

Universal Adapter for the USGI Web Sling

Okay, so we're accustomed to seeing our beloved GI web slings on the backs of M1's and M1A's...



...and rimfire rifles...



...and AR's with fixed-length buttstocks...



...but what about the AR's with telescoping stocks?



The telescoping buttstocks are all the rage on the markets nowadays, but many of them seem to prohibit (or at least complicate) the employment of a GI web sling. I wanted to figure out some kind of an “adapter” mechanism, to enable our telescoping-stocked shooters to use the GI sling. After a series of iterations, this is what I’ve come up with. I’ve been using this for some time now on my own rifle, and I’d like to share it.

DISCLAIMERS:

- (a) There’s probably an actual name for the knot that I use here, and I just don’t know its name.
- (b) This is a first for me, trying to convey instructions on how to tie a certain knot via written word. The following tutorial will be painfully elementary for some, but I hope it helps for those who are new to Appleseed, and/or inexperienced with tying knots.

....That said, I humbly present to you all my solution for using a GI web sling with telescoping stocks. I did it on my rifle, and I really like it. This tutorial is just me documenting the process of replicating it for my wife's rifle. What you end up with will look something like this.



SHORT VERSION

(For those who can work from just a picture)

- Find the hole on your stock that's closest to its "toe" corner.
- Replicate this knot. Run it through that hole in your stock, placing one overhand on each side of the stock (left/right, port/starboard, whichever makes more sense to you), and size the knot so that you can fit two fingers into the main loop.
- Trim off the excess.



LONG VERSION

(For those who need a walkthrough like this)

Materials needed for this little project are:

- Some amount of cordage (12in, or 30cm, should be plenty). I used paracord, which is commonly available at most craft stores (Hobby Lobby, Michaels, Walmart sewing section, etc). You can use just about anything though – shoelaces, twine, whatever you have on hand.
- A lighter.
- Something with which to cut your cordage. Scissors, knife, etc.
- Your telescoping stock. (Taking it off of the rifle will make things WAY easier for you...)



Step 1)

(Read all of step 1 before starting it – this step is time sensitive!)

Establish a clean-cut face on one end of your rope. Cut it with the scissors, and hold the exposed fibers very close to (but not IN) the lighter's flame. Remove it from heat when the end looks bulged like this...



...and then, IMMEDIATELY after removing it from the heat, mash it against the flat of your scissors. The metal of your blade will suck the heat out of the rope, and it'll leave you a nice clean end to work with.



Step 2)

Find the hole on your stock closest to its “toe” end. Run one end of your rope through that hole.



Arrange, but don't tighten, an overhand knot close to the end.



Step 3)

Bring the long end of your rope around and run it THROUGH the loop made by your un-tightened overhand knot from Step 2.



Bring the long end back through the hole in the stock, going the opposite way this time.



Step 4)

Tighten the overhand knot from Step 2. It shouldn't be able to slip through the hole in your stock.



What you'll have now is basically just a big loop. Tighten that loop around two fingers. This will leave your GI sling plenty of space to connect with later on. Before removing your two fingers from this loop, make sure to take the long end of the rope and rest it pointing AWAY from the two-finger loop, so that you don't disturb it in the next few steps.



Step 5)

Gently wiggle your fingers out of the new loop.



Step 6)

Take the long end of your rope and swing it around, and run it THROUGH that loop where your two fingers were a moment ago.



Arrange an overhand knot in the large loop (NOT the two-finger loop).



Step 7)

Pull smartly on the smaller two-finger loop with one hand...



...and use your other hand to tighten the overhand knot in the larger loop. (The large loop should tighten around the base of the small loop, snugged up against the hole in your stock.)



Step 8)

What you'll have now is a knot with two opposing overhand knots that restrict each other's movement. It will be very secure – each overhand knot is anchored to the other, and neither one fits through the hole in your stock. AND, between these two very secure knots, you've got a two-finger loop that you can hook your GI sling to. It's big enough to serve as a sling swivel, and small enough to not snag on things around you.



But there's still way too much rope flopping around all over the place! I guess technically you could leave it like this, but let's do one last step and tidy it all up...

Step 9)

Take each end and cut it, heat it, and flatten it just like before. Voila!



You're done!

Hopefully this helps, and encourages people to sling up and develop their Rifleman skills with rifles that might otherwise be left at home. This adaptation is a great way for Appleseed to tap into that giant pool of unseen rifles equipped with stocks that don't lend themselves to the GI web sling. It may be that there's an even better method out there somewhere, but this little knot works great for me. Either way, I'll see you on the trail....

***In Liberty,
Willociraptor***