Bridge Building

Getting started

Lashings are used to hold your bridge together and must be tied correctly to ensure the bridge stays together. The are four types of lashings each one has a different job to do. The square lashing for tying poles together which cross at right angles and are supportive. Diagonal lashings which are used to pull bracing poles together. The Tripod or Figure of eight lashing for joining the tops of 3 or more poles and the Sheer Lashing for joining poles together to make them longer.

The Norwegian Lashing and the Japanese Lashing are alternative to the tradition Square and Diagonal lashing. They are quick and easy to tie and generally they form a tighter lashing.



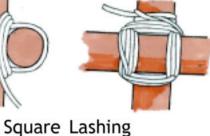


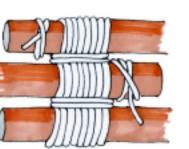


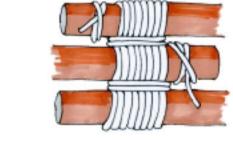


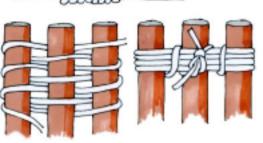
Diagonal Lashing



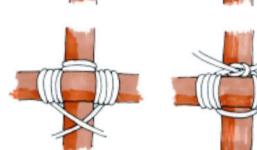








Tripod or Figure of Eight Lashing



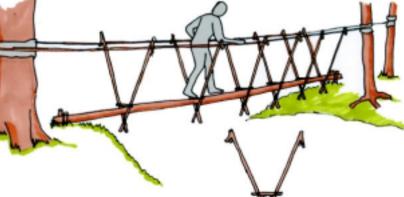


Sheer Lashing





Japanese Lashing

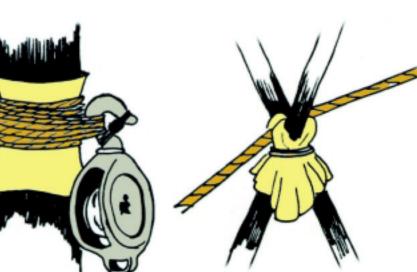




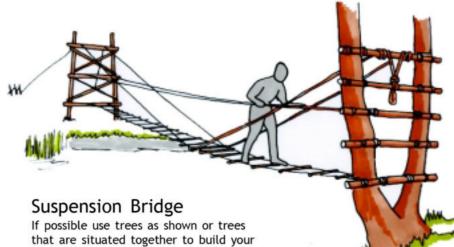


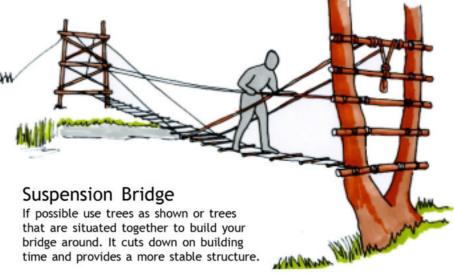
Protection of Trees and ropes

When making bridges and any pioneering structure you must be constantly aware of friction which can occur at points of strain. Friction can also happen if there is play or movement of a strained rope. This can cause ropes to burn and tree bark to be damaged. In order to prevent both place some protective material such as an old piece of canvas or sacking at the point that friction might occur.



Bushman's Bridge





Tresle Bridge

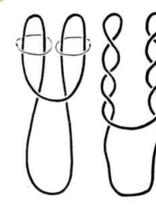
This simple bridge uses a treasle as the basis of it structure with two 'ladders' linking it together. The tresle is a strong basic structure from which a number of bridges can be constructed.

Locking Bridge

This bridge uses no lashings and it relies on

the friction and tension of the poles used in

its construction to hold it together



Pulleys

load

By using different combinations of single and double pulleys and reeving them as shown it is possible to increase the pulling power thus allowing you to strain the ropes on your bridge with ease.

3:1

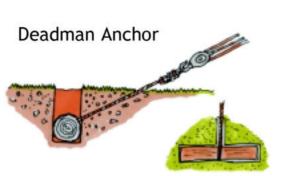
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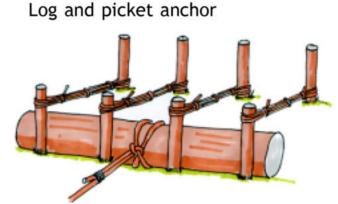


Commando Bridge









Seesaw bridge

This bridge uses two tresle frames interlocked as the basis of the structure.

Anchor

How to reeve

Fix to eye of pulley using a

round turn

and two half hitches

up a pulley

Anchors

Where no fixed anchor by way of a large tree or rock is available it will be necessary to drive stakes or pickets into the ground to provide anchors. The type used depends on the soil conditions and the strain your structure will have to endure.



Simple 3-2-1 Picket anchor