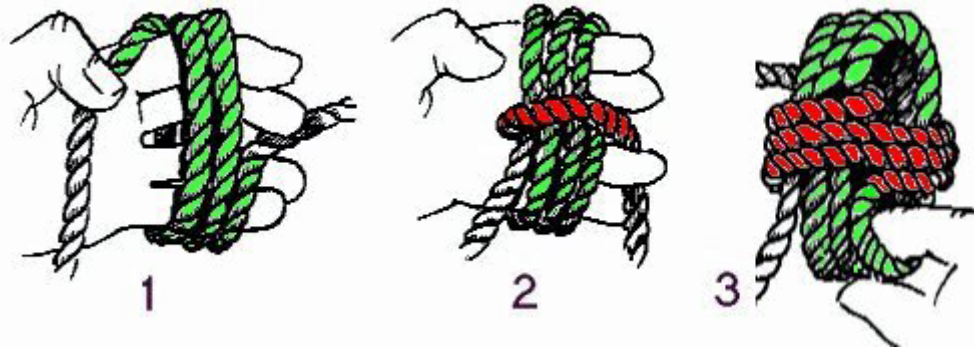


# The Monkey's Fist Knot

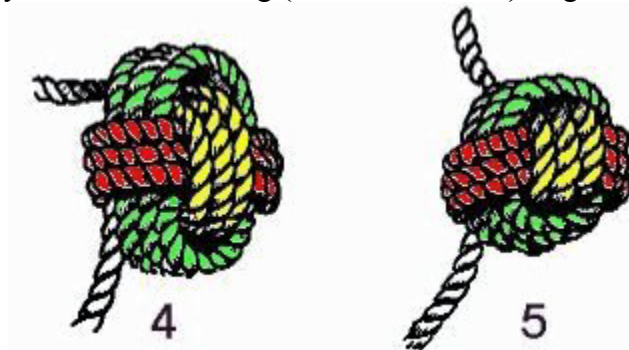
The Monkey's Fist was created so that a line could be thrown from ship to ship or ship to dock. Inside the knot would be a weighted ball. You can also use it as an interesting decoration, or tie it to your jackknife or keychain, to make it easy to find and get out of your pocket or pack !

For a small version you can use a marble and 1/8" braided nylon rope (~5 ft). For this size rope there are some changes to the directions below – they are highlighted in **bold**. The pictures are still helpful although you will be using only two fingers while the pictures show using four.

The Monkey's Fist knot is tricky but not too hard if you follow these simple instructions. Take your time and don't be afraid to start over again !



1. Begin by wrapping the rope around four fingers (**for this smaller rope use only two fingers**). Make 3 revolutions (**for this smaller rope use 4 revolutions**).
2. Go between your middle and ring finger (**first and second finger**) and wrap the rope three times (**for this smaller rope use 4**) around the center of the first loops.
3. It might be easier to remove your middle and ring (**first and second**) fingers while doing this.



4. Insert a small stone or pebble (**marble**), [or a golf ball, baseball or ... for thicker rope / larger monkey fist] and make the final three wraps (**for this smaller rope use four**) .
5. Once all of the wraps are complete, carefully tighten the loops. I like to use a small screw driver or needle nose pliers to help pull the ropes.

To finish – you can cut off one of the free ends and tuck it in so it is invisible; you can then use the remaining free end to tie it to a key ring or your jack knife or what ever! If you would like, you can leave a loop in the middle wraps. Tie an overhand knot and use the loop as a key ring or loop it on your backpack; in this case, clip off both free ends very close to the ball and tuck them in so that they are invisible.

Good Luck.... and don't give up!

Drawings and directions from Troop 173 Etna,PA web site (modified by KC)

-----Courtesy of Boy Scout Troop 39 Marlborough, CT -----

For these directions (in color !!) and other info, visit our troop's web site: [www.ct-troop39.org](http://www.ct-troop39.org)