ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADETS

PHASE TWO

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

SECTION 6

EO C221.01 – MAKE A BACK SPLICE

Total Time: 60 min

PREPARATION

PRE-LESSON INSTRUCTIONS

Resources needed for the delivery of this lesson are listed in the lesson specification located in A-CR-CCP-602/PG-001, Chapter 4. Specific uses for said resources are identified throughout the Instructional Guide within the TP for which they are required.

Review the lesson content and become familiar with the material prior to delivering the lesson.

Photocopy the handouts located at Annexes A and B for each cadet.

PRE-LESSON ASSIGNMENT

N/A.

APPROACH

Demonstration and performance was chosen for this lesson as it allows the instructor to explain and demonstrate making a crown knot and a back splice while providing an opportunity for the cadets to practice these skills under supervision.

INTRODUCTION

REVIEW

Review three-strand line from EO M221.01 (Use a Strop for Slinging).

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lesson the cadet shall have made a back splice.

IMPORTANCE

It is important for cadets to know how to make a back splice as it is an effective way to finish the end of a line, preventing it from unlaying while it is in use.

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Teaching point 1 **Explain the Use of, Demonstrate, and Have the Cadets Tie a Crown Knot**

Time: 25 min Method: Demonstration and Performance

CROWN KNOT

A crown knot is used to begin the back splice and is a basis for more complicated knots, but is seldom used on its own. When finished, the crown knot leaves the three strands pointing back along the length of the line as illustrated in Figure 6.

Explain and demonstrate the steps to making a crown knot prior to the cadets completing their own. Distribute the handout located at Annex A to the cadets.

STEPS TO MAKING A CROWN KNOT

The strands in the following figures will be identified by capital letters, whereas loops formed between these strands will be identified by numbers.

1. Complete a whipping at a distance equal to 20 times the diameter of the line, from the line's end (e.g., a line 2 cm in diameter requires a whipping 40 cm from its end, a line 1/4 inch in diameter requires a whipping 5 inches from its end).

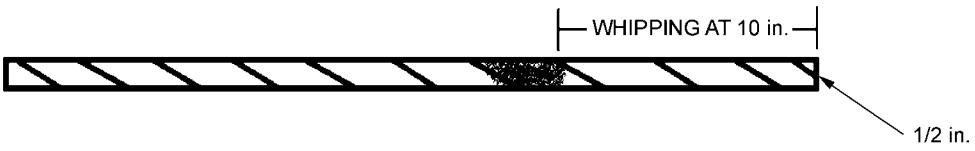

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Figure 1 Example of Whipping Distance

2. Unlay the strands of the line back to the whipping and whip the ends of each strand.

Masking tape may be used as an alternate way of finishing the ends of each strand, instead of a whipping.

3. Spread the strands out in the form of a star.

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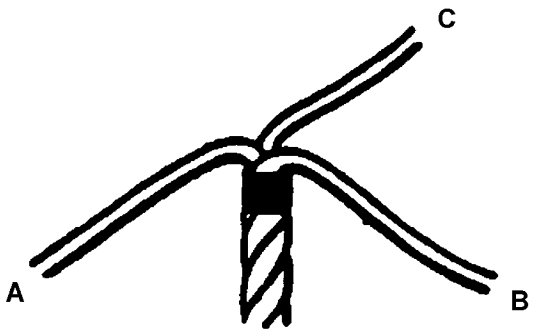

