Splicing:

- Splicing, like knotting, requires manual dexterity and PRACTICE.

- With small and/or moderate sizes of three-strand line you can make splices without specialized tools...
  - However, a knife, tape, and fid are extremely helpful.

- If you are splicing heavier rope or braided line, a marlinspike or a special fid for braided line is necessary.
Rope Characteristics:

Examples of Right-Hand Laid or Stranded Rope:
- Cotton
- Manila
- Dacron
- Nylon
- Polypropylene

Examples of Rope Constructions:
- Hollow Braid
- Diamond Braid
- Double Braid
- Stranded

Strands, Yarns, and Fibers:
- Natural Fiber “Manilla”
- Synthetic Fiber “Nylon”
Splicing: Rules of Thumb

Three-Strand Rope:

- **Natural fiber** ropes must have a minimum of three complete tucks to be considered complete.

- **Synthetic fiber** rope must have a minimum of five complete tucks.
  - A tuck consists of all three splicing strands passing under the three strands of the spliced section.

- **Whippings** are NOT REQUIRED on stranded rope splices; but they can be added.

- If tapering a splice, begin the taper after the minimum number of tucks.
Splicing: Rules of Thumb (cont’d)

**Hollow Braid Rope:**

- Made of synthetic material(s).
- Hollow braid splices must have the opposing core tucked in a **minimum of eight inches**.
- **Whippings** are REQUIRED on hollow braid splices.
Hollow Braid Splicing Tools

- Whipping Twine
- Appropriate Sized Knife
- Hollow Braid Splicing Fids
- Sizes: 3/8”, 5/16”, 1/4”, 3/16”
Double-Braid Splicing Tools

- Whipping Twine
- Tape 3/8”
- Marker
- Sail Needle 5/16”
- Appropriate Sized Knife 1/4”
- Specialized Double-Braid Splicing Fids
Required Splices:  Testing Purposes

■ Stranded Ropes:

3-Strand Natural and Synthetic Fiber
- Eye Splice (with or without a thimble inserted)
- Short Splice (with or without tapers)
- Back Splice

■ Hollow Braid Ropes:

Polypropylene and Polyethylene
- Eye Splice (with or without a thimble inserted)
- End-to-End Splice (two ropes together)
- Back Splice
Let’s watch a quick video clip:

Available for viewing online from Samson at: http://www.samsonrope.com/Pages/Videos.aspx#IAAR
Where to Get More Information:

- **Books:**
  - *Fisherman’s Workbook*, Prado, J.
  - *Knots*, Perry, Gordon
  - *Modern Rope Seamanship*, Jarman, Colin & Beavis, Bill
  - *Piloting – Seamanship & Small Boat Handling*, Chapman, Charles
  - *Pocket Handbook of Knots and Splices*, Wall Industries
  - *The Ashley Book of Knots*, Ashley, Clifford

- **Electronic Media:**
  - [http://www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com)
  - [http://www.realknots.com](http://www.realknots.com)
  - [http://www.samsonrope.com](http://www.samsonrope.com)