

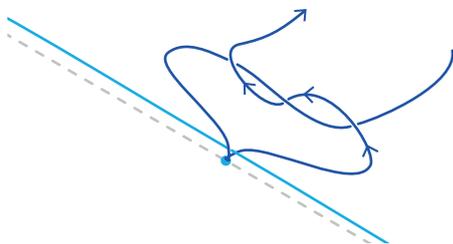
Bookbinding - Essentials

Bookbinding Knots

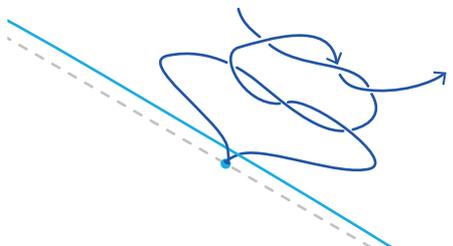
The variety of sewn binding techniques available offer up a myriad of knots. However, there are 3 knots that will serve most useful in your bookbinding endeavours; the square knot; kettle stitch; and weavers knot.

Square Knot

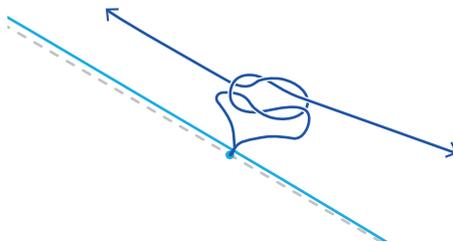
You will need a square knot to secure almost every sewn book. If you pull this knot very tight it should not come undone, if it does you have made a “granny knot” instead. You may also know this knot as a reef knot if you were ever a cadet or scout.



01. Take the thread end in your right hand over and under the other thread end.



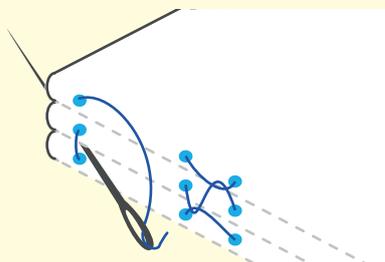
02. Now bring the thread end from step 1, which is now on the left, over and under the thread end.



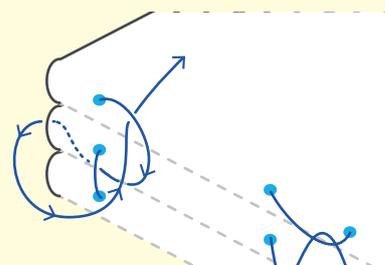
03. Draw the two ends apart to pull the knot tight. Trim the ends to 5mm.

Kettle Stitch

A kettle stitch is sewn at the sewing stations closest to either the head or tail, of the bookblock to secure two sections together. This is only done for bookblocks with three or more sections, and after the addition of a third section.



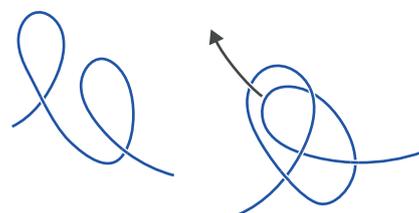
01. As you come out of the sewing station closest to either the head or tail, insert the needle and thread between the two sections directly below going behind the head/tail sewing station.



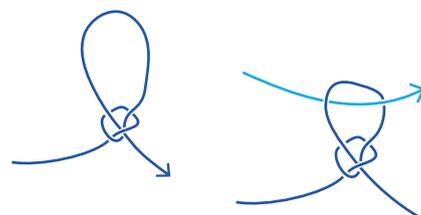
02. Pull the needle and thread out of the head/tail, which will create a loop at the spine. Go up and through the loop and pull just tight enough to create a knot and resume sewing adding the next section.

Weaver's Knot

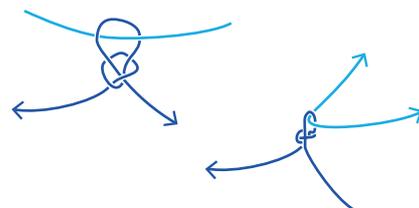
When sewing multiple sections, a considerable amount of thread is needed. As it is impractical to work with more than an arms length of thread at a time you will need to use a weaver's knot to join additional lengths of thread.



01. Make two loops in the new piece of thread. Place the right hand loop through the left loop, from behind, to make a slip knot.



02. Pull on the end of the thread to close the loop slightly. Thread the old thread you want to join to through the loop.



03. Pull on both ends of the new thread to trap the old thread. Pull on the new thread and old thread and the knot will make a 'click' and lock into place.