

HOW TO BUILD A RAFT TO PLAY ON THE RIVER TRENT

And then you have a lot of fun like this.

These instructions are how to build our standard pattern raft – there are many other ways to do it – use your imagination.

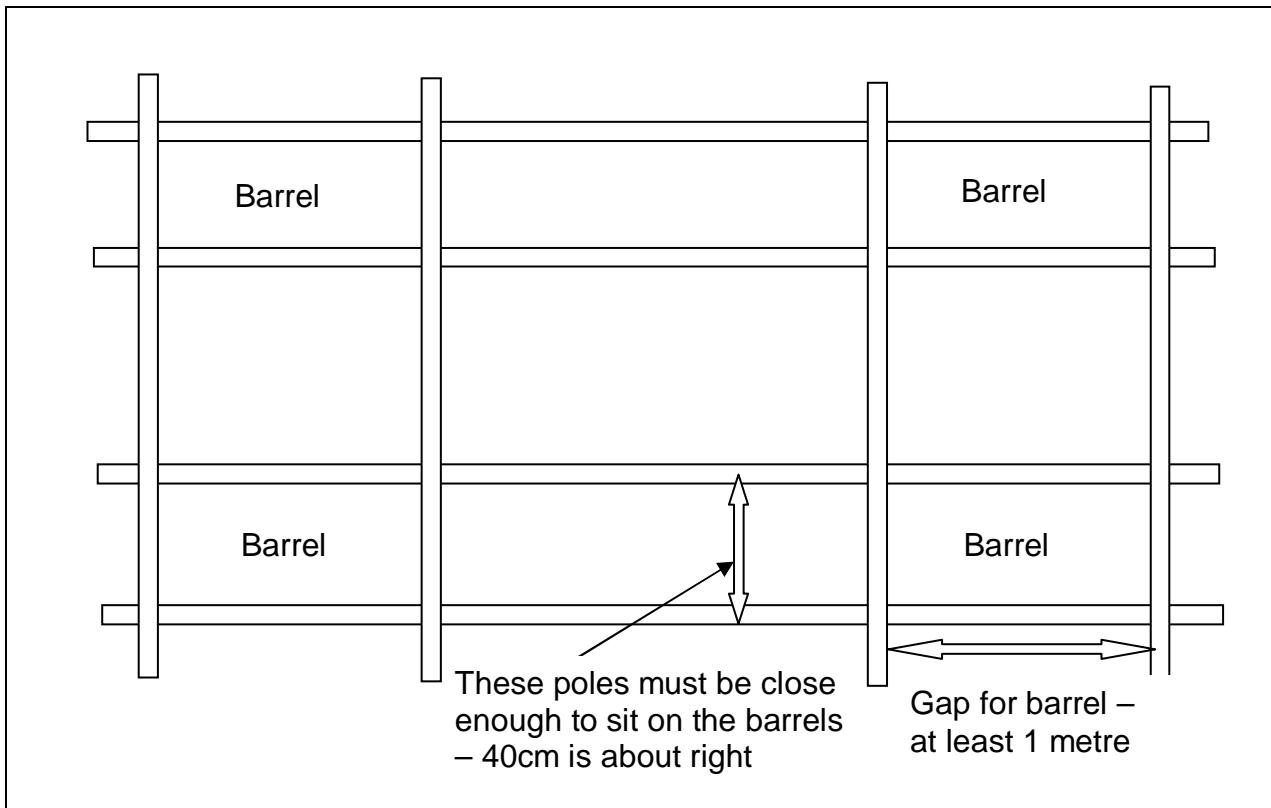


Materials needed for 1 raft: -

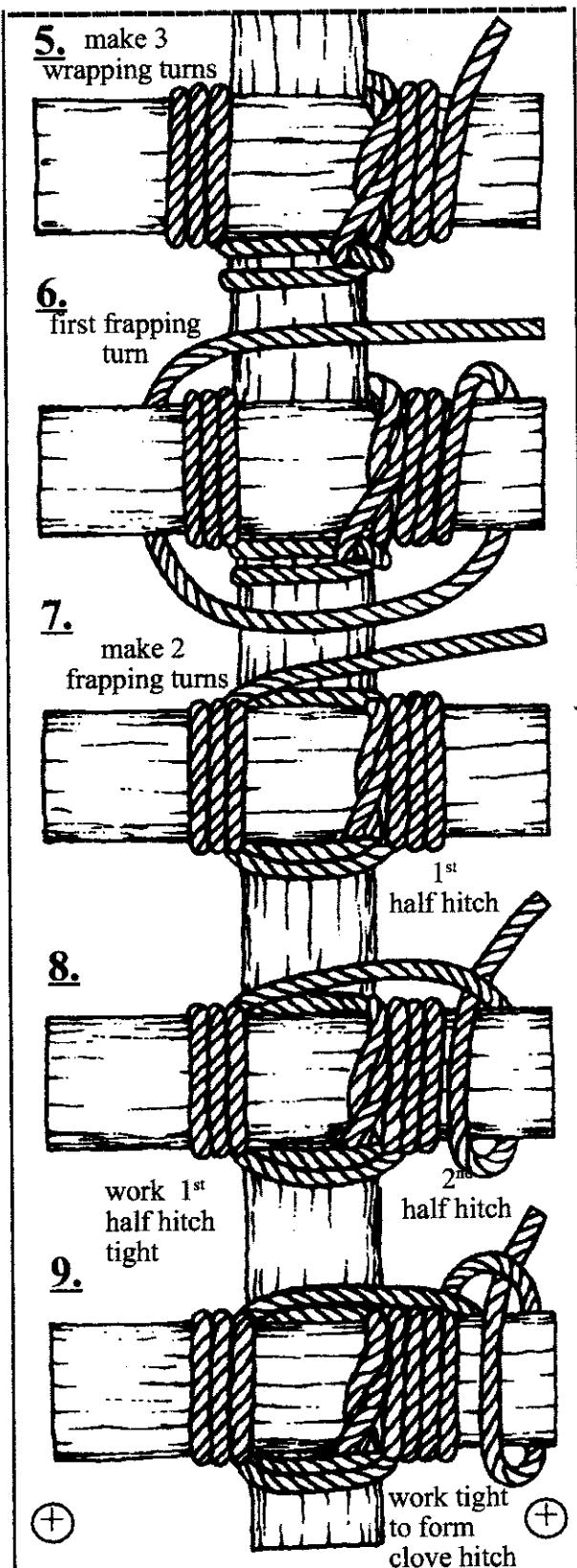
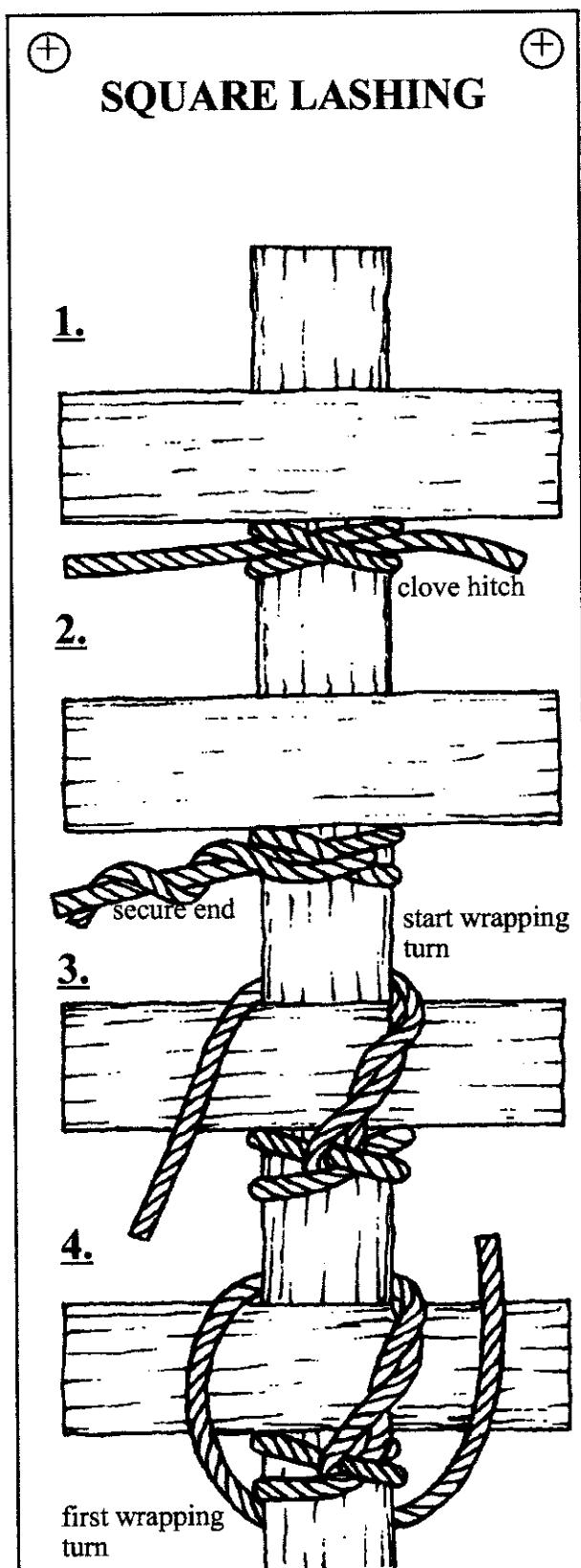
4 plastic barrels
4 x 8ft long pioneering poles
4 x 12ft long pioneering poles
16 lashing ropes
8 luggage straps
1 long rope for tether

The standard raft is suitable for about 8 people

The general design of the raft is



At each position where the poles cross they must be fastened securely together with a square lashing.



The most important thing is to keep the rope tight all the time – especially when making the frapping turns.

The work is easier if you place the 4 barrels at points corresponding roughly to their final positions then put the 12ft poles on top of them with the 8ft poles on top of them – then they are at a comfortable height



The barrels are attached to the raft using the webbing luggage straps

Remember – if your lashings aren't tight enough this might happen!!



This meets all the criteria. It's an adventure *and* it's summer...

Using the raft

- You must not launch the raft until the SAC person in charge says it is OK.
- With at least one person at each corner, carry it down the slipway and 'feed' it carefully onto the river
- It must be tethered to the landing stage – but it can be quite a long tether
- Everyone going on the raft must wear a buoyancy aid and a helmet
- Have a paddle each
- When you have finished lift and carry the raft back up the slipway

Then you must dismantle the raft and put all the materials back where they belong.
Lashing ropes and luggage straps must be 'hanked' before you put them back into the trolley.

