

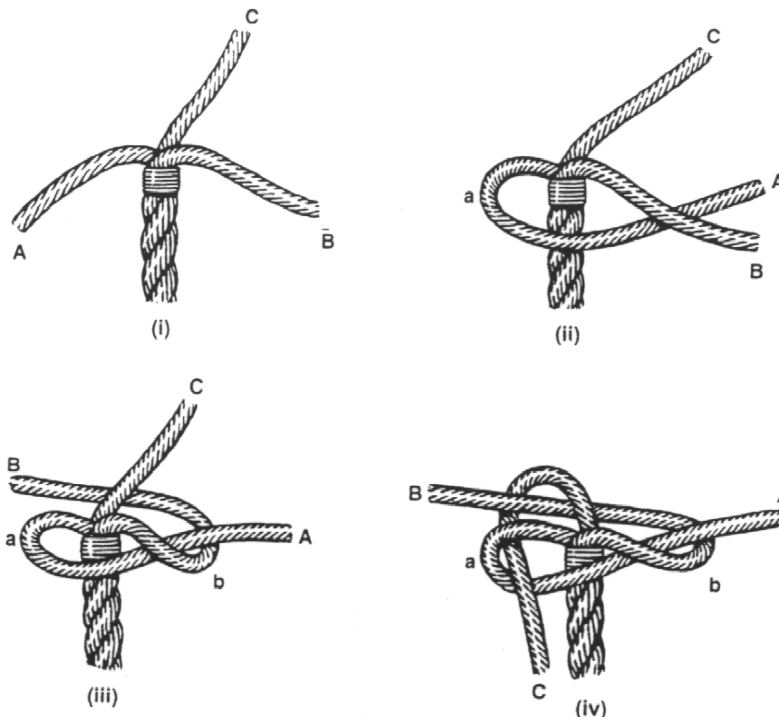
CHAPTER SEVEN

DECORATIVE ROPEWORK

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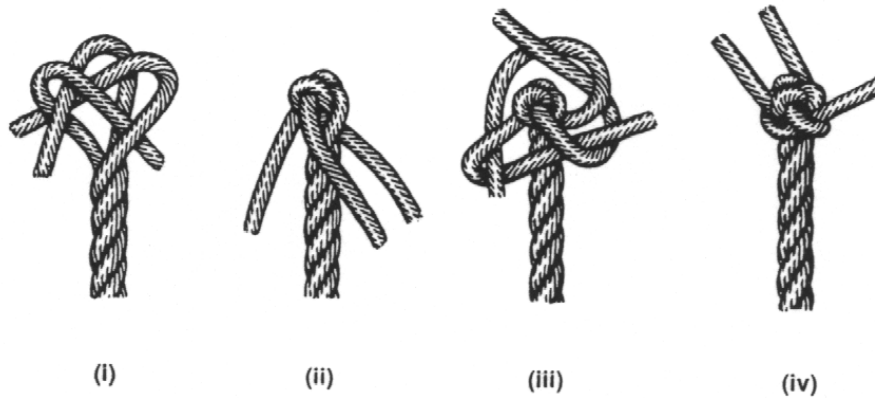
0701 Wall and Crown Knot

This can be used to prevent a rope such as a rudder lanyard from unreeving, and also to form the foundation for more advanced knots. The whipping is placed at a distance from the end equal to 20 times the diameter of the rope, the wall being formed first and the crown made on top of it.



0702 Crown and Wall Knot

This differs from the wall and crown in that the crown is made first and the wall formed under it. It is used for finishing off the end of seizings to prevent them from unreeving. The strands are unlaied right down to the turns of the seizings, against which the crown is formed as close as possible. The wall is then made under it and hauled taut, thus jamming the knot in tightly.



0703 Turks Head

The Turk's Head is an ornamental knot supposed to resemble the turban once worn in Turkey, and should consist of three or more parts followed round two or more times. It may be made either as a standing or a running knot, according to whether it is to be fixed to an end or a bight, or is to be formed round another part of rope or a post or stanchion for example.

