

Deck work

Coiling ropes and using cleats



Coiling Ropes

Ropes that are 'right hand laid' must always be coiled down clockwise. Failure to do so will result in ropes getting 'kinks' which can jam up the blocks and cause serious trouble!

Mooring Ropes

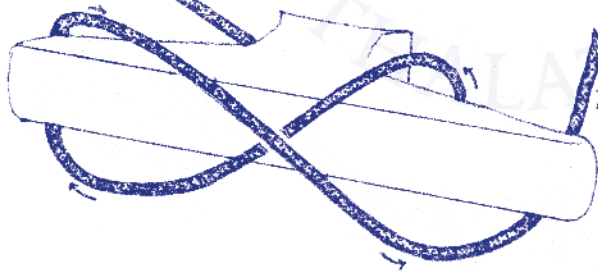
Only the very large mooring ropes are coiled flat into round or oblong 'mats' on top of the hatches. This looks nice and neat.

Working Ropes

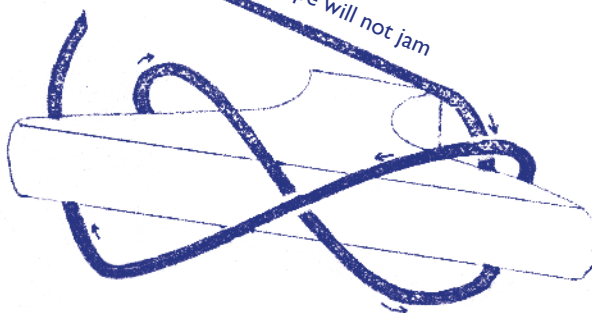
Smaller working ropes are never coiled into flat maps, they have to be piled, like this picture on the right shows.



Wrong Way
Underneath first; rope will jam



Right Way
Over the top first and a figure of 8; the rope will not jam



Cleats are in use all over the ship for making ropes fast. Why is it so important that we do this the 'right' way?

The 'right' way will allow us to slack away some rope or to let it go, even when a great deal of weight comes on the working part. If it were done incorrectly the rope would jam, and this could result in the tearing of a sail, or even the loss of a mast!