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Figure 2 Star Formation

4. Bring strand A to the front to form a loop and lay it over strand B.

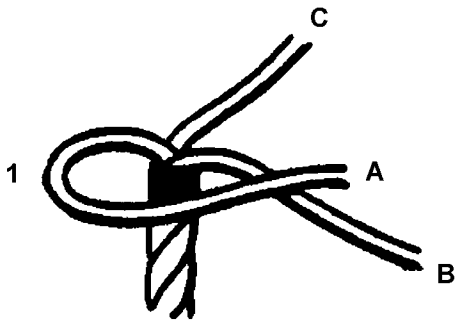

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Figure 3 Step Four

5. Loop strand B over A and C.

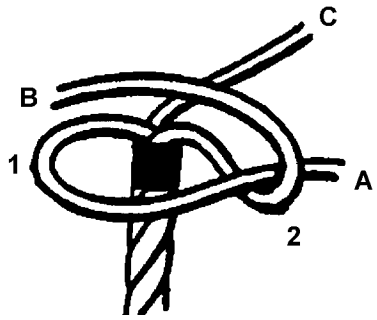

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Figure 4 Step Five

6. Loop strand C over strand B and through loop 1.

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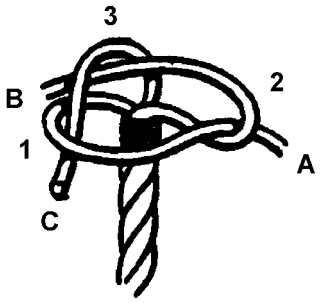

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Figure 5 Step Six

7. Pull all strands taut until the crown knot is tidy and uniform.

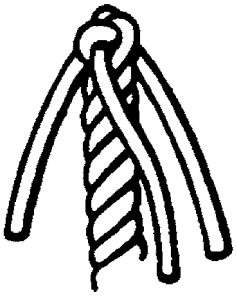

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Figure 6 Finished Crown Knot



Allow the cadets to practice tying a crown knot.

Complete an additional crown knot with the cadets so they can follow along.

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 1

QUESTIONS

Q1. What is a crown knot used for?

Q2. What distance should the whipping be from the end of the line?

Q3. What is the final step in creating the crown knot?

ANTICIPATED ANSWERS

A1. To begin the back splice as well as a basis for more complicated knots, but is seldom used on its own.

A2. A distance equal to 20 times its diameter.

A3. To pull all strands taut until the crown knot is tidy and uniform.

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Teaching point 2 **Explain the Use of, Demonstrate, and Have the Cadets Make a Back Splice**

Time: 30 min Method: Demonstration and Performance

BACK SPLICE

The back splice is used to finish the end of a line that is not required to pass through a block, eye plate or similar fitting.



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Figure 7 Back Splice



Explain and demonstrate the steps to making a back splice prior to the cadets completing their own.

Distribute the handout located at Annex B to the cadets.

Cadets can use the same line from TP1 to complete the back splice.

STEPS TO MAKING THE BACK SPLICE

1. Complete a whipping at a distance equal to 20 times the diameter of the line, from the line's end (e.g., a line 2 cm in diameter requires a whipping 40 cm from its end, a line 1/4 inch in diameter requires a whipping 5 inches from its end).

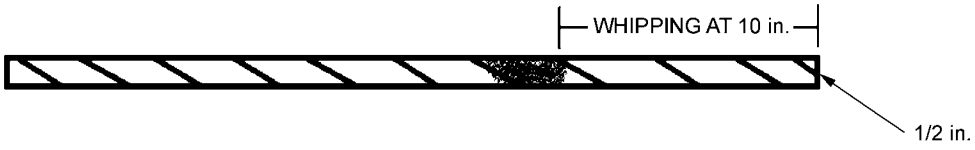

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Figure 8 Example of Whipping Distance

2. Unlay the strands of the line back to the whipping and whip the ends of each strand.



Masking tape may be used as an alternate way of finishing the ends of each strand, instead of a whipping.

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3. Make a crown knot.

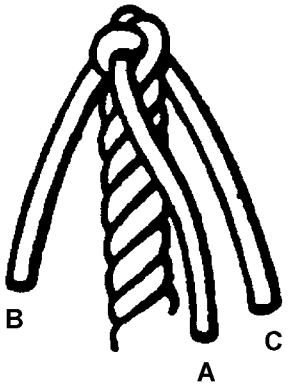

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Figure 9 Crown Knot

4. Remove the whipping below the crown knot.

To make tucking the strands easier the use of a marlin spike/fid is recommended.

