

## Ringbolt or Spanish hitching (coxcombing) around an eye

### ABOK 3605

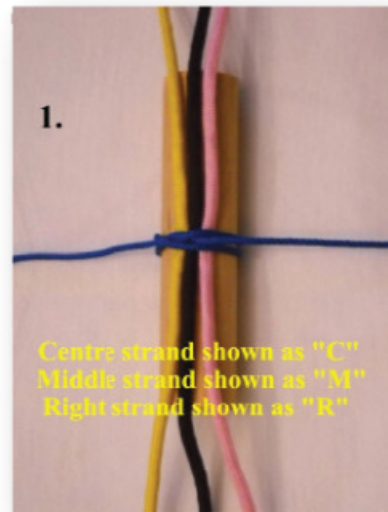
While building a becket "door knocker", I happened across **Vince Brennan's** Spanish Hitching tutorial on his website (<http://www.frayedknotarts.com>). Vince's instructional was very helpful to me but I discovered that I was having trouble with the outside circumference of the eye splice not being able to keep up with the inside circumference. In other words, my hitch lines were creeping ahead on the inside circumference. By the time I got to the end of the eye, there was a gap at the top side of the eye. I could have remedied this by allowing more space along the braid but that would leave spaces along the top. By jamming the line along the inside diameter of the eye, I ran the very distinct risk of having the line jump up onto another turn. The solution to my dilemma was pretty obvious. I would begin my hitching at the apex of the eye and work in 2 directions down towards the bottom. Following Vince's directions, the first part of my coxcombing went off without a "hitch" Unfortunately, I spent way too much time trying to figure out how to reverse direction and maintain the hogback pattern. Not being the "brightest bulb on the porch, I decided to take my time, dismantle and reverse-engineer the knot. I'm sure that many experienced tyers have already figured this out, but to those, like me, who need everything spelled out, I hope this tutorial is of some assistance.

John Staley – Southern Ontario Knot Tyers (IGKT- NAB)

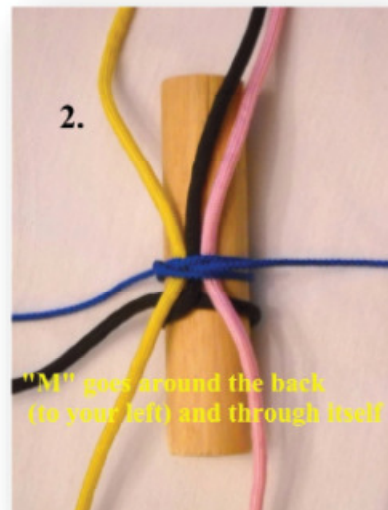
Ring bolt hitching from the apex of the eye splice, downward. The gaps that are visible will be evened out with a prick once the hitching has been completed.



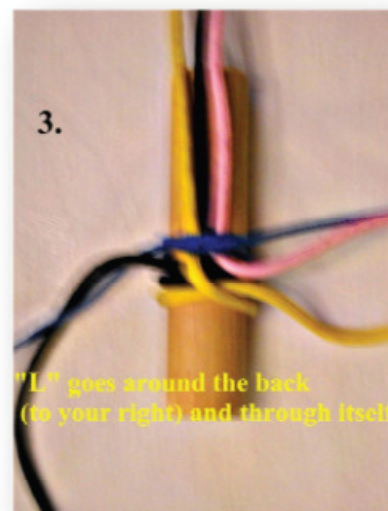
We'll begin by reviewing the method used to tie a 3 strand Ringbolt hitch. For the purpose of clarity, I'm using 3 coloured strands seized at the middle to a piece of dowel.



The middle strand (black) goes to the left, around the back and through itself



The left strand (yellow) goes to the right, around the back and through itself



The right strand (pink) goes to the left, around the back and through itself

**This completes the first cycle. Notice that you have 2 strands on the left and one strand on the right. You always begin the next pass using the uppermost strand whether it be on the left or right side . In other words ignore the lonely single strand until it is "paired up".**

As you continue the hitching, pay careful attention to uniform tension on each strand and making sure that the hogback is straight. I use a marker to draw a guideline along the center of my eye splice.

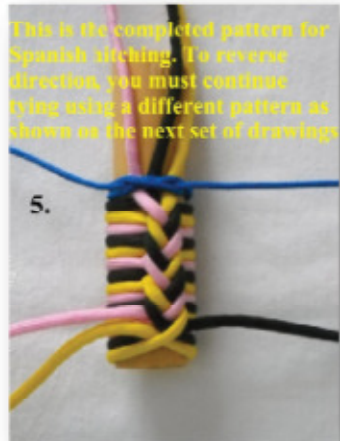
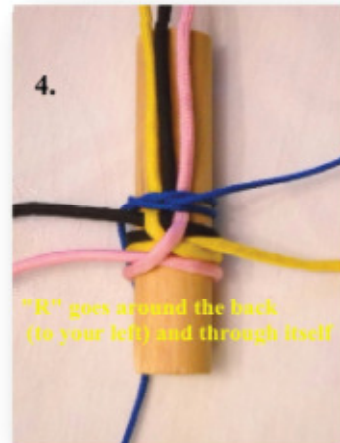
Once you have completed the hitching from the apex of the eye splice to the bottom, it is time to learn how to do your hitching backwards.

