

HOW TO TIE A GOOD BOW

I have hardly ever met anyone who could tie a good, straight bow (with both ends hanging down). I am not sure why this is exactly, except that most people only ever tie things such as people shoe laces, which really don't matter. This problem came to light as I tried to get people who work for me to do this on dolls and little bears, where the details do count and no one could do it. Here is a diagram to show you how. Keep in mind that the ribbon needs to be kept flat with no twists. Also, to tie a good *small* bow, you start with a bigger bow then make it smaller by stages. Another hint is to practice on something larger first. When you do get a good bow, it may be a good idea to tack it permanently so it cannot come undone as it will be even harder to re-tie it once you trim off the ends to a reasonable length. The final touch is to trim the ends to an appropriate length at an angle - cutting at an angle prevents most fraying. You may wish to dot on some white glue on the cut ends to keep them fresh looking. So, the hints are these. Always make the first loop with the *lower end* (where it says to *hold here*) and bring the *upper end* down over the lower. This is the key to ending up with both ends hanging down below the two loops.

