**Alpine Butterfly Bend Details**

**Uses:** The Alpine Butterfly Bend is derived from the Alpine Butterfly, or Lineman's, Loop. It is one in a family of knots based on interlocking overhand knots. It is a reliable bend used to join two ropes of roughly similar size and can be untied even after being heavily loaded. The Alpine Butterfly Bend version enjoys a good reputation - probably because of its association with the better known Alpine Butterfly Loop.

**Similar Knots:** The Alpine Butterfly Bend is remarkably similar to several other bends including the [Zeppelin](http://www.animatedknots.com/zeppelin/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), the [Hunter's](http://www.animatedknots.com/hunters/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), and the [Ashley](http://www.animatedknots.com/ashleybend/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com). Essentially these knots employ interlocking overhand knots with the ends threaded through or across the middle. [David M. Delaney](http://davidmdelaney.com/jam-testing/jam-testing-several-bends.html) tested these bends and the [Carrick Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/carrick/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) for their tendency to jam. He heavily loaded the knots tied in 1/16 inch braided nylon. The Ashley and the Hunter consistently jammed tight and would have had to be cut to release them. The Alpine Butterfly Bend, the Zeppelin, and the Carrick could all be untied easily using fingers and fingernails. Amongst the family of bends based on linked overhand knots, it would seem prudent to avoid the Ashley and the Hunter's.

**Breaking Strain:** The Alpine Butterly Bend, like the other similar knots, passes the strain around the pair of ends in the middle. This double thickness should minimize the kinking and help to preserve strength. Indeed, the knot is commonly described as "one of the strongest". However, some quoted breaking strains are as low as 53% to 58% – similar to breaking strains for many other knots.

## Alpine Butterfly Loop (Lineman's Loop) Details

**Features:** What is now known as the Alpine Butterfly Loop was described twice by Ashley: Lineman's Loop and Harness Loop. It provides a secure loop in the middle of a piece of rope. Load can be safely applied: from the loop to either end of the rope; between the two ends with the loop hanging free; or to the loop with the load spread between the two ends.

**Uses:** It is useful anytime a secure loop is required in the middle of a rope. A good example is when a line of hikers wish to hook on along the length of a shared rope or as a possible option for the first part of a [Trucker's Hitch](http://www.animatedknots.com/truckers/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**Advantages:** It is more stable than either the [Bowline on a Bight](http://www.animatedknots.com/bowlinebight/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) or the [Figure 8 Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8follow/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) - both of which may roll over. Even after a heavy load, the Alpine Butterfly Loop remains reasonably easy to undo. In addition, it teaches the technique for tying the [Alpine Butterfly Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebend/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com). This familiarity is one of the reasons that we prefer the Alpine Butterfly Bend over the other similar bends such as the [Zeppelin](http://www.animatedknots.com/zeppelin/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), the [Hunter's](http://www.animatedknots.com/hunters/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), and the [Ashley](http://www.animatedknots.com/ashleybend/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

## Ashley Stopper Knot (Oysterman's) Details

**Uses:** The Ashley Stopper Knot is the name now commonly given to a knot described by Ashley as the Oysterman's Stopper. It is an excellent bulky stopper knot. Ashley's description is that the knot "...has three rim parts, and these are quite symmetrical when viewed from the underside". This 3-lobed structure can be seen in the final Frame.

**Advantages:** As a bulky, secure, stopper it deserves to be more widely known. It is far less prone to shake loose than the figure 8 knot and is the bulkiest of the simple stoppers.

## Blake's Hitch Details

**Uses:** Blake's Hitch is a Friction, or Slide and Grip, hitch. It is used by arborists for ascent and descent. Like other Slide and Grip Knots, the strain should **only** be taken on the line below the hitch. Blake's Hitch itself should not be used for traction because pulling directly on the hitch loosens it and allows descent – unexpected and uncontrolled.

**History:** Blake's Hitch was first described by Heinz Prohaska in an Austrian Guides Periodical in 1981 and then again in the Nylon Highway #30 in May 1990. However Jason Blake described it in a letter to the Arbor Age in 1994. It is now widely known as Blake's Hitch and this name is used here.

**Pros and Cons:** Like the [Rolling Hitch](http://www.animatedknots.com/rollinghitch/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), Blake's has the advantage that it can be tied in the end of a piece of rope instead of requiring a Prusik Loop. In practice it is a stable knot which does not creep or roll along the rope.

