Round Plait Class I Eye Splice

Class I round plait ropes are made from any or all of the following fibers: olefin, polyester, or nylon. The round plait construction requires a splicing technique different from other 12-strand braided ropes. The “tuck” procedure may be performed in the field on both new and used rope with a minimum of tools.

The eye splice is used to place a permanent loop in the end of a rope, generally for attachment purposes to a fixed point. An eye is also used to form the rope around a thimble, which is used to protect the rope, especially when it is to be attached to a shackle, chain, or wire rope.

**STEP 1 MEASURING AND MARKING**

1A Form the desired eye size using the tape wrapped around the rope as a reference mark. Mark the body of the rope at the point where it matches up with Mark 1. This is Mark 2.

1 fid length

**STEP 2 PAIRING THE STRANDS**

Divide the 12 individual strands into 6 pairs of 2 strands each. The strands that are paired together should be adjacent to each other at the point where the unbraided rope meets the tape wrapped around the rope. There should be 1 "S" strand (strand with clockwise twist) and 1 "Z" strand (strand with counterclockwise twist) in each pair. Before taping each set of strands together, twist each strand separately to maintain the twist of the fiber.

**Note:** Each taped pair of strands has 1 Z strand and 1 S strand.
Round Plait Class I Eye Splice

SAMSON SPlicing INSTRUCTIONS

MARKING ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS

At Mark 2, make a mark at the intersection of an S and a Z strand. This will be the entry point for all 6 strands and the tail when it is buried. The entry point should be on the side of the rope facing the opposite leg of the eye.

From the entry point, count 2 picks down the rope and mark 6 strands around the circumference of the rope. There will be 3 S strands and 3 Z strands marked. At each intersection of an S and a Z strand, mark an exit point. There will be 6 exit points marked.

ROUTING THE STRANDS

The first 3 strands closest to the inside of the eye are now routed from the entry point at Mark 2 to the exit points on the opposite side of the rope. Each strand is routed separately, entering at the entry point and exiting at its own exit point. Do not pull the strands up tight yet. Leave slack at the entry point.

4A The 3 remaining strands are now routed from the entry point at Mark 2 to the exit point. Each strand is routed separately, entering at the entry point and exiting at its own exit point. Do not pull the strands up tight yet. Leave slack at the entry point.

4B With all 6 strands routed, pull each of the 6 routed strands to remove any slack, and make sure the rope is smooth and tight at the entry point.
**Round Plait Class I Eye Splice**

**STEP 5**

**BEGIN TUCKING THE STRAND PAIRS**

Begin tucking the strand pairs over 1 and under 2 for 3 tucks. Each strand is tucked down the same row of picks in the braid, over 1 strand and under 2 strands.

**STEP 6**

**TAPERING THE SPLICE**

When all 6 strand pairs have been tucked for 3 tucks, drop every other strand pair. Use the remaining 3 strands to continue down the rope for 3 more tucks.

**6A** Finally, once 3 of the strand pairs have 6 full tucks, separate the strand pairs into individual strands and drop 1 strand in each pair, continuing down 2 more tucks.

**6B** Cut the excess tails to complete the splice. Leave enough of an end protruding so that the end does not slip back into the rope when over-loaded.