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bow·line  (bō līn, -līn')

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n.

1. *Nautical* A rope attached to the weather leech of a square sail to hold the leech forward when sailing close-hauled.
2. A knot forming a loop that does not slip but that can be untied easily.

[Middle English *bouline*, probably from Middle Danish *bovline* or Middle Low German *bōlīne*, both from Middle Low German *bōch līne* : *bōch*, bow; see **bheug-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *līne*, line (from Latin *līnea*; see [LINE](#)¹).]



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bowline

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