## Bowline Knot Details

**Uses:** The Bowline makes a reasonably secure loop in the end of a piece of rope. It has many uses, e.g., to fasten a mooring line to a ring or a post. Under load, it does not slip or bind. With no load it can be untied easily. Two bowlines can be linked together to join two ropes. Its principal shortcoming is that it cannot be tied, or untied, when there is a load on the standing end. It should therefore be avoided when, for example, a mooring line may have to be released under load.

**Name:** The name Bowline derives from "**bow line**". The Bow Line Knot secured the line holding the weather leech of a square sail forward to prevent it being taken aback.

**One Handed:** The bowline can be tied with [one hand](http://www.animatedknots.com/bowlineonehand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) - useful if injured, essential if you are using the other hand to hold on to the line or the boat!

**Carrick Bend Details**

**Uses:** The Carrick Bend joins two ropes together. Ashley describes it as "*the bend commonly tied in hawsers and cables.*" It is also makes the center of the very decorative [Lanyard Knot.](http://www.animatedknots.com/lanyard/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com)

**Structure:** The knot curls up under strain and the attractive, mat-like appearance vanishes. It is important that the tails lie diagonally opposite each other; if tied incorrectly, an intermittent pull will gradually work the knot towards the tails until it is undone!

**Place:** Because the Carrick Bend is reliable and has the enormous advantage of being easy to undo, it probably deserves to be used more often. However, it is slightly awkward to assemble and it is easy to make a mistake: you can have both tails on the same side of the knot; or one of the crossings may be incorrect. These other versions of this knot perform far less well.

**Compare:** The Carrick should be compared to the [Alpine Butterfly Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebend/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com). They are both excellent bends composed of interlocking loops, and both remain easy to untie after a heavy load.

**Double Fisherman's Knot, or Grapevine Bend, Details**

**Structure:** The Double Fisherman's, or Grapevine, Bend consists of two Strangle Knots (like double overhand knots) each tied round the other standing end. However, because it is created around another line, this structure may not be obvious.

**Safety:** For load-bearing using modern high modulus ropes such as Spectra, Dyneema or Kevlar/Technora, use a **Triple Fisherman's**. In each stopper knot the rope is passed around a third time before being threaded back through the loops. The triple, or even quadruple, version is also used by fishermen to join two lengths of fishing line.

**Uses:** The Double Fisherman's Knot (Grapevine Bend) is ***the*** way to join two ends of a line to form a [Prusik Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/prusik/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) and is also an excellent and reliable way of joining two climbing ropes. It can be used for a full rope-length abseil; after which it should still be possible to retrieve the rope.

**Inspection:** The Double Fisherman's Knot (Grapevine Bend) is not complicated. Nevertheless, it can be tied wrongly and then fail. If you tie it and your life depends on it, inspect it carefully. If ***someone else*** ties it, inspect it ***extremely*** carefully.

**Pros:** The Double Fisherman's is a well known, reliable, compact knot suitable for use when retrieving an abseil.

**Cons:** The Double Fisherman can lock up so tightly that it is effectively welded. Although it is regarded as a standard method of joining climbing ropes, the [Zeppelin Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/zeppelin/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) performs the same task but is much easier to undo because it does not jam. The [Figure 8 Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8join/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) may be bulkier - especially when stopper knots are added for safety. It is however, relatively easy to teach and inspect.

**Double Overhand Stopper Knot Details**

**Uses:** The Double Overhand Knot is based on the [Overhand Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/overhand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) with one additional turn. It creates a reliable, moderately large, stopper knot.

**Alternative Method:** In addition to the technique shown in the animation, the Double Overhand can also be tied by threading the end of the rope through the coil as shown here.

The Double Overhand Knot provides the basis for tying other useful knots such as the [Double Fisherman's Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/doublefishermans/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) and the [Poacher's Knot or Double Overhand Noose](http://www.animatedknots.com/poachers/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**Other Stopper Knots:** The [Figure 8](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8_/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) may be the most widely used, especially in boating, but it tends to come undone. The [Ashley Stopper Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/ashleystopper/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) deserves to be more widely used and known. The [Matthew Walker](http://www.animatedknots.com/matthewwalker/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) requires three or four strand rope because it is tied with the separated strands. Therefore, after the strands are reassembled and whipped it cannot be just "untied". Its greatest use may be in smart installations such as rope handrails.

**Figure 8 Bend (Flemish Bend) Details**

**Uses:** The **Figure 8, or Flemish, Bend** provides a safe, and simple way to join two ropes. It is reasonably easy to remember, tie, and check.

