

## Knot Terminology

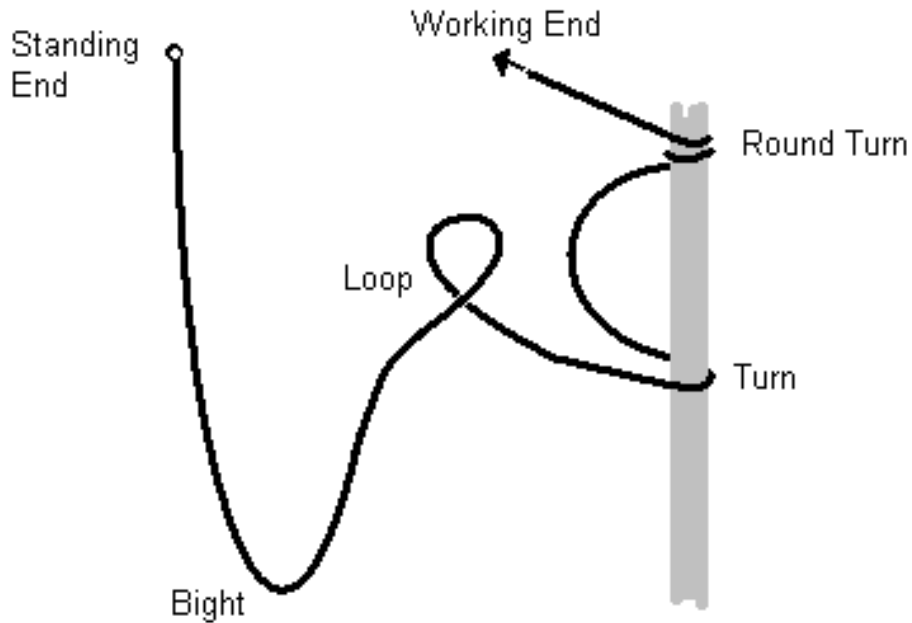
**Ashley Book of Knots (ABoK)** – knot book by Clifford Ashley, widely recognized as the pre-eminent book on knots. Knots here may also be referred to by their ABoK number.

**bight** - U-shaped curve of unknotted rope

**"in the bight"** or **"on the bight"** - at a point on the rope away from both ends

**standing end** - part of the rope not being used to tie the knot

**working or free end** - end of the rope that is free to be used to tie the knot



## Categories of Knots

**bend** - a knot that ties one piece of rope to another



Ex: Sheet Bend. ABoK #1, #1431

**binding knot** - a knot that is used to apply or hold tension around an object or group of objects ("binds" these objects together)



Ex: Reef (Square) Knot. ABoK #74, #75, #460, #1204, #1402, #2573, #2574, #2577, #2580

**braid, plait, or sennit** - basically just a braid

**decorative knot** - a knot whose primary purpose is to be attractive.



Ex: Carrick Bend (decorative version; also known as double coin knot). ABoK #1428, #1439

**hitch** - a knot that attaches a rope to an object such as a post or a beam

**lashing** - a knot used to hold two things (often poles) together

**loop knot** - a knot that creates fixed loop in the rope



Ex: Bowline. ABoK #1010, #1716

**slip knot** - a knot with a sliding loop.

**stopper knot** - a knot used to keep a line from going through a hole



Ex: Figure Eight Knot. ABoK #569.

**trick knot** - a knot with an interesting property that may be used for magic tricks

**whipping** - binding along a line intended to keep that line from fraying

### **Knot References**

Clifford W. Ashley, *The Ashley Book of Knots* (New York: Doubleday, 1944)

Raoul Graumont, *Encyclopedia of Knots and Fancy Rope Work* (Schiffer Publishing, 1952)

Wikipedia.