

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

407.01D

Forming Elements of a Clove Hitch

Discipline: Ropes, Knots, & Hitches
Effective: 1/1/2001
Revised: 1/5/2012
Replaces: Firefighter Benchmark #40

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

I. Objective

The firefighter shall demonstrate tying a clove hitch with a safety and half hitches on a pike pole, in preparation for hoisting. The firefighter shall select the type and length of rope which will be adequate to meet the provisions of this skill. The firefighter shall verbally identify five (5) potential elements of rope degradation. The firefighter shall verbally identify the working, standing, and running sections of the rope. For uniform and consistent evaluations, the clove hitch must be tied around the pike pole and not dropped over it. The firefighter shall accomplish the skill in four (4) minutes or less.

II. Instructions – Procedures for Achieving the Objective

You will select the type and length of rope which will be adequate to meet this skill. You will verbalize five (5) potential elements of rope degradation. You shall demonstrate tying a clove hitch with a safety and half hitches on a pike pole. You will verbally identify the working, standing, and running sections of the rope. I will primarily evaluate the finished product for accuracy by comparing the knot to reference materials. For uniform and consistent evaluations, the clove hitch must be tied around the pike pole and not dropped over it. You will be required to complete the mandatory steps while performing this skill. You will have 4 minutes to complete this skill. The skill will begin on my instruction to start. The time will stop when you inform me that you have completed the skill. Do you understand these instructions?

III. Examiner's Note

The firefighter will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

IV. Preparation & Equipment

- A. Adequate length of rope
- B. Pike pole
- C. The firefighter shall accomplish the skill wearing a helmet.

V. Reference Sources

- A. TCFP, Performance Standard, Section 104-3.01, 4.01b, 5.01
- B. NFPA, National Fire Protection Association 1001, 3-1.1.2
- C. IFSTA Essentials of Fire Fighting, 4th Edition, pages 151, 164-165.

407.01D - Forming Elements of a Clove Hitch
Discipline: Ropes, Knots, & Hitches

Name:	Officer #:
Evaluator:	Officer #:
Date:	Location:

If the firefighter:

(No partial points given)

- a) *Inspects the rope for damage and verbalizes at least 5 elements of rope degradation (Elements could include: softness, crusty spots, stiffness, brittleness, nicks, cuts, dirt, mildew, heat sears or discoloration, fuzziness, mushy spots, sheath sliding, lumps and/or depressions.)*..... 1.0 _____
- b) *Forms one complete loop around the object, bringing the working end below the standing part*..... 1.0 _____
- c) *Crosses the working end over the standing part and completes the round turn about the stationary object, just above the first loop* 1.0 _____
- d) *Passes the working end under the upper wrap, just above the cross and properly sets the hitch by pulling* 1.0 _____
- e) *Forms full overhand safety knot*..... 1.0 _____
- f) *Running end of rope is in correct direction for hoisting, pulling, or belaying*..... 1.0 _____
- g) *Verbally identifies the working, standing, and running sections*..... 1.0 _____
- h) *Completes the skill in the allotted time* 1.0 _____

Allotted time for this skill: 4 minutes

Time: _____ minutes _____ seconds

Points Possible	Passing Score	Attempt	Performance Rating (Points)	PASS	FAIL
8	6	First			
		Second			
		Third			