



PRACTICAL SKILL: Tying Knots and Hitches

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Skill Level: Firefighter I

Objective: Tying Knots and Hitches – 2019 Edition, NFPA 1001 4.3.20
IFSTA Essentials 7th Ed. Chapter 7
While wearing gloves, the student shall tie the prescribed knot(s) to secure or hoist the assigned object.

Materials Provided: Two (2) Lengths of Different Diameter Rope and One

Materials Needed: Firefighting Gloves

Instructions: To maintain consistency please judge the skill demonstration **closely and solely** by the criteria set out in this form.

Provide written feedback comments at the end of the form. Debrief the outcome with the Firefighter Candidate, letting them know what they did correctly and how they can improve. If any element is not performed correctly assign them a FAIL and sign the bottom of the evaluation form. If they perform all elements correctly **and** you are confident they can repeat this performance to the same level, assign them a PASS and sign the bottom of the evaluation sheet.

Once completed, the evaluation form is directed to the District Fire Chief.

Six (6) required knots and hitches:

Overhand Safety Knot
Half Hitch
Clove Hitch
Figure-Eight Follow Through (with two (2) half hitches)
Figure-Eight on a Bight
Becket Bend (Sheet Bend)

Safety: Gloves shall be worn when tying knots for safety. When applicable, all knots shall include a safety knot.

References: Tying Knots and Hitches – 2019 Edition, NFPA 1001 4.3.20. IFSTA Essentials 7th Ed. Chapter 7



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Student Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Object:	Incorrect	Correct	Points
1. Item with Handle (pail, hand pump, chainsaw)	Fails to tie a figure-eight follow through	Figure-eight follow through <input type="checkbox"/> with safety knot <input type="checkbox"/> tag line attached <input type="checkbox"/>	/3
2. Long tool (pike pole, crow bar, pry bar)	Fails to tie tip up, or ½ hitches Clove hitch at pike	Clove-hitch <input type="checkbox"/> and two half hitches <input type="checkbox"/> with tag line. <input type="checkbox"/> Must be tied tip up with clove hitch at base of handle <input type="checkbox"/>	/4
3. Axe, Sledgehammer	Fails to tie figure-eight on a bight	Ties figure-eight on a bight, <input type="checkbox"/> safety <input type="checkbox"/> and 2 ½ hitches <input type="checkbox"/> Tag line attached	/3
4. Hoist empty line	Fails to tie clove hitch around nozzle or 2 ½ hitches	Ties clove hitch around nozzle <input type="checkbox"/> and 2 half hitches <input type="checkbox"/> with tag end <input type="checkbox"/>	/3
5. Hoist a ladder	Fails to tie figure-eight on a bight or traced eight	Ties figure-eight on a bight <input type="checkbox"/> with a safety in top 1/3 of ladder <input type="checkbox"/> and tip away from building <input type="checkbox"/> Tag line attached <input type="checkbox"/>	/4
6. Join two ropes	Fails to join two ropes using sheet bend with safety knots	Joins two ropes with sheet bend <input type="checkbox"/> and safety knots <input type="checkbox"/> Ropes must be joined correctly <input type="checkbox"/> (smaller tied to larger)	/3
Outcome: (circle one) A score of 16/20 correct to achieve a pass.			Fail Pass /20



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Evaluator Notes

Evaluating Officer Signature	Firefighter Candidate Signature
Evaluating Officer Name	