## Sliding Knot Routine (by Peter Gardini)

The simple vanishing slip knot made by winding the rope around your thumb once and then pushing a loop through has the drawback that it will only break in one direction. If a hand is slid along the rope in one direction the knot will vanish, if however the hand is slid along it in the other direction this will cause the knot to tighten. A better knot to use for our purpose is the bow knot. To make it, wind the rope round the left hand once and clip the right hand end of the rope between the left index and second finger as in Figure 1.



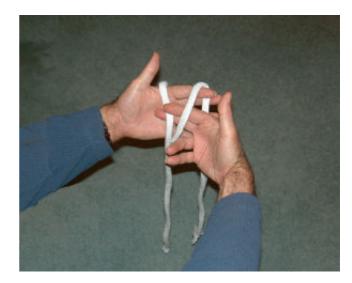


Figure 1



Figure 2

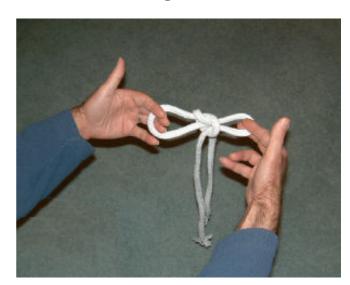


Figure 3 Figure 4

With the right hand index and second finger, reach under the rope in the left hand and clip the left hand end of the rope between the right index and second finger as in Figure 2.

While retaining a grip on the rope, move the hands apart as in Figure 3 and continue as in Figure 4 to produce a loop at each hand. This will produce a bow knot.

Pull on the two loops to make the bow knot tight. To turn the bow knot into a slip knot which will break in both directions, pull on the ends of the rope in turn, so that the loops get smaller and actually go back into the body of the knot. Stop pulling before the knot breaks. The loops should be just inside the body of the knot as in Figure 5.

One of the magic dealers once marketed this knot under the name "ONORFS KNOT".

## Setup

Make three of these break both ways slip knots in a length of rope as in Figure 6. Have one knot near each end and the third in the middle of the rope. It is possible to make only the slip knot at each end and to actually tie the center knot on the rope at the start of the routine by doing the old tying a knot without letting go of the ends routine.

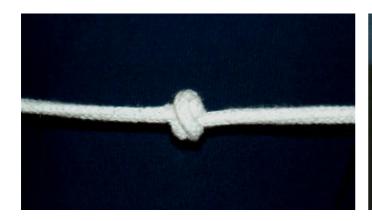




Figure 5 Figure 6

Whatever is decided, begin by holding the rope between the hands so that there is one of the end knots hidden in each hand. The audience must not be aware of these two knots.

## To Perform

Bring the right hand, concealing the knot it hides up to the center knot. Grasp the center knot in the right hand and slide the hand down the rope, breaking the center knot and continuing down the rope. When the right hand is at the bottom release the hidden knot. This gives the illusion that the center knot has slid down the rope to one end.

Now grab the knot that the right hand has just exposed with the left hand which is also concealing a knot. Break the right hand knot as the left hand is slid along the rope. Expose the knot that the left hand was concealing when it reaches the other end of the rope.

The final move is to grasp the knot with the left hand and slide the left hand off the rope, breaking the knot as it does so. This makes the knot appear to vanish.

## Notes on presentation

This could be used to demonstrate that our sins go with us wherever we go. The knot represents our sins. If we climb a mountain our sins go with us. If we go to the depths of the sea our sins still go with us. Only Jesus can wipe our sins away. Simple but very effective