Always splice in the direction opposite the lay of the line.

5. Starting with A, lay it over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.

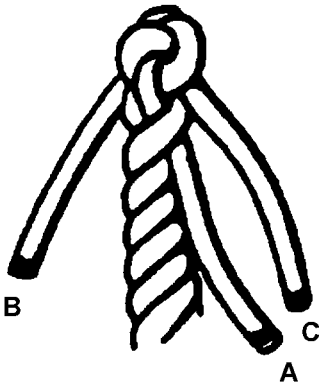

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Figure 10 Back Splice

6. Lay B over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.
7. Lay C over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.
8. After each strand is tucked, pull the strands taut and tidy up the tucks until each strand is uniform.
9. Repeat tucking the strands two more times, hauling them taut.

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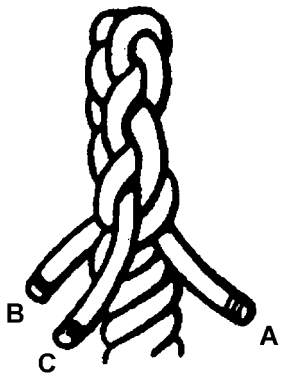

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Figure 11 Back Splice

10. To finish the splice, dog the ends. To do so, remove the whipping and split the ends of each strand in half. Take each half and whip it to its neighbour over the adjacent strand.



Allow the cadets to practice making a back splice.



Complete an additional splice with the cadets so they can follow along, asking them questions, and verifying they are making the tucks properly.

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 2

QUESTIONS

Q1. What is a back splice used for?

Q2. What distance should the whipping be from the end of the line?

Q3. What knot is used to start a back splice?

ANTICIPATED ANSWERS

A1. It is used to finish the end of a line that is not required to pass through a block, eye plate or similar fitting.

A2. A distance equal to 20 times the diameter of the line.

A3. A crown knot.

END OF LESSON CONFIRMATION

The cadets' participation in TP1 and TP2 will serve as the confirmation of this lesson.

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CONCLUSION

HOMEWORK/READING/PRACTICE

N/A.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

N/A.

CLOSING STATEMENT

A back splice is a useful and effective means of finishing the end of a line.

INSTRUCTOR NOTES/REMARKS

N/A.

REFERENCES

A1-004 B-GN-181-105/FP-E00 Chief of Maritime Staff. (1997). *CFCD 105 Fleet Seamanship Rigging and Procedures Manual.* Ottawa, ON: Department of National Defence.

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STEPS TO MAKING THE CROWN KNOT

1. Complete a whipping at a distance equal to 20 times the diameter of the line, from the line's end (e.g. a line 2 cm in diameter requires a whipping 40 cm from its end, a line 1/4 inch in diameter requires a whipping 5 inches from its end).

