8-Strand Class I End-For-End Splice

Class I ropes are made from any or all of the following fibers: olefin, polyester, or nylon.

GETTING STARTED

8-strand ropes, also known as plaited ropes, are composed of 8 strands grouped into 4 pairs. 2 of these pairs turn to the left (shown in gray), and 2 pairs turn to the right (shown in white.) Seen in this cross-section, the 4 strand pairs form the sides of a square. The strands that are on opposite sides of the square will rotate in the same direction.

TOOLS REQUIRED

A splicing fid or marlinspike, sharp knife or scissors, plastic or masking tape, marking pen.

COUNTING AND MARKING

From the end of the rope, count a distance of 10 picks and apply tape securely around the rope immediately after the 10th pick, as shown in the illustration. This is Mark 1. Mark at both ends of the rope. Apply the tape securely enough so that it will not move during the splicing procedure.

MARKING THE ROPE

Holding the end of the rope, note the pairs of strands going to the left. Mark these pairs. Mark the strands up to Mark 1 and continue to mark the strands for 5 or more picks beyond the tape at Mark 1.

SEPARATING & TAPING

Remove tape from end, then re-tape the end of each strand. Start unlaying strands in their respective pairs. It is important to keep them together. After they are separated into pairs up to Mark 1, untwist the pairs. Tape the ends of pairs together with a taper as shown in Fig. A.

Lay out rope as shown in Fig. A, working from the right hand rope. Unmarked strand pairs are shown in white. Marked strand pairs are shown in gray. The left hand rope mirrors this arrangement.
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**STEP 4 JOINING THE PAIRS**

To start, lay out the marked and unmarked strands as they appear in Fig. B.

**4A** It is important that the next steps of the procedure be followed carefully as shown in Fig. C.

- Marked A1 strands go through marked B1 strands.
- Marked B2 strands go through marked A2 strands.
- Unmarked A3 strands go through unmarked B3 strands.
- Unmarked B4 strands go through unmarked A4 strands. Keep strands untwisted.

**STEP 5 MARRYING THE ROPES**

After the initial step has been completed on all strands, you should have something that looks like Fig. D. Marry the ropes as shown in Step 6. This part is preferably a 2-person job.

**FINISHING MARRIAGE**

Keep the ropes together snugly. Tie a piece of string tightly around the splicing point as shown in Fig. E. Remove both pieces of tape from the rope.
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**STEP 7**
**STARTING THE TUCKS**
Beginning at the marriage, tuck marked pairs of strands under the nearest unmarked pair. Then tuck an unmarked pair under the nearest marked pair. Complete 1 full set of tucks in one direction with all the strands and then do another full set of tucks on the other side of the marriage. Pull everything tight before proceeding. Continue tucking the strands around the rope until you have completed 4 full tucks on each side of the marriage with all the strand pairs. Next, select the strand closest to the marriage point in each pair. Tape this strand and cut the excess off as shown below.

**Figure F**

**STEP 8**
**FINISHING THE SPLICE**
Splice the remaining single strands for 2 more full tucks, tape and cut off as shown in Fig. F.

**Trim last tucked strands so all exposed strands are similar in length after their final tuck.**

**Figure F**

**Finished splice**