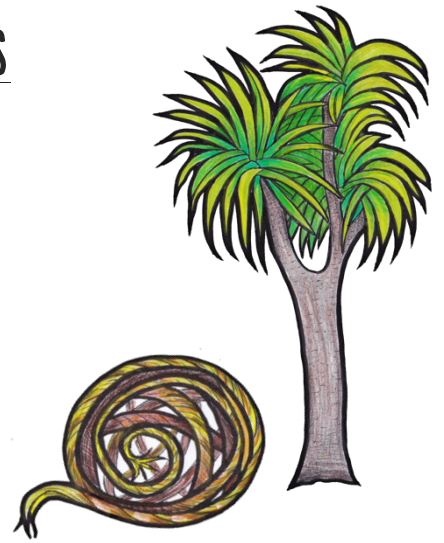


MAKING ROPE FROM TĪ KŌUKA (CABBAGE TREE) LEAVES

METHOD

1. Look for dry, worn cabbage tree leaves that have fallen to the ground
– many will already be splitting into fibres.
2. You can separate the fibres more by pulling them with your fingers
or using a metal comb to tease them apart.
3. Cut the base of the leaf off and tie a knot at the end of the fibre bundle.
4. Split the bundle of fibres in half. Ask someone to hold the end.
5. Hold each section and twist both in the same direction so they slowly wrap around each other tightly.
6. You can make your rope longer by overlapping some more sections of fibre into the twisting halves.
7. Continue twisting to splice the old and new sections together.
8. When you have finished twisting, tie a knot at the end to stop the rope unwinding.
9. To make a thicker rope, repeat this process then twist the two ropes together using the same technique.
10. An alternative method is to split the fibres into 3 sections at the start and plait them into rope.



WEBLINKS

For more information on making rope visit: <https://www.wikihow.com/Make-Rope>

Watch a video showing how to make rope from leaf fibres: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwF_RMAXva8

Did you know?

The rope made from the tough fibres of cabbage tree leaves was once valued by sailors - it's much stronger than rope made from harakeke, especially in seawater.