2. Unlay the strands of the line back to the whipping and whip the ends of each strand.

3. Spread the strands out in the form of a star.

4. Bring strand A to the front to form a loop and lay it over strand B.

5. Loop strand B over A and C.

6. Loop strand C over strand B and through loop 1.

7. Pull all strands taut until the crown knot is tidy and uniform.

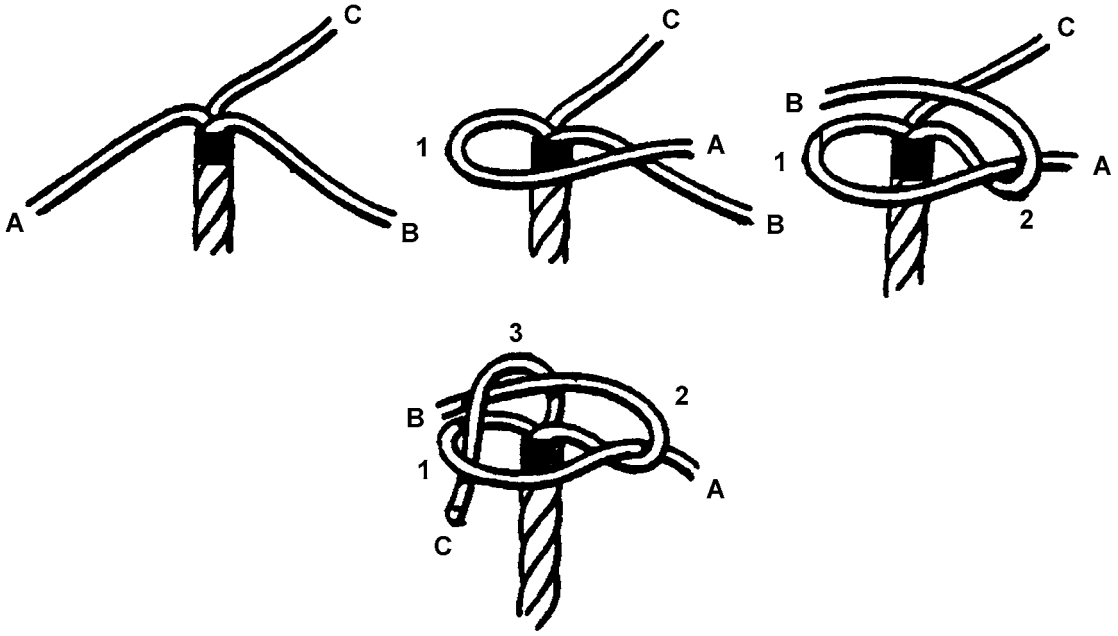

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Figure A-1 Crown Knot

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STEPS TO MAKING THE BACK SPLICE

1. Complete a whipping at a distance equal to 20 times the diameter of the line, from the line's end (e.g. a line 2 cm in diameter requires a whipping 40 cm from its end, a line 1/4 inch in diameter requires a whipping 5 inches from its end).

2. Unlay the strands of the line back to the whipping and whip the ends of each strand.

3. Make a crown knot below the crown knot.

4. Remove the whipping.

5. Starting with A, lay it over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.

6. Lay B over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.

7. Lay C over the adjacent strand and tuck it under the next strand.

8. After each strand is tucked, pull the strands taut and tidy up the tucks until each strand is uniform.

9. Repeat tucking the strands two more times, hauling them taut.

10. To finish the splice, dog the ends. To do so, remove the whipping and split the ends of each strand in half. Take each half and whip it to its neighbour over the adjacent strand.

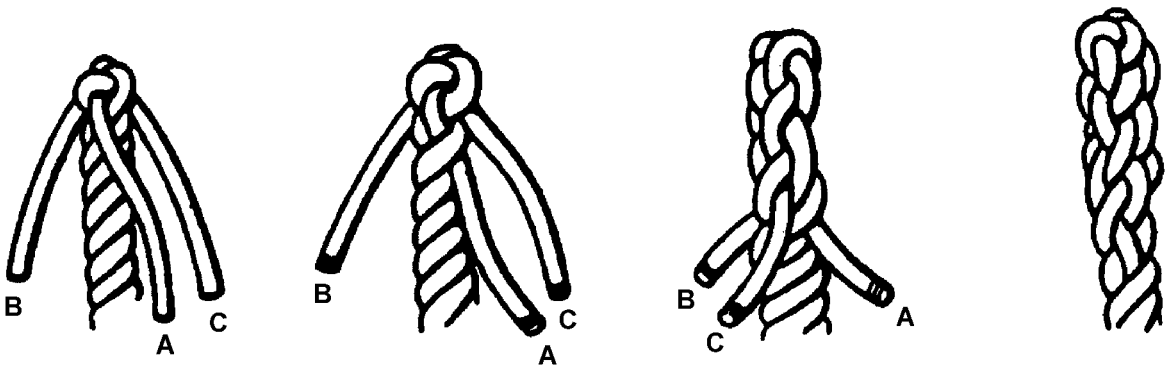

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Figure B-1 Back Splice

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