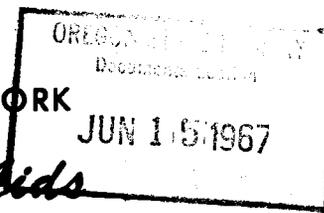




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OREGON 4-H CLUB WORK

Demonstration Aids



Cooperative Extension Service

Oregon State University

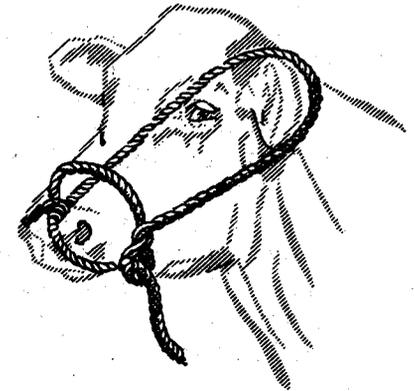
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HOW TO MAKE A ROPE HALTER

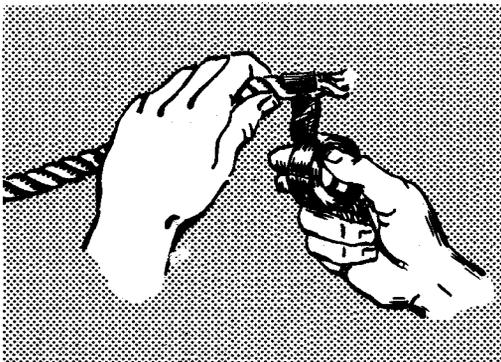
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Rope halters are easy to make. They are inexpensive, adjustable, useful in leading and tying, and are quite durable if kept dry. In making your halters, use good quality 3-strand manila rope. The table below will be a guide for selecting the right size and amount of rope.



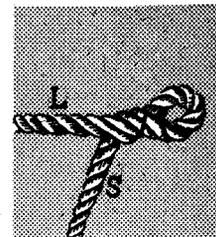
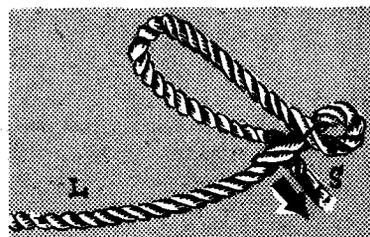
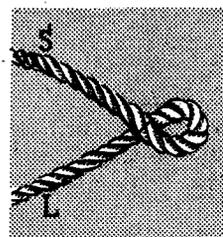
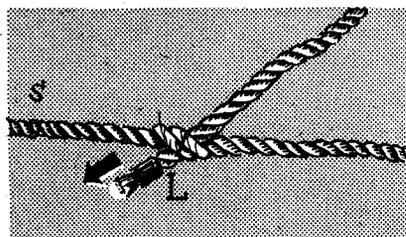
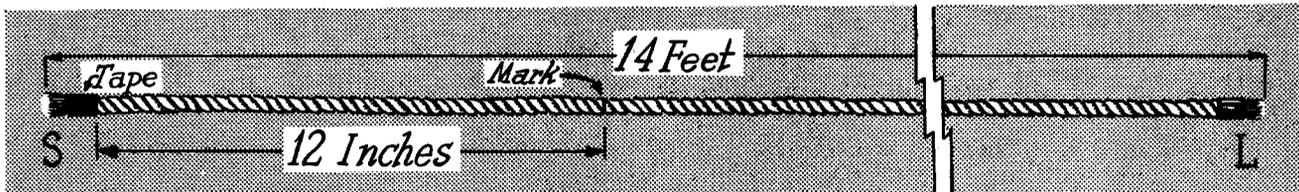
Kind & size of animal	Size of rope	Length of rope	Nose piece
Sheep & small calves ...	1/4"-5/16"	8'-10'	8"-9"
Calves to 1 year	3/8"-7/16"	10'-12'	9"-11"
Yearlings & cows	7/16"-1/2"	12'-14'	11"-13"
Horses and bulls	1/2"-9/16"	13'-16'	14"-16"

