

## THE FISHERMAN'S KNOT OR THE TRUE LOVERS KNOT

(BRIDE & GROOM) have just sealed their relationship with the giving and receiving of rings. Today their relationship is further symbolized by the tying of a fisherman's knot; a true lovers knot, for it is the strongest there is; its bond will not break, becoming ever stronger under pressure.

(GROOM & BRIDE), will you please tie this knot? ~ (couple begin tying the knot)

These two cords represent your past; each of you as individuals and the unique and special gifts you bring to your marriage. As you fasten your pieces together, these actions represent the present; this moment when you join your two lives into one common purpose. The completed knot represents your future, secure in the knowledge your relationship will continue to be strong despite the inevitable changes life brings. Although the fisherman's knot is one of the simplest to tie, it is also one of the sturdiest. As stress is applied, the knot becomes ever stronger.

It is the goal of marriage to achieve a blending of hearts and lives, but like the spaces between these cords formed by the knot, let there also be spaces in your new life together, so each may encourage and nurture the individual growth of the other.

I ask that you know pull on this rope to see it strengthen under pressure while still allowing us to see the individual cords ~ just as your support of one another as beautiful and blessed individuals, strengthens your union.  
~ (pull on the rope together)

As you hold one another in mutual concern and shared respect, may you continue holding each other tightly in your hearts and form a strong bond, now and forever. Let this knot indicate the strength of your love and be a symbol of your unity from this day forward.