- a) **Standing Turk's Head, made at the end of a rope.** This is a manrope knot but the ends are followed round a third or fourth time. To make the Manrope knot, whip the rope at a distance of not less than 25 times the diameter of the rope, unlay the strands to the whipping, and whip the ends. Make a wall and crown knot, keeping the knot fairly loose. Then take each strand and follow its own part until three parts have been made. Haul all parts taut and cut off the ends where they protrude from the base of the knot.
- b) **Running Turk's Head, made at the end of a rope or round its own bight,** (as in a running lanyard). This is similar to a standing turk's head except that the wall and crown with which it is begun are made round the bight of the rope. The strands are then followed round two or more times, thereby forming a knot, which will slide up and down the bight.

Standing Turk's Head

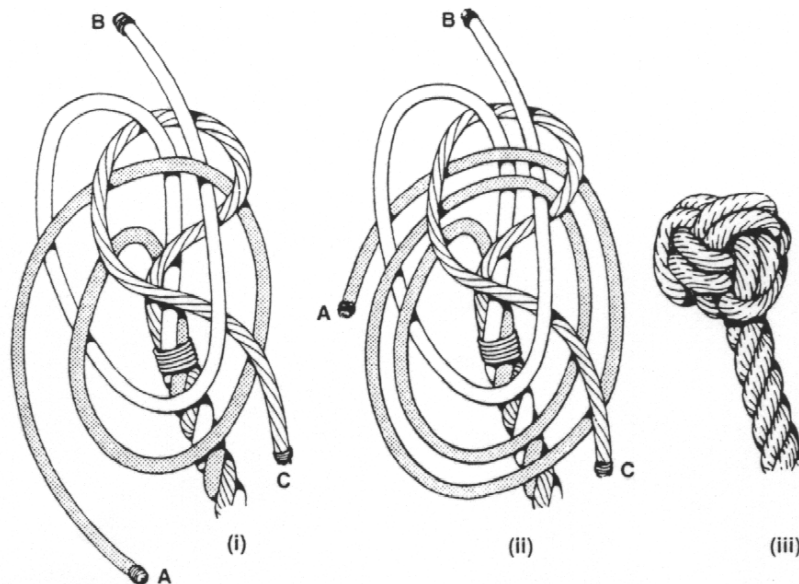


Running Turk's Head



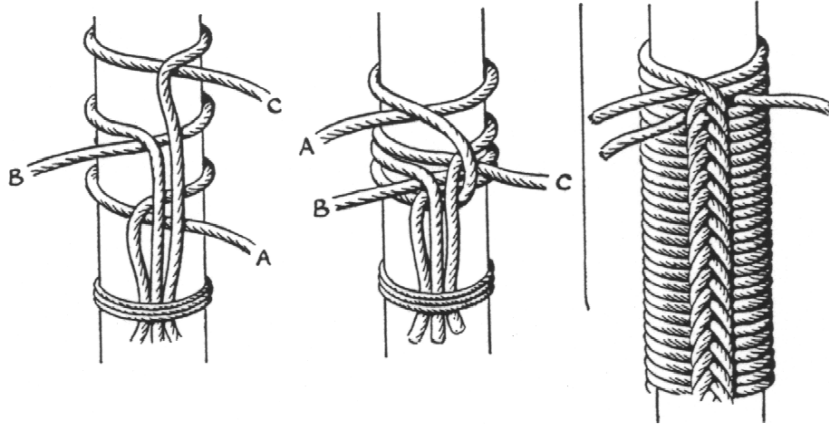
0704 Manrope Knot

This is used as a decorative knot on the end of a rope. Make a fairly loose Wall and Crown knot, then starting with strand A follow it round its own part, so doubling-up strand A. Work the other strands the same way then haul all parts taut. Cut off the ends where they protrude from the base of the knot.



