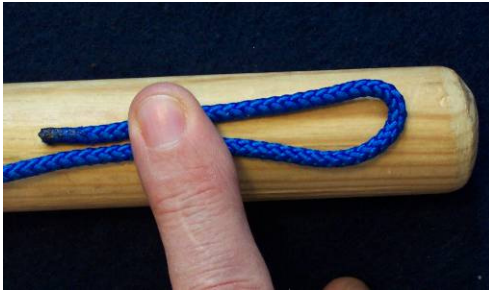


Whipping and Fusing



This is just one way to whip the end of a rope. I find it to be the easiest. You start by laying a bight along the rope you wish to whip, the bight opening away from the end. Next you wrap the whipping line tightly around the rope. The length of the whipping you should be at least the diameter of the rope. I didn't have enough whipping line in the demo to do this but you get the idea. Next feed the line through the bight and then using both ends pull the bight under the whipping turns and then trim the whipping ends close. The most important part of whipping is wrapping the line tightly.



The picture above shows cotton clothes line that has been whipped properly. The ends were then painted with water soluble paint. This piece is about five feet long and was one of my first attempts at lines to use for teaching.

There are a number of ways to fuse rope, a match, a lighter, or my favorite a soldering iron. When fusing only a small number of lines a match or lighter works fine. If you have a lot of fusing to do I like to first mark where the cuts will be and then use a soldering iron or a wood burning tool to melt the strands together. Then using some large shears it is easy to cut the line at the mark. I find it helpful if you cut the line at an angle. The blue line above was made this way.