



TIP OF THE WEEK

TIP 002

Struggling with rope? Know these 4 Essential knots that work!

PROBLEM: Can't secure gear, tie down loads, or set up shelter properly?

SOLUTION: Learn these four Basic Knots to lash almost anything!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

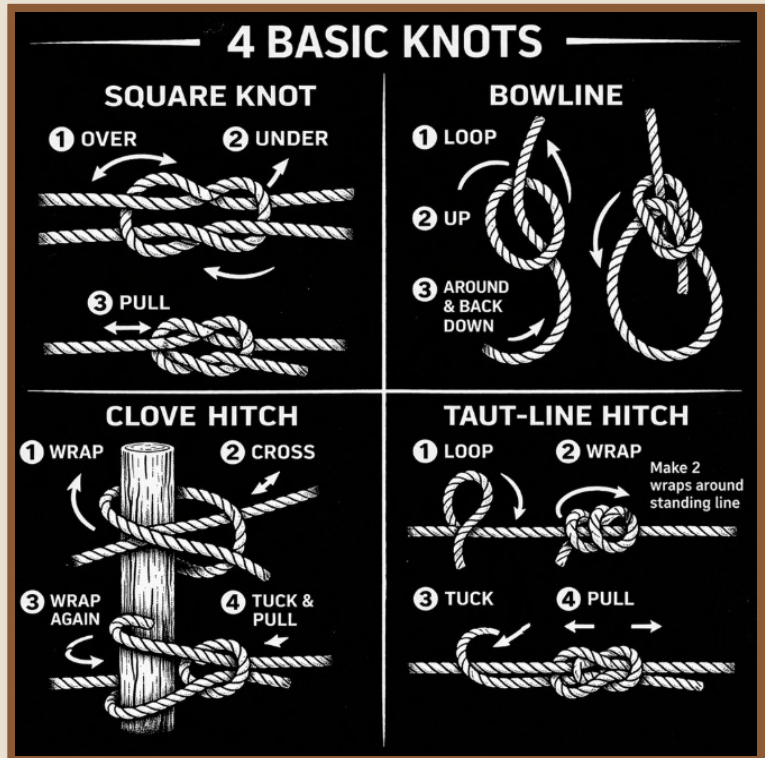
- ✓ Rope, twine or paracord
- ✓ Fixed object (tree, pole, anchor point)
- ✓ Your hands.

STEPS:

1. Use a **Square Knot** to join two ends securely.
2. Use a **Bowline** to create a fixed loop that won't easily tighten under load.
3. Use a **Clove Hitch** to quickly tie off to a post or tree.
4. Use a **Taut-Line Hitch** to create adjustable tension for tarps, shelters, or tie-downs.

TERTIARY TAKEAWAY:

- ✓ Knots = Primary survival skill (no tools required)
- ✓ Mastering a few knots beats knowing dozens poorly
- ✓ **Rope** + knowledge = shelter, security, transport and repair



In preparedness, "good enough" fails under pressure. If it doesn't hold, problems follow.

FIELD NOTES:

- ✓ Square knots can slip if tied incorrectly (avoid same-direction tying).
- ✓ Bowlines form a fixed loop and won't tighten under load.
- ✓ Clove hitches are fast but can loosen under constant movement.
- ✓ Taut-line hitches are ideal for tents and adjustable ridgelines.

ECCLESIASTES 4:12

Source: Based on field techniques from *Outdoor Life* and traditional knot-tying references such as *The Ashley Book of Knots*.

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