0705 Cockscombing

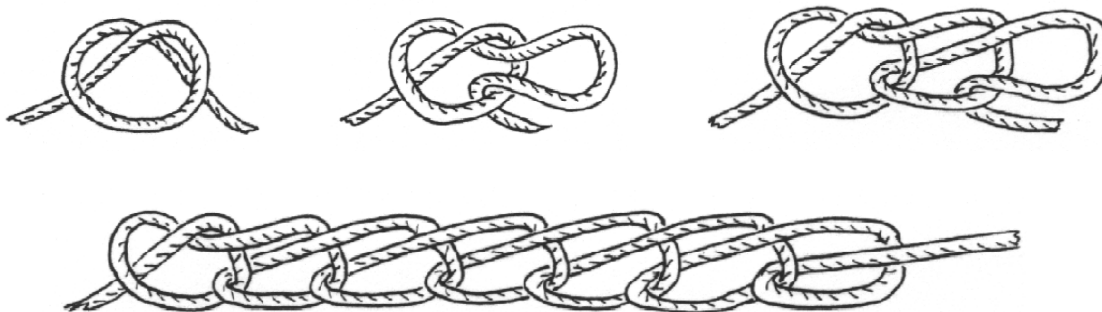
This is generally used to cover a ring or an eye but can be used as a neat finish on bag handles or on lengths of rope. Seize the ends of three lengths of cord or line to the fitting, allowing two lengths to hang on the right and one on the left (i). Take the furthest right-hand part and make a half hitch round the fitting, with the end coming out to the left and top of the fitting (ii). Then take the part which has not been used and make a half hitch round the fitting to the left, with the end coming out to the left and on top of the fitting (iii). Continue this half hitching with each part in succession, alternately to one side and to the other and always using the farthest-back part, until the fitting is covered (iv). Finish off each part either by making a crown and wall knot, by passing the strands through the laid up length and trimming off, or by whipping all the ends together and trimming the ends. The whipping may then be covered with a Turks Head.



0706 Chain Shortening

This is a series of hitches used for shortening the end of a rope; it looks very neat, and is useful when only a short length of rope can be handled at a time. It is made as follows:

- a) Form a loop in the rope.
- b) Pull the bight up through the loop, to form another loop.
- c) Pull the bight through again, and repeat until the shortening is sufficient.
- d) Secure the last loop, either with a toggle or by passing the end of the rope through it.



0707 Sennits

There are a number of different types of Sennit, the most popular being a Portuguese Sennit, which can be made flat, spiral or a combination of both. (This type of decorative ropework is very popular for covering belts and making light pull cords).

There are only two working strands, which sit either side of a central heart, which could be a number of strands, usually two or three, or a single core (rope or a belt).

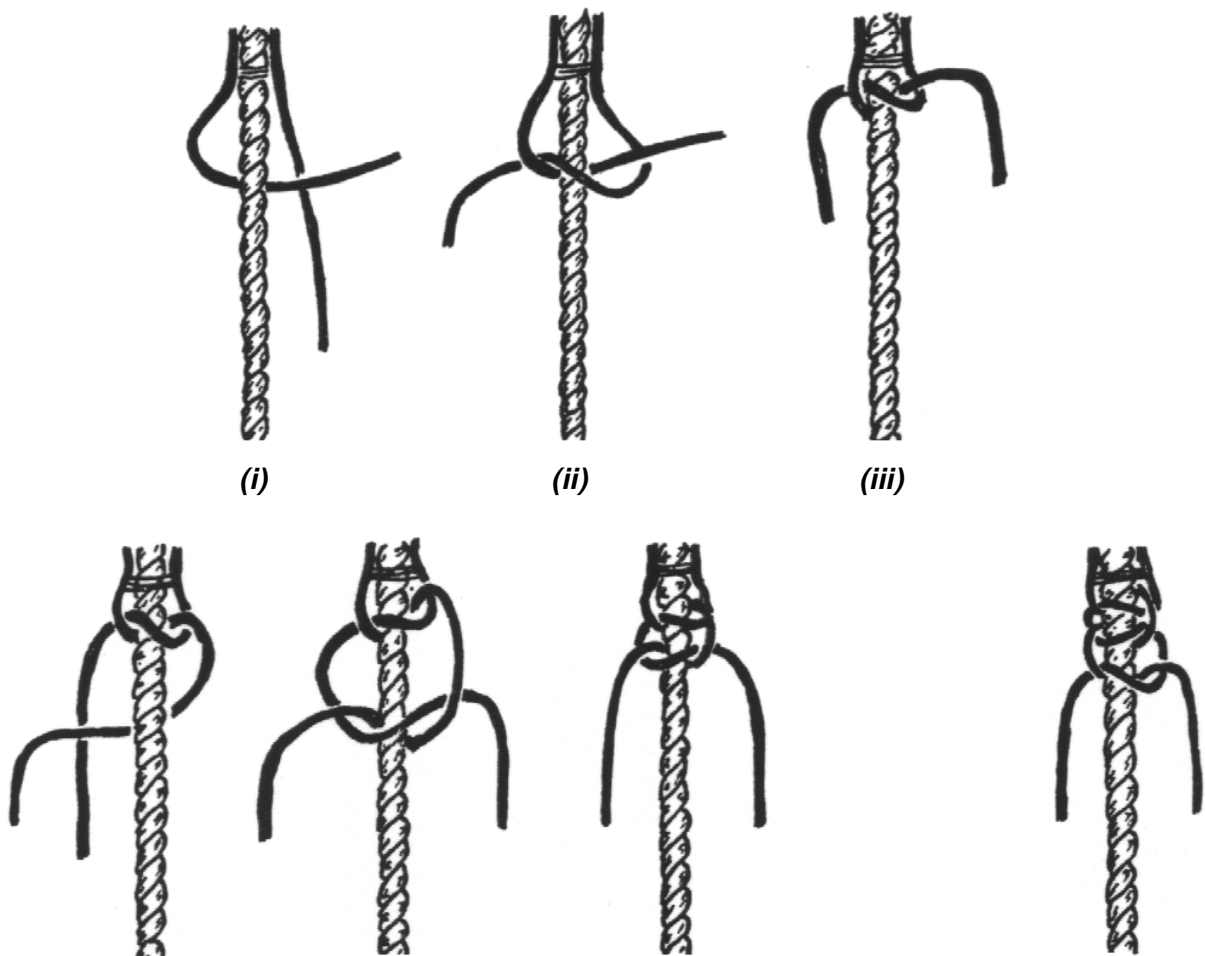
To start the sennit the left hand strand is passed under the heart and over the right hand strand, a bight being retained on the left (i). The right hand strand is brought across, over the heart, down through the bight (ii), and both ends are drawn tight (iii).