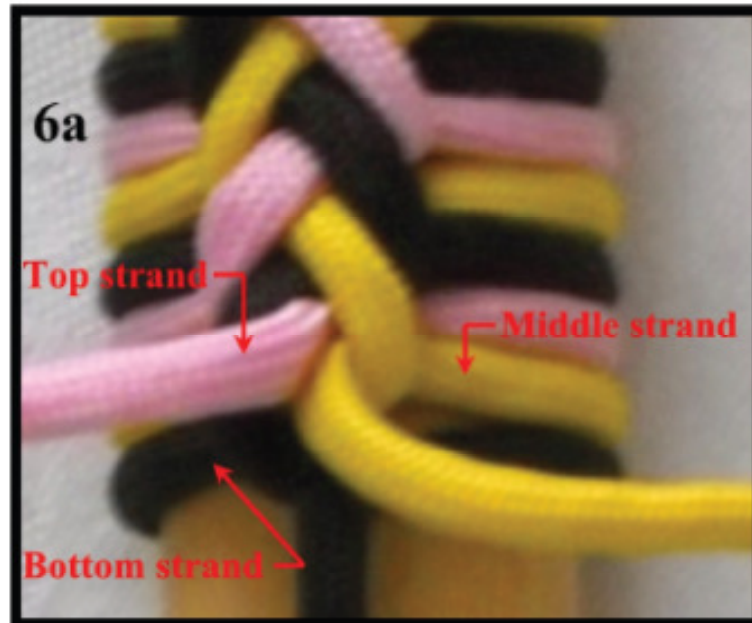
I must confess that it took me quite a while to figure it out, but once you get into the new pattern, it will feel just as comfortable as the first part. I'm sure that after you've done this once or twice, it will even seem simple.

If you're not doing another hitching project for a while, you might consider keeping these instructions.

### Part Deux Reverse Hitching

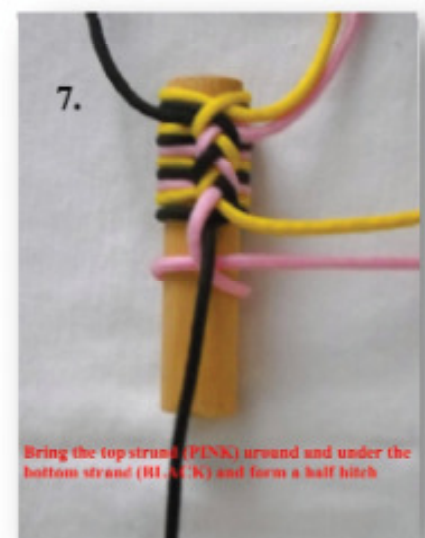
It's time to change our tying pattern! We'll start by turning our work around and removing the seizing



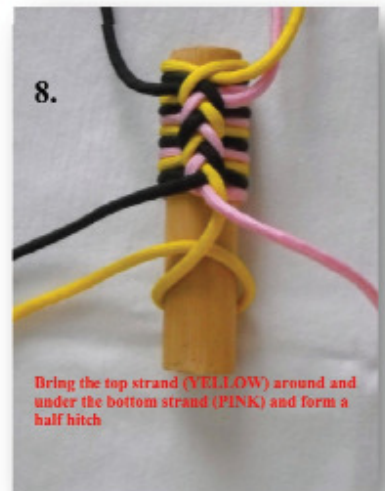


Once you have removed the seizing, take note that we can no longer refer to the left, right and middle strands. We now have to use different terms to reference which strand goes where.

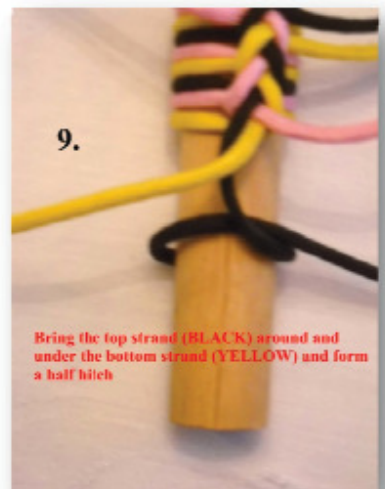
The top strand (pink) is brought under the bottom strand (black) and through itself to form a hitch



The top strand (yellow) is brought under the bottom strand (pink) and through itself to form a hitch

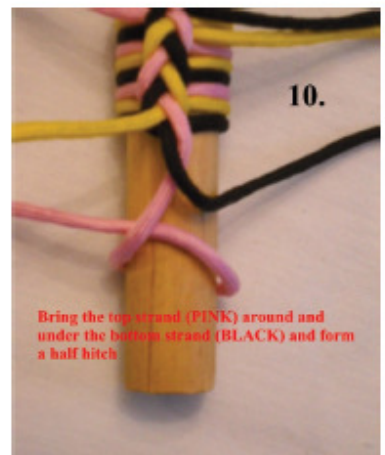


The top strand (black) is brought under the bottom strand (yellow) and through itself to form a hitch

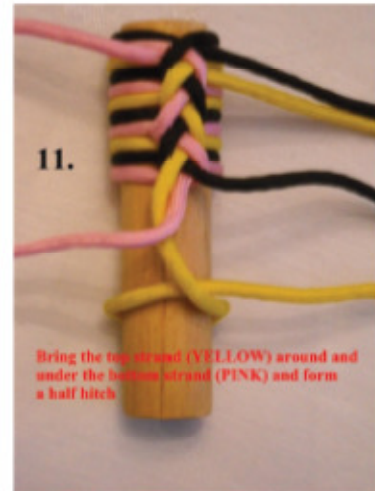


**Now we begin the sequence in the opposite direction**

The top strand (pink) is brought under the bottom strand (black) and through itself to form a hitch



The top strand (yellow) is brought under the bottom strand (pink) and through itself to form a hitch



The top strand (black) is brought under the bottom strand (yellow) and through itself to form a hitch

This completes 2 cycles. You now start at step 7 and continue until hitching is complete

