

# *The Knot Book*

Notes

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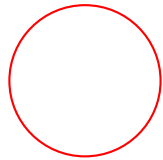
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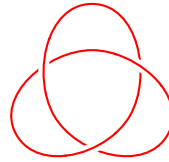
# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Introduction

- **Knot**: “A knotted loop of string, except that we think of the string as having no thickness, its cross-section being a single point” (2).
- Do not distinguish between a ‘nice, even’ knot and one that has been deformed through space.
- **Unknot**: “The simplest knot of all... the unknotted circle” (2). *Also known as **trivial knot**.*
- **Trefoil knot**: “The next simplest knot” (2).



(a) Trivial knot.



(b) Trefoil knot.

Figure 1: The two simplest knots.