

# How to Tie an Overhand Knot

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## Abstract

The overhand knot is one of the most fundamental knots and forms the basis of many others including the simple noose, overhand loop, angler's loop, reef knot, fisherman's knot and water knot. The overhand knot is very secure, to the point of jamming badly. It should be used if the knot is intended to be permanent. It is often used to prevent the end of a rope from unraveling.

## 1 Tying

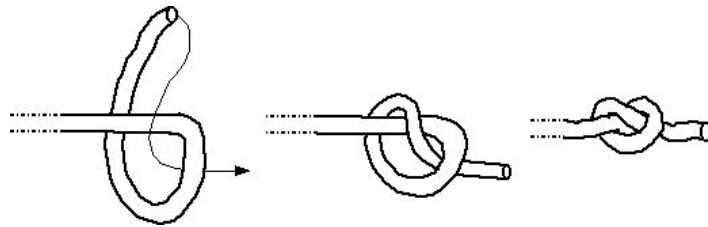


Figure 1: Tying the Overhand knot

There are a number of ways to tie the Overhand Knot, but the essential technique is shown in Fig. 1.

- Thumb method – create a loop and push the working end through the loop with your thumb.
- Overhand method – create a bight, by twisting the hand over at the wrist and sticking your hand in the hole, pinch the working end with your fingers and pull through the loop.



Figure 2: Stafford Knot

## 2 Heraldry

In heraldry, the overhand knot is known as a “Stafford knot”, due to use first as a heraldic badge by the “Lords of Stafford”, then as a general symbol of Staffordshire.[2] It is shown in Fig. 2.

The content for this document has been taken from the wiki [1].

## References

- [1] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overhand\\_knot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overhand_knot) as seen on April 7th 2014
- [2] Arthur Charles Fox-Davies, *A Complete Guide to Heraldry* (1909), pp. 462, 469.