Having completed the first tuck of each working strand, if a spiral is required repeat the process commencing with the looping of the left hand strand as at the start. After a number of tucks a spiral will clearly be formed.

The spiral can be reversed by commencing with the right hand strand being passed under the heart and over the left hand strand, a bight being retained on the right. The left hand strand is brought across, over the heart, down through the bight and both ends drawn tight.

To ensure a Flat Sennit, complete the first series of tucks and draw tight. Having commenced with the left hand strand making the loop, now make a loop with the right hand strand, pass the left hand strand over the heart, down through the bight and draw tight. Continue to alternate the tucks left and right.

The sennit may be completed by whipping or heat sealing the ends or by tucking back on itself and trimming the ends.



0708 Coachwhipping

Coachwhipping is a covering based on the square sennit. The most common method is to use eight strands, formed by attaching four strands at their mid points to the fitting to be covered, by a means of a twine seizing. This will provide eight strands, four above and four below the seizing.

Take the four above down and to the right of the seizing, whilst the four below are taken to the left.

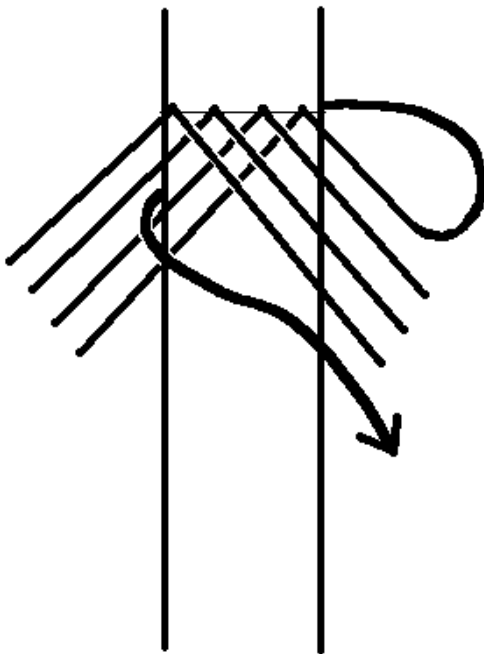
Then take the strand furthest to the right round the back of the fitting, returning to the front between the second and third strands from the left, leaving the worked strand as the new fourth strand from the right at the finish.

Then take the strand furthest to the left round the back of the fitting, returning to the front between the second and third strands from the right, leaving the worked strand as the new fourth strand from the left at the finish.

The previous two stages are then repeated until the desired length of covering is achieved, finishing with another twine seizing around all eight strands and the fitting. This gives a finished appearance of four lengthwise rows of ***herringboning*** along the covering.

Both ends would often be covered with Turk's Heads to hide the seizings and cut ends.

First tuck



Finished appearance