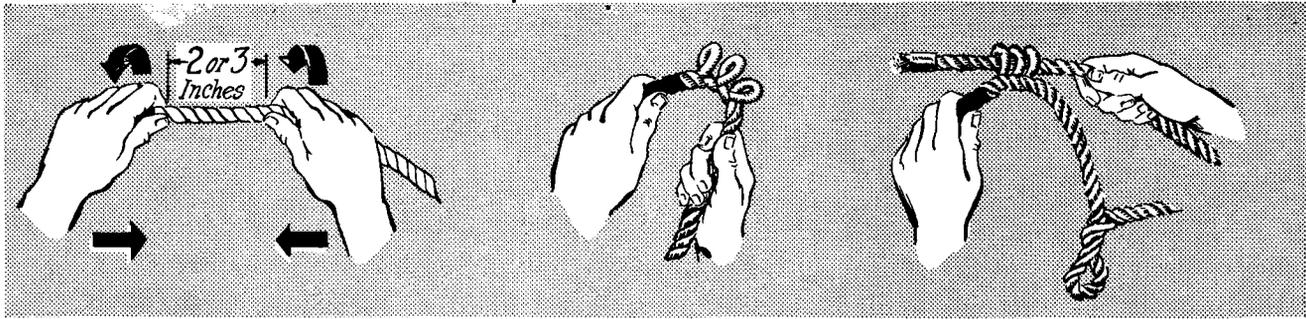


Securing the ends. Never let the strands in a rope unravel. If they do the rope is harder to work with and is not as strong. First make a clean, square cut by placing the rope on a firm block and cutting with a sharp knife or an axe. Then secure the ends. A simple method is to take two or three turns around the rope with friction tape about 1/2" from the end. A better method is to slip the ends with a strong string.

DISCARD

Making the halter. For a dairy cow use 12 to 14 feet of 1/2-inch rope; measure 12 inches from the tape. Mark if you wish with chalk or crayon. Raise two strands by untwisting rope and pass the long end under these two strands. Be sure to go in the direction shown in the picture. Draw up until the center of the loop is twice as large as the rope. Raise two strands in the long end of the rope just outside the loop and pass the short end under these strands. Draw snug and you have a loop splice.





Take the short end of the rope in your left hand, and with your right hand 2 to 3 inches from the left, untwist and push together until the strands form separate loops. Work these loops into a straight line. Pass the long end of the rope through these loops in the direction shown to form the adjustable head stall. Pass the long end of the rope through the loop splice, and your halter is complete.

To put halter on an animal, adjust the size of the head stall, allowing slack in the chin strap. Take the lead and loop splice in your left hand, holding the nose piece and chin strap open, and the head stall in your right hand; approach the animal from its left side, slip nose piece over its nose with the chin strap underneath and place head stall over the top of the head and back of ears. Adjust head stall if necessary.

Care of halter. Keep the halter dry and clean; hang it up when not in use.

Demonstrations. "How to Make a Rope Halter" is an excellent topic for an individual or team demonstration. Use 1/2 inch or larger rope so the audience can see it better. It is desirable that the rope be pliable.

SUGGESTIONS FOR 4-H LEADERS FOR TEACHING CLUB MEMBERS TO MAKE A ROPE HALTER

- * Make at least one halter yourself and be sure that you understand all of the steps BEFORE you attempt to teach your club members.
- * Show your club members a completed halter and tell them its advantages; then let them decide if they want to make halters.
- * The first step will be to have them determine the size of the halters they want to make and the size and amount of rope they will need.
- * The whole club might like to go to the store to buy rope.
- * Have all of your club members make their halters at the same time. You will want to make one right along with them as an example.
- * Take each step in turn. Tell and show them how to do each step, standing so that they can follow your hand movements.
- * Let all members complete each step before you start the next.
- * When halters are complete, have the club members put them on an animal.
- * Discuss the care of rope halters.
- * If you have a junior leader or an older club member in your club, he might assist you or perhaps take over the instruction on making halters.
- * REMEMBER, 4-H club work is to develop boys and girls. What they learn is more important than what they make!