

# Hunter's Bend

Also known as: Rigger's Knot

The *hunter's bend* is an excellent way to join the ends of two ropes of equal diameter. It is a bit more complex than the simple *sheet bend*, but much more secure, especially when used for slippery synthetic rope.

**Uses:** joining two ropes of equal diameter end-to-end for towing, dragging or lifting

**Pros:** secure, an especially good choice for use with slippery synthetic rope

**Cons:** a bit tricky to tie

## Instructions



1. Place the *working ends* of the two ropes side by side facing opposite directions, so that the rope whose *standing part* is to the left is on the bottom.



2. Make a *crossing turn* with the left side above the right side. Keep both ropes parallel throughout the turn.



3. Pass the left *working end* through the *crossing turn* from back to front. Pass the right *working end* through the crossing turn from front to back.



4. Pull on both *standing parts* to tighten. Work the knot into shape by holding onto the standing parts and using your thumbs to press the outermost turns of the same lines (the "ears") against the body of the knot.

### Untying

With both hands held loosely over the *standing parts*, use your thumbs to lever the "ears" outward. This frees the *standing parts* so that they can be pushed toward each other, which frees the *working ends*.

# Heaving Line Knot

It's often necessary to toss the end of a rope and only the end: for example, when throwing a rope over a tree limb in order to rig a tarp or a bear bag. What's needed is a way to add some weight to the end of the rope so that it can be thrown. Tying on a rock or a stick is fraught with problems, but tying a bulky, heavy *heaving line knot* at the end of the rope serves perfectly.

**Uses:** adding weight to the end of a line for throwing

**Pros:** can be made larger or smaller, easy to tie

**Cons:** can cause rope to kink, can be hard to tighten

## Instructions



1. Form a *bight* in the rope.



2. Holding both parts of the *bight* together in one hand, start wrapping the *working end* tightly around the *bight*.



3. Keep wrapping until you have the desired number of turns, or until just enough of the working end remains to pass it through the visible remainder of the *bight*. Take care to avoid the formation of kinks in the bight while wrapping.



4. Pull the standing part to capture the working end in the *bight*.

### Untying

If the knot is not very tight, you might be able to simply pull a bit of slack into the *bight* to free the *working end*. Otherwise: holding the knot in one hand, lever the first turn down toward the *standing part*. At this point, you may be able to lever each turn in sequence. If not, pull a little slack from the *standing part* through the first turn before levering the next turn down. Continue levering and loosening each turn in sequence until you can pull some slack into the bight and free the *working end*, at which point the knot will unwind.