

FREE PRINTABLE RESOURCE

FIVE KNOTS FIELD CARD

What each knot is for, how to tie it, and a log to tick off as you learn them.

JOIN TWO ROPES

- ☐ **Square knot**
Cross the ropes to form a half knot, cross again, pull the ends tight (Leave No Trace)
- ☐ **Fortify it**
Add an overhand knot to each end so it is less likely to slip (Scouting magazine)
- ☐ **Grapevine knot**
Two ropes of equal diameter. Lower end: two overhand knots around the upper rope. Upper end: one around the lower. Pull tight

MAKE A LOOP

- ☐ **Bowline**
Small loop, end up through it, around the standing line, back down the loop, pull tight
- ☐ **Never trust it with a person**
Get qualified instruction first

CAMP TENSION AND ANCHORS

- ☐ **Taut-line hitch**
Adjustable, taut tent guyline
- ☐ **Taut-line steps**
Wrap a stake. End under the standing rope, two wraps around it, then above the loops, half hitch, pull tight
- ☐ **Clove hitch**
Start a lashing, tie to a post, hang a bear bag off a tree
- ☐ **Clove hitch steps**
Wrap the post and cross. Wrap again, tuck the end under itself below the cross, pull tight

PRACTICE LOG

- ☐ **Tied it 10 times**
Square: _____ Bowline: _____
- ☐ **Tied it with eyes closed**
Taut-line: _____ Clove: _____
- ☐ **Tugged it hard before trusting it**

Check rope for wear before every use. Follow food-storage rules where you camp.

Want the reasoning behind each line? Read the full guide on the TacticalBox blog.
tacticalbox.com/blogs/tacticalbox-blog

Sources: Leave No Trace, The 4 Knots You Must Know Before You Go Camping; Scouting magazine, Knots to Know. Informational only; not a substitute for hands-on instruction.