

## Clinch Knot

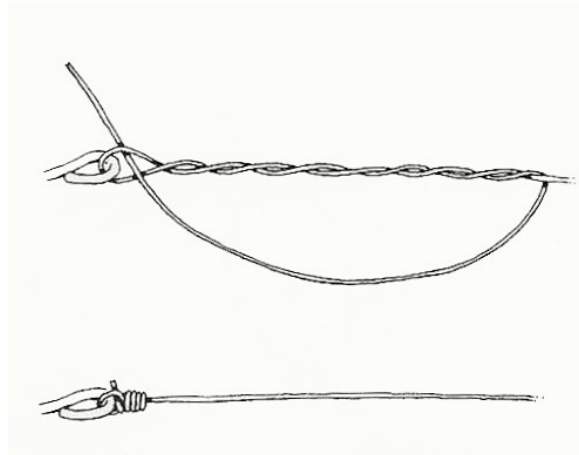
The Clinch Knot is the standard knot to tie the fly onto the end of the leader.

The standard *Clinch Knot* is the one I use most of the time to tie on my fly. The only caveat with this knot is to use 5 to 7 turns and to *pull only the long end when tightening it*. Hold the short end, do not pull it. If you pull the short end, the knot won't turn over correctly, and during casting the fly will pop off.

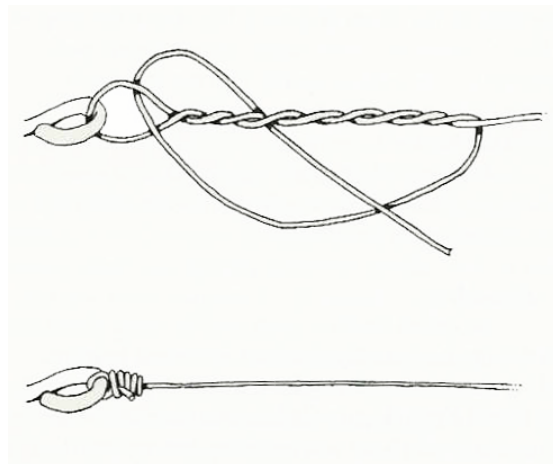
When tying this knot, I stick the short end through just a tiny ways and then pinch it against the fly as I pull the knot tight. This way, I rarely have to trim the short end. Remember to wet the knot, pull it smoothly, and hold it stretched for a few seconds so that it can draw perfectly tight.

The *Improved Clinch* is a modification that clinches against itself and will therefore always hold.

The **Anglers Rule of Three** states that if you divide the hook size by 3 it will equal the correct X size for the tippet. If you strictly follow this rule, you can use the *Clinch Knot*. Otherwise, I recommend the *Improved Clinch Knot*. The only problem with it is that each time it's tied; you lose 3 to 4 inches of tippet material. Change the fly three times, and the tippet is a foot shorter!



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Improved Clinch Knot