

The Sheetbend

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Tie two lines together of different sizes with a sheetbend.



1. Form a bight (u-shaped loop) with the thicker line.
2. Bring the thinner line under the bight and cross over the working end (loose end) of the thicker line.



3. Pass the thinner line behind both parts of the bight (loop) in the big line.



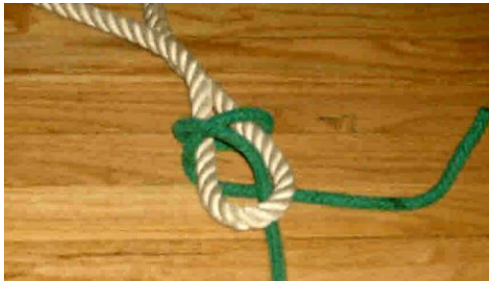
4. Bring the thinner line over in front of the loop.
5. Pass it under itself and then over the thick line again.

6. Seize the knot (pull it tight) by pulling on both parts of the bight and the longer part of the thin line.
7. The working end (short end) of each line should leave the knot on the same side of the knot.



A sheetbend is very secure so long as tension is maintained on the line. This knot has been used for moving or securing Soma, a 10,000 lbs. + keelboat without problem. If the line is shaken or let slack, it can untie.

A Double Sheetbend is a more secure knot and has two loops in the thinner line.



1. Rather than seizing the knot in a sheetbend continue around behind the bight in the thicker line another time.

2. Bring the thinner line over the thicker line, under itself, and back over the thicker line again.



3. Then seize the knot – again pulling on both parts of the thicker line and the longer part of the thinner line.

4. Again, the working end of both lines will be on the same side of the knot.

A double sheetbend is less likely to untie on its own and is considered a more secure knot. Note in both knots there is a fair amount of line remaining in the working end on both lines. This can be further secured with round turns or other knots.