

sea safety

On these pages you will find useful information with a nautical theme. To access, click the links above, or the images on this page.

Knots

Knowing how to tie a few basic knots is essential to a boat's security. The art of knot tying is known as "knotwork". Good sailors take pride in their ability to choose and use knots. Before any 7 basic knots you should know... If you master these knots, you'll be well ahead of most recreational boaters in your knowledge of knotwork. For practice, a section of rope six feet long with a diameter of 3/8" is a good size. The rope knot should be made to make a minor part of the exercise, with practice you'll be able to tie each knot without thinking about it.

NOTE: The end of the line that you work with in tying knots is called the "Bitter End." The main length of line is the "Standing Part."



Reef Knot

This reefing knot is doubly tied and is the most often used in mooring to sea.

- 1. Pass end of rope around post or other object.
- 2. Drop short end of rope under and over long part of rope, making the end down.
- 3. Repeat on long rope below first half knot and draw up tight.



Anchor Knot

This knot is used to secure a rope or a line to an anchor, to sea.

- 1. Pass end under through ring.
- 2. Make free end around standing line.
- 3. Pass free end through loop.
- 4. Complete by making reef knot.

Emergency!

Emergency Radio Procedures

**VHF CHANNEL 16
DISTRESS - MAYDAY
URGENCY - PAN-PAN**

Everyone on board should be able to use the radio. Switch the radio, set to Channel 16, to the High Power from the "Power to talk" switch on the microphone or handset. Speak clearly and slowly into the microphone. When you have finished, say "Over".

Then release the "Microphone" switch and wait for a reply. In a DISTRESS situation (when a vessel or person is in grave or imminent danger) say:

MAYDAY . . . MAYDAY . . . MAYDAY
MAYDAY . . . Name of craft
Your present position
Nature of your problem
Assistance required (if not obvious)
Number of people on board

Signals

 A Diver down, keep well clear	 B Discharging or carrying heavy goods	 C Yes (Affirmative)	 D Keep clear, maneuvering with difficulty
 F I am disabled, communicate	 G I require a pilot (I am hauling nets)	 H Pilot on board	 I Altering the course to port
			