

Step Outdoors

Knots - There are dozens of knots used for tying on lures. Practice tying one or more of the knots shown on the worksheet. Monofilament line is often difficult for younger participants to handle. Using string or light cord to practice on will help keep youngsters from getting frustrated.

Allow plenty of line for tying. Wet the line before knotting. Tighten with a slow steady motion. Don't trim the tail end too close.

1. Improved Clinch Knot

The Improved Clinch Knot is has become one of the most popular knots for tying terminal tackle connections. It is quick and easy to tie and is strong and reliable.

The knot can be difficult to tie in lines in excess of 30 lb test. Five+ turns around the standing line is generally recommended, four can be used in heavy line. This not is not recommended with braided lines.



1. Thread end of the line through the eye of the hook, swivel or lure. Double back and make five or more turns around the standing line. Bring the end of the line through the first loop formed behind the eye, then through the big loop.



2. Wet knot and pull slightly on the tag end to draw up coils. Pull on the standing line to form knot with coils pressed neatly together. Slide tight against eye and clip tag end.



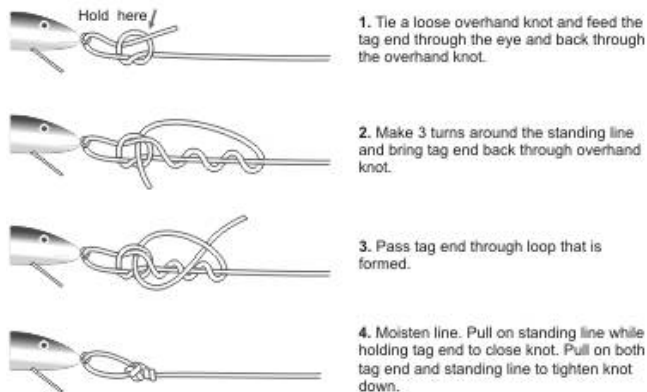
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2. Rapala Knot

The Rapala Knot is popular method to tie a lure (such as a Rapala!) to a line such that it can move freely and unimpeded by the knot. Essentially the same as the Non Slip Mono Loop, the knot has one more step in it's making. Whether this makes it more secure is still up to debate. It does make it slightly more difficult to tighten down neatly, but with practice can be done.

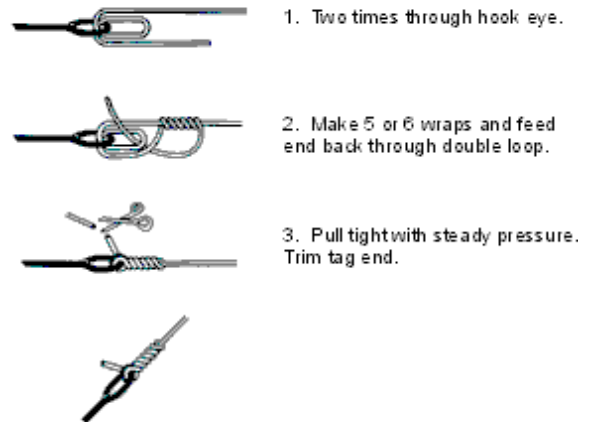
You should know how to tie one or the other for the occasions that you want your bait to swim more naturally.



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3. Trilene Knot



EXTENSION

If a fish tank or aquarium is available, dangle a lure in the water to simulate what the fish sees.

Discuss the importance of not discarding used line in the water or on shore. Visit a sporting goods store to deposit discarded line in special collection boxes. While there, look at the selection of fishing gear.