**Safety:** For critical loads, e.g., yourself (!), it should not be used with ropes that differ much in size and for safety the ends should be longer. Finally, for real security, each end should be tied in a double overhand stopper knot around the other standing end as shown here.

**Final Dressing:** To ensure that the knot is tied correctly, it is sensible to tie it in the "Flat" form shown. However, for taking a load, this knot should be carefully dressed so that the two outermost turns are brought in snug against the ropes they enclose – as a result the turns then finish on the other side of the turns they accompany. Dressed this way the knot withstands a load better.

**Pros and Cons:** The advantage of Figure 8 Bend is that even after considerable strain it remains relatively easy to undo.

**Inspection:** Ensure that there are two strands beside each other at each part of the knot. Dress the knot as described above. Then, pull it and observe that it tightens neatly and symmetrically.

## Directional Figure 8 Loop Details

**Uses:** Ashley describes the Directional Figure 8 as the second of two examples of a "Single Bowline on the Bight". It creates a loop in the middle of a rope and is used as a load-bearing knot by climbers to take strain in one direction only. In fact a strain from the wrong end actually capsizes the knot into one that slides, i.e., it functions as a noose so that the loop tightens under load.

**Similar Knots:** Several other knots create a loop in the middle of a piece of rope including the [Alpine Butterfly Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebutterfly/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), the [Bowline on a Bight](http://www.animatedknots.com/bowlinebight/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), the [Figure 8 Double Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8loopdouble/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) and, for fishing, the [Dropper Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/dropperloop/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**Advantages:** The Directional Figure 8 is quickly tied and is designed to take a load in one direction only.

**Disadvantages:** The Directional Figure 8 can be difficult to undo after a shock load. It must not be used with the pull coming from the wrong end because of its propensity to capsize and constrict. For critical loads and when the load may be applied from either end, the [Alpine Butterfly Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebutterfly/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) is preferred.

**Double Figure 8 Loop ("Bunny Ears") Details**

**Structure:** The Double Figure 8 Loop is based on the simple [Figure 8 knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8_/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**Uses:** The two loops can be used as an improvised seat. It is also useful for equalizing the load on two anchors. In one top-roping technique, the loops are made very unequal. The much larger one is passed around both anchor points. The center of this loop is then secured with a carabiner to the small loop. During rappelling, this ensures a more even distribution of load between the two anchor points.

**Stability:** Compared to some of the other double loop knots, e.g., the French Bowline, the Double Loop Figure 8 is stable. It is unlikely to slip so that one loop gets larger at the expense of the other loop.

**Figure 8 (Flemish) Knot Details**

**Uses:** The Figure 8 provides a quick and convenient stopper knot to prevent a line sliding out of sight, e.g., up inside the mast. Its virtue is that, even after it has been jammed tightly against a block, it doesn't bind; it can be undone easily. This virtue is also, occasionally, a vice. The figure 8 can fall undone and then has to be retied.

**Comparison:** The Figure 8 should be compared to other common stopper knots. It is much better than the simple [Overhand Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/overhand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) which is smaller and can bind so tightly that it can be really difficult to undo. However, both the [Double Overhand Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/doubleoverhand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), and the [Ashley Stopper Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/ashleystopper/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), make better Stopper knots because they are larger and more stable.

**Climbing:** For climbing, where safety is paramount, the [Double Overhand](http://www.animatedknots.com/doubleoverhand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) is the preferred Stopper knot. However, the Figure 8 is important to climbers because it is the basis for tying the [Figure 8 Bend (Rope Join)](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8join/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), the [Figure 8 Loop Follow Through](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8follow/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com), and the [Double Figure 8 Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/fig8loopdouble/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

## Poacher's Knot (Strangle Snare) Details

**History:** The Poacher's Knot is described by Ashley as made of horsehair and used to trap Woodcock or Partridge. It is hard to imagine using either the material or the technique today.

**Names:** The Poacher's is also known as a **Strangle Snare** and a **Double Overhand Noose** – because the knot tied round the standing end is known as a **Strangle Knot** and as a [Double Overhand knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/doubleoverhand/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**High Modulus Ropes:** The Poacher's Knot is one of the few knots suitable for use with new ropes such as Dyneema and Spectra. Bowlines and other familiar loop knots may not be secure with these slippery high modulus ropes and may pull undone, e.g., at loads as low as 15 - 20% of the rope's breaking strain.

