

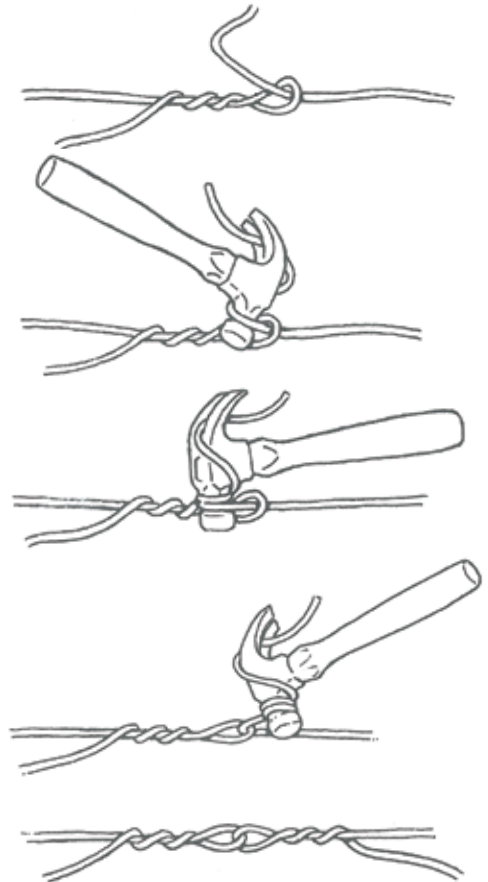


# Fix your fences

Sagging or broken wire fences can be dangerous if a cow tries to reach through or over the fence, or if she puts a foot through. Even when you don't have a fence stretcher, you can still splice and tighten broken or sagging wire with just a carpenter's hammer.

First you may need to add a short piece of wire (maybe half a metre) for the splice. Make a loop in one end of the broken fence wire, twisting it back around itself to hold, and then run an end of the short wire through the loop and twist it back around itself as well. Now you are ready to make the splice:

- 1** Make a loop in one end of the wire and pull the other end through it
- 2** Anchor the loose end between the hammer claws
- 3** Twist the hammer so the wire wraps around it
- 4** Keep twisting until the wire is as tight as you want it. Bend the wire back towards itself, then untwist the hammer. The tight crimp will hold the wire tight
- 5** Finish the splice by wrapping the end of the wire tightly around itself.



Source: Stable Smarts by Heather Smith Thomas (Storey Publishing 2005) 