



**KNOTS**

**Midwest Women's Sailing Conference**

# SEVEN + ESSENTIAL KNOTS

# Three General Categories of Knots

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1. KNOTS: those “knots” tied on the end of a line.
  - a. Bowline
  - b. Stopper knot
  
2. BEND: those “knots” are formed when two lines are joined together.
  
3. HITCH: - secure a line to a cleat, piling or stachion

# Knot Vocabulary

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**Standing end** - This is the long end of the rope not used for the knot. Takes the strain. Secured

**Working end** - free end of the line

**Free end** - The end which is nearest to you and where single-line knots are tied

**Bend** - A knot used to join two ends together

**Bight** - A loop formed in a line.

**Hitch** - A knot tied directly to an object.

**Bitter End** - The tail of the line

**End** - the end of the rope

**Turn** - a loop formed around a post, rail, or the line itself

**Eye** - A loop made in the end of a rope either by knotting, seizing or splicing.

# BOWLINE

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- The most useful knot on sailboat
- Generally used to secure sheets to the clew of a sail.
- Two bowlines can be used to connect two lines.
- No matter how tight it becomes after being loaded it can be untied.



# STOPPER KNOT

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- Used to keep a line from pulling through a block or rope clutch.
- Does not come loose easily
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# TWO HALF HITCHES

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- One half hitch, followed by another half hitch.
- Easy to tie and forms a running noose.
- Can be made larger or smaller
- Excellent way to secure a dock line to the piling.
- Can be combined with a clove hitch.



# ROLLING HITCH

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- Used when a riding turns jams a line on a winch drum.
- Designed not to slip
- Keeps any line secured to a vertical object such as a stanchion.
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# CLEAT HITCH

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- Very effective
- Used to tie a boat to the dock
- Used to secure a line on the boat like a jib sheet or a halyard.

