

CANOPY MAKING 101

-FOR ROOF LEAKS-

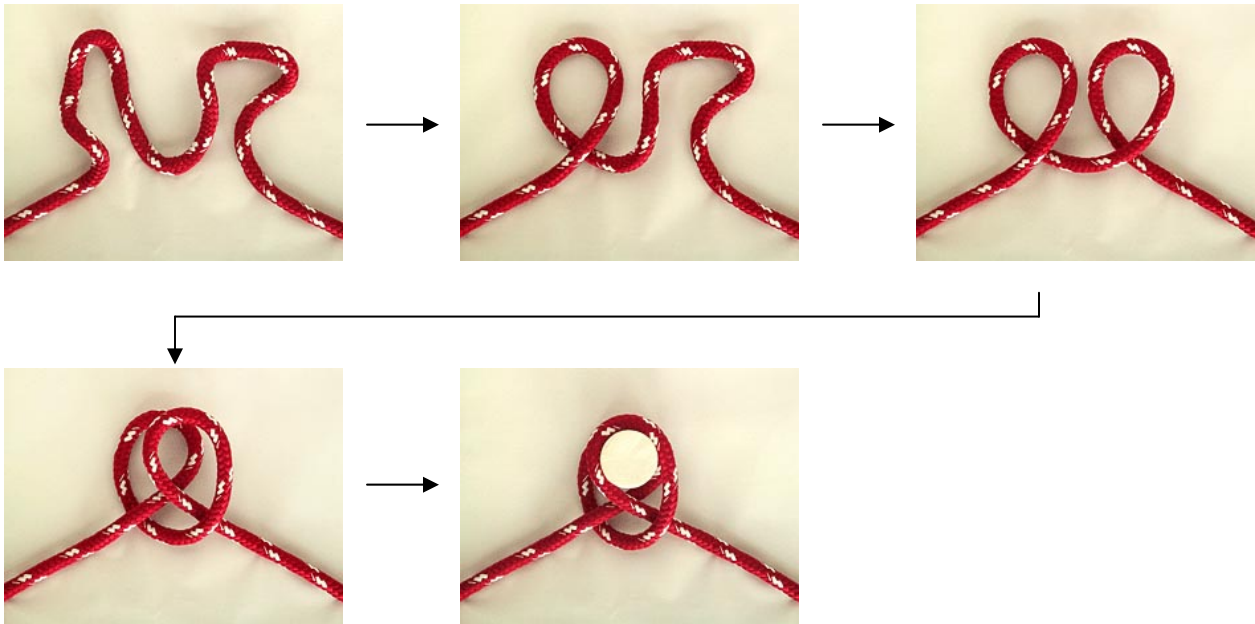
Materials and Equipment List:

- Polyethylene/Plastic sheeting (clear, at least 4 mil thick)
- String (cotton only - nylon tends to slip)
- Loose change or other small objects
- Paperclips (metal)
- Duct Tape (heavy-duty, all-weather) (for patching the canopies)
- Buckets (preferably one that doesn't leak)
- Scissors or multi-tool
- Ladder or step stool

Knots to Know:

The Clove Hitch

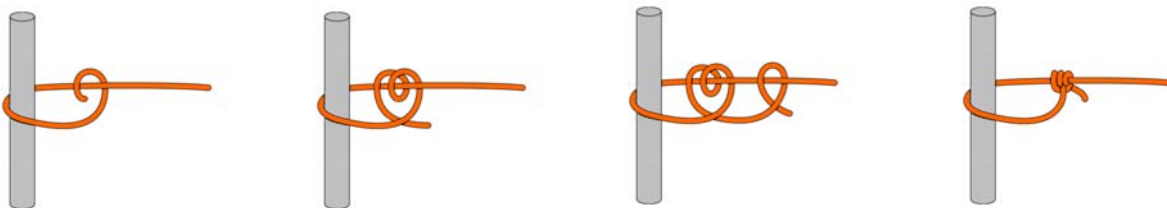
- Used to secure lines to the materials without grommets.



<http://www.animatedknots.com>

The Tautline Hitch

- Used to secure the canopy to fixed objects. Hitch is adjustable.



Making the Canopy:

- Assess the area, particularly how large of an expanse the canopy will have to cover and possible tie-downs for the 4 main corners (possibly more depending on the size of the canopy).
- Cut plastic sheeting to size (always larger than the expanse of the area) and place in vicinity (you may need to drape plastic sheet over book stacks so be mindful of the books at the top).
- Fasten string to the corners of the plastic sheet in the following method:
 - Securing a line to material without grommets:
 - Use a coin, rock, or small object to create a hold in material in place of a grommet. Use the clove hitch to secure.



<http://www.lifeviewoutdoors.com/store/featured/nine-knots.html>

****make sure you have enough string to hang the canopy from the corners****

- Once four corners have been fastened the canopy can be hung. The canopy can be suspended from pipes, ceiling tile framing, fixtures, etc. (just make sure they're solid and won't flex or break under weight). Use the tautline hitch to fasten the canopy to the building. The tautline hitch allows adjustments to be made to the length of the string so the low point in the canopy can be identified and adjusted if needed.
- Adjust the canopy via the tautline hitches so the low point falls over an open area and not over valuable items.
- Making the paperclip string drain:
 - Take a paperclip and straighten it out. Fold the straightened paperclip in half and form a loop at the center (the loop is the tie-off point for the string drain).
 - Cut a length of string that will reach from the bottom of the canopy to the bottom of the floor. Attach one end of the string to the looped paperclip with the clove hitch.
- Now that you've found an approximate low point you'll need to poke a hole through the center of that area (helpful hint: push the water aside before poking the hole). Thread the paperclip string drain completely through the hole and place the other end into an awaiting bucket. As the water drains from the canopy it will drip down along the string rather than randomly splash and potentially damage nearby books.
- Raise the canopy and adjust to your fixed low point.
- Stand back and admire your work.

****Disaster Response is an exercise in creativity. These instructions follow what I do in response to most roof leaks. Use your imagination and develop your own ways to respond to disasters.****

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