**Stronger Alternative:** Ashley also describes the **Scaffold Knot** which is a similar knot with an extra turn, sometimes called a **Triple Overhand Noose.** Occasionally, people refer to the Poacher's as a Double, or Two-Turn, Scaffold.

**Rolling Hitch and Midshipman's Hitch Details**

**Description:** The Rolling Hitch Ashley Version 2 attaches a rope (usually smaller) to another (usually larger) when the line of pull is almost parallel. To attach a rope to a pole see [Version 1](http://www.animatedknots.com/rollinghitch/index.php?Categ=boating&LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com#version1) below.

**Uses:** The Rolling Hitch is useful to take the strain off a rope with a foul turn on a winch. It can also make an adjustable loop in the end of a rope to act as a spring line to a dock. It can be used to relieve the strain on a hawser while the "Bitter End" is transferred to the "Bitts" but the [Rat-Tail Stopper](http://www.animatedknots.com/rattailstopper/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) is better. When used to make a Midshipman's Hitch it forms an adjustable loop with many uses, e.g., on small sailing boats it is successfully used as a boom-vang and, at home, it makes an adjustable Clothesline Hitch.

**Under Load:** The Rolling Hitch is one of the few knots which can be tied and untied with load on. It does not bind and, when tied correctly, does not slip. However, in critical applications some authorities recommend using the tail end to tie a second Rolling Hitch to back up the first.

**Overboard:** The Rolling Hitch has been promoted as the only knot to tie in the following unlikely but critical circumstance: while sailing alone you fall overboard and catch hold of the line which you have prudently left trailing astern and find yourself hanging on with difficulty. Before you tire, you manage to bring the bitter end of the rope around your back. You then have to tie a suitable knot to make a loop around you. A bowline cannot be tied under load. Two Half Hitches will slide and constrict you. The Rolling Hitch is the answer. Even as the second turn is tucked "up" into the correct place, the major strain is taken and the final Half Hitch can be tied with less urgency.

**Sheepshank Knot Details**

**Avoid Using It:** The Sheepshank should never be used. It is only included here because Boy Scouts used to be required to learn it. Ashley described Sheepshanks but cautioned that they "......should be seized or otherwise secured to make them safe unless the need is very temporary...."

**Failure Under Load:** Some modern synthetic materials tend to be flexible and slippery. The illustration here shows a correctly tied sheepshank failing under modest load. This is a piece of three strand nylon rope and this failure was reproduced easily and repeatedly.

**Eliminate It:** If you are asked to learn to tie the Sheepshank, please request your Troop Leader to eliminate this knot and replace it with something safe and useful, e.g., the [Alpine Butterfly Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebutterfly/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) is an excellent way of creating a loop in the middle of a length of rope and can also be safely used to shorten a rope.

**Bellringer's Knot:** Bellringer's use just one end of a Sheepshank to keep the tail of the rope off the ground when not being used.

**Practical Limitations:** In practice, the Sheepshank would be almost impossible to tie under load; shortening one end and re-securing the line would be preferable. As a knot, it cannot pass through blocks or sheaves.

In the critical environments presented by climbing, search and rescue, and boating, there are no applications where the Sheepshank would offer an acceptable solution.

**Substitution:** One suggested use for the Sheepshank is the protection of a damaged or weakened piece of rope. A more secure alternative is the [Alpine Butterfly Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebutterfly/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).

**Sheet Bend Details**

**Uses:** The Sheet Bend is recommended for joining two ropes of unequal size. The thicker rope must be used for the simple bight as shown. It works equally well if the ropes are of the same size.

**Tying it:** The Sheet Bend would replace the Square (Reef) knot except for the awkward fact that it is not a binding knot – it has to be tied with both ends loose in your hands with no load on the ropes (The Square Knot - with all its faults - can be tied tight against a sail, or parcel, and usually stays tight while the second Half Hitch is tied).

**Double Sheet Bend:** When the ropes are markedly different in size, the tail of the smaller rope can be taken twice round the bight in the larger rope to create the double sheet bend.

**Structure:** When correctly tied the two tails lie on the same side of the knot. The alternative version - with the tails on opposite sides - is less reliable.

## Slip Knot Details

**Uses:** The slip knot is identical in structure to the [Noose Knot](http://www.animatedknots.com/noose/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) except that the bight to be inserted is formed from the short end – not the long. It is one of the most frequently tied knots - being used in knitting as the first loop when casting on – where it is called a slip knot but frequently tied as a noose. It can be used as a temporary stopper knot - as shown in the animation.

