

How to Make a Weather Rock Forecasting Station



A Weather Rock Forecaster can be made from any materials and knots you want, but is usually a woodcraft project using fallen wood and proper lashings.

Materials:

1. A fist-size, (or larger), rock or stone
2. 3 pieces of wood – usually fallen wood, as straight as possible, minimum 1” in diameter and 24” long. (can be any size you want)
3. 4 to 6 feet of lashing material – rope, cord, or twine
4. Something to write and make the sign with – can be a sheet of paper, cardboard, or flat wood you can write on

Instructions:

1. Lay the wood for the tripod legs as shown below – top of 2 legs on outside facing one and the top of 1 leg in the middle facing the other way. – as in Figure 1
2. Start with a clove hitch on one leg. – it’s a simple knot that works – learn it, or use any knot you want.
3. Make 4 to 8 *loose* wraps around all three poles as shown in the top picture of Figure 1. ***Don’t make the loops too tight, the “frapping” turns will tighten the lashing for you.*
4. Make two frapping turns around the lashing between each pole, (as shown on the bottom of figure 1). Pull each turn tight before making another one.
5. Finish off with another clove hitch as shown.

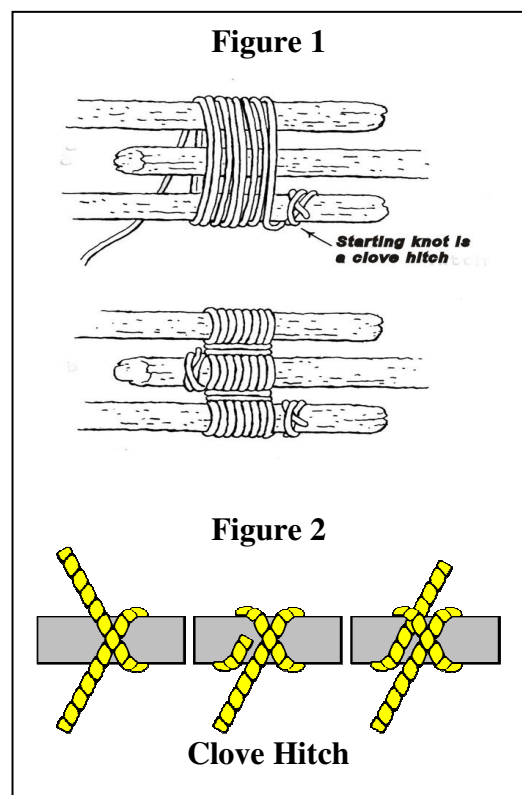


Figure 3

6. Position the tripod legs. The top should look as shown below in figure 3, and the bottoms should be firmly planted in the ground.



Now for the Rock

1. Tie your rock or stone with a double loop TomFool knot as in **figure 4**, place a loop around each end of the rock and tighten the knot.

Or, if your rock is longer than it is round, you can tie it with a simple Timber Hitch knot – shown in **Figure 5**

2. Suspend your rock 4 to 6 inches above the ground and tie a Bowlan knot on the other end, (as in **Figure 6**), and loop it over the top of the center tripod leg.
3. All Done! Except for the forecast sign. Here are some sample forecasts:

Rock is dry and warm.....Sunny
 Rock is moving..... Windy
 Rock is wet.....Raining
 Rock is white.....Snowing
 Rock is invisible.....Foggy
 Rock is gone.....Tornado – Run
 Rock is shaking.....Earthquake – Run

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Figure 4

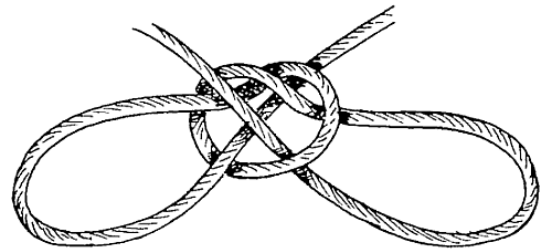
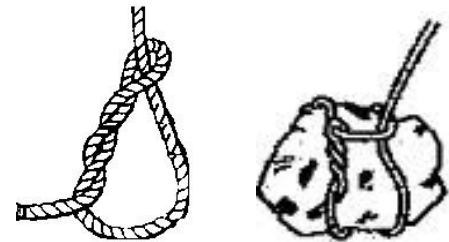


FIG. 66 – Tomfool knot.

Figure 5



Timber Hitch Knot

Figure 6
Bowlan Knot

