://blog.outdoorzy.com)

## Timber Hitch

**About:** The timber hitch is handy for quick attachments to equipment that must then be released, as it will practically untie itself when pull ceases. An extra half hitch away from the knot helps keep the direction of pull going the right way.

**How to:** The end of the line is passed once around the spar and then round the standing end before being wrapped three times round itself. When correctly done, these three turns should all be tightly pinched against the spar or log.



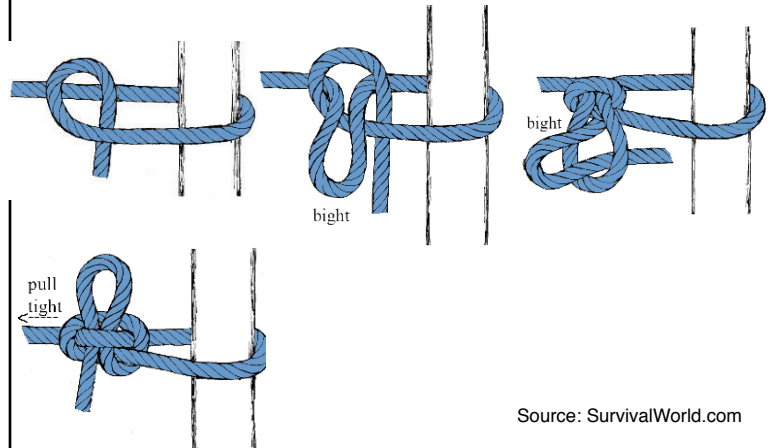
Source: [Knot Guide iOS App](#)

Source: [doit101.com](http://doit101.com)

## Mooring Hitch

**About:** For attaching a rope to an object, this is fast and easy to tie and untie. A great hitch in many applications, but don't rely on it to save your yacht from floating away.

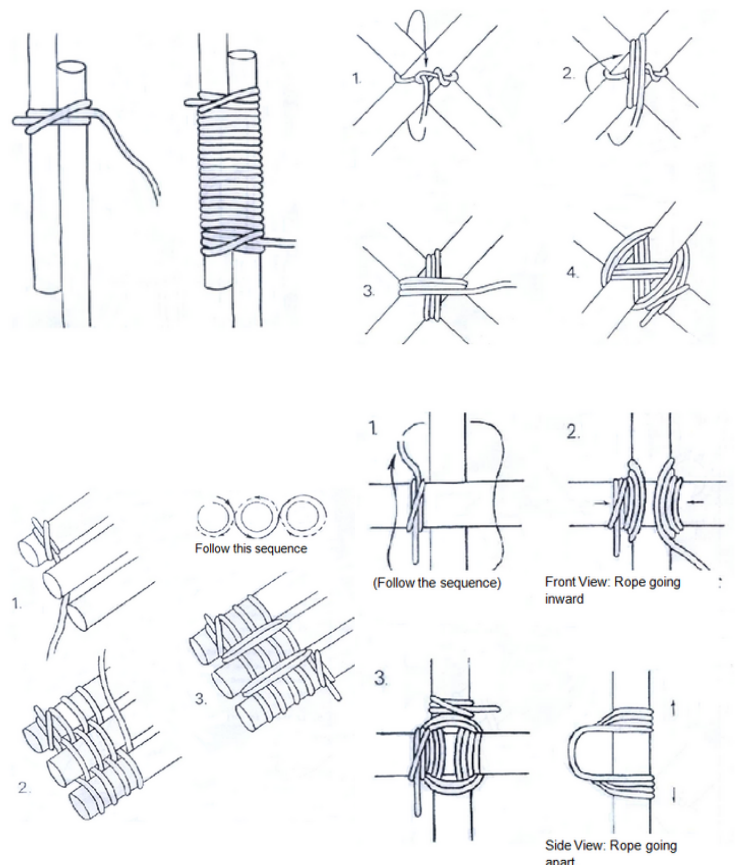
**How to:** Pass the free end around the anchor object. Form a loop with the free end on the "inside." Form a bight with the standing end and pass it through the loop forming a second loop. Form a bight with the free end and pass it through the second loop. Pull tight. To release, pull on the free end.



Source: [SurvivalWorld.com](http://SurvivalWorld.com)

## Hitches Used in Lashings

**About:** Hitches are used in many kinds of lashings such as the excerpts shown below.



Source: [rgsnpc.weebly.com](http://rgsnpc.weebly.com)