**Confusion:** Some writers apply the term "Slip Knot" to other knots - where any loop slides along the standing end. However, such knots also have well known other names, e.g., [Bowline on a Bight](http://www.animatedknots.com/bowlinebight/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) and various fishing knots that can be slid to tighten. Moreover, such knots do **NOT** function as **Slip Knots**. Because they tighten under load, they actually function as [nooses](http://www.animatedknots.com/noose/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com). For this reason, the generic misuse of the name Slip Knots is deplored. On this website **Slip Knot** is reserved for this one knot.

**Slipped Knots:** Many knots can be completed with a bight instead of the end. A knot tied this way is described as slipped, e.g., a Slipped Rolling Hitch. Slipped Buntline Hitch, Slipped Half Hitch. Theoretically, the knot can then be quickly untied by pulling on the free end to release the bight. In practice, this depends on how much load has reached the bight. With some tightly loaded knots, e.g., a Buntline Hitch, it can be difficult to release and almost impossible to pull the final curve of the bight itself out of the tightened turn.

**Square Knot (Reef Knot) Details**

**First Knot:** The Square (Reef) Knot is usually learned when we tie the laces on our first pair of shoes. Admittedly it is usually a bow that we tie - but the underlying knot is a Square (Reef) Knot. We also learn just how unsatisfactory the knot is. It slips, it comes undone, it jams, and it is all too easy to tie a granny instead which behaves even less well.

**Purpose:** It is intended to be a binding knot and, tied in the right material against a curved surface, the first Half Knot may bind – but it cannot be trusted. That is why surgeons use an extra turn in the first Half Knot – to achieve the binding required while they prepare the second Half Knot.

**Uses:** Nevertheless, the Square (Reef) knot has many uses but not where safety is critical, e.g., you can tie a sail cover over a sail; you can tie the string on a gift; and you can tie the laces on your shoes (if they still come with laces). It is also one of the many knots used in macrame. More importantly, the experience of tying a Square Knot teaches the fundamental process of tying a Half Knot or Half Hitch.

**Variations:** When the Square (Reef) Knot is used it is common to add additional Half Knots as security - a tribute to how unsatisfactory a knot it is. A better alternative may be to use two Surgeon's Half Knots, which make better binding knots for each stage and a secure final knot. When the second Half Surgeon's Knots is tied as a bow, it makes a [Secure Shoelace Bow](http://www.animatedknots.com/shoelace/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com#surgicalhalfknot).

The Square (Reef) knot can also be tied using bights (loops). For example, to use up long shoelaces, the knot can be tied with loops from the start. This means the final "bow" cannot be untied by pulling the ends - but it makes a secure knot.

## Zeppelin Bend Details

**Uses:** The Zeppelin Bend is one of the bends employing interlocking overhand knots. It is a reliable bend that can be untied even after being heavily loaded but not, however, while still under load. It is an excellent alternative to the more widely used [Double Fisherman's](http://www.animatedknots.com/doublefishermans/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) because it eliminates the risk of jamming.

**History:** The Zeppelin Bend has been described as used to secure Airships. Vice Admiral Charles Rosendahl, Commanding Officer of the American Zeppelin (Los Angeles/ZR3), was supposed to have insisted that the knot be used to moor his airship. Doubt has now been cast on both the use and the authorship.

**Tying it:** The arrangement of the interlocking loops and the path of the ends through the center are critical. Although the Zeppelin is secure and can be untied easily, its similarity to other bends employing interlocking overhand knots risks confusion - and mistakes. For this reason we also recommend the [Alpine Butterfly Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebend/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com) tied using the same technique employed for the [Alpine Butterfly Loop](http://www.animatedknots.com/alpinebutterfly/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com). Technique is critical because Roo emphasizes the risk of creating an [Evil Impostor](http://notableknotindex.webs.com/butterflybend.html) when tied incorrectly.

**Advantages:** The Zeppelin Bend is reliable with very little tendency to slip or bind. [Testing by Roo](http://notableknotindex.webs.com/Zeppelin.html) found the knot to be exceptionally secure and shake-resistant in all materials. In this respect he regards it as superior to the Alpine Butterfly Bend.

**Disadvantages:** Attention to tying it correctly is critical. After it is tied, it can be hard to distinguish it from the less satisfactory [Hunter's Bend](http://www.animatedknots.com/hunters/index.php?LogoImage=LogoGrog.jpg&Website=www.animatedknots.com).