

APPENDIX 7

LEADER HELPS

KNOTS AND ROPES

◆ WHIPPING A ROPE

Ropes are made of twisted fibers. When a rope is cut, the fibers separate. You can whip the ends in place with string so the rope won't unravel.

Cut off the part that has already unraveled. Take a piece of strong string, dental floss, or thin twine at least 8 to 10 inches long. Make a loop and place it at one end of the rope.

Wrap the string tightly around the rope. When the whipping is as wide as the rope is thick, slip the end through the loop. Then firmly pull out the string ends and trim them off.



◆ FUSING A ROPE

Rope and cord made of plastic or nylon will melt when exposed to high heat. Cut away the frayed part of the rope. Then, working in a well-ventilated area, hold each end a few inches above a lighted match or candle to melt and fuse the strands together. Melted rope can be hot and sticky—don't touch the end until it has cooled. Do not try to fuse ropes made of manila, sisal, hemp, cotton, or other natural fibers, because they will burn rather than melt.



◆ KNOTS FOR CAMPING

You will use rope for many purposes when you go camping. These knots will come in handy for different situations.

1. **Square Knot:** For tying two ropes together and for tying bandages in first aid.



2. **Taut-line Hitch:** For tightening and loosening a rope easily and for use on tent guy lines. Tighten or loosen the knot by pushing the hitch up or down.



3. **Two Half Hitches:** For tying a rope to a post or ring. This knot is strong but is easy to loosen.



4. **Bowline:** Used when you want a loop that will not slip or close up. It is often used in rescue work.

