

Toolbox talk - the Proper Rigging Hitch

The type of hitch you will need to use depends on the type of load. There are three basic hitches and some variations. The three basic hitches include the vertical hitch, choker hitch and basket hitch. To ensure a safe lift operation, the hitch you use must be able to safely support the specific load that will be lifted.

- A 2-Leg Bridle Hitch works well for moving single pieces of pipe.
- A Double Choker Hitch also works well for moving single pieces of larger pipe.
- A Single Choker Hitch will work for large, short pieces of pipe and large pipe fittings.
- A 2-Sling Double Wrap Choker Hitch is a good choice for multiple pieces of pipe. With this type of hitch the slings snug up evenly around the load of pipe as the load starts to lift so individual pieces of pipe won't slip out.
- A 2-Sling Double Wrap Basket Hitch is also a good choice for multiple pieces of pipe. This type of hitch works like the 2-Sling Double Wrap Choker Hitch referenced above in that the slings snug up evenly around the load of pipe.
- A 2-Basket Hitch works well on most large cylinders.
- A single vertical hitch has various applications, but it works well on loads with multiple slings connected to a single shackle and will remain balanced when the shackle is attached to and lifted by a crane or derrick hook.