

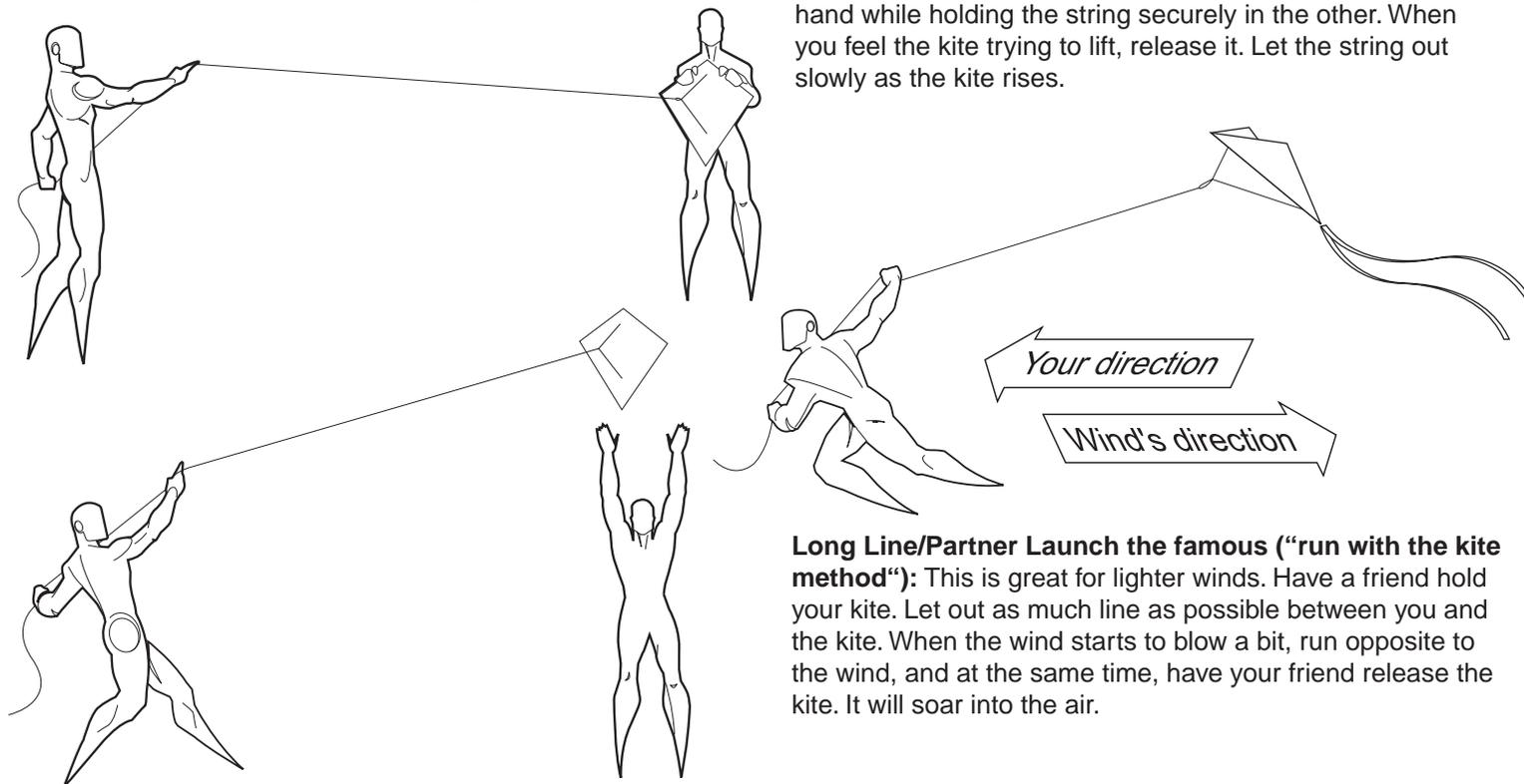
String: Yep, it makes a difference.

Knots or Swivels: Some kite flyers like to use fishing swivels to attach their kite string to their kite. Others like to just use a good solid knot. Both methods work great. If you want to tie knots, you might consider using a larks head knot. The larks head is especially helpful on kites with bridles.

Length: One of the most common questions... "How much string should I use?" Most kites come with about 120' feet of line. This will get you above most ground turbulence but you won't be in the running for The World's Highest Flying Kite. Common lengths are 500' and 1000' (or more). Use the length of line that you enjoy--it's that simple.

How Strong: General rules of thumb: Small kites less than 4' wingspan use 30# to 50# line; medium kites around 6' wingspan use 50# to 80# line; large kites over 6' will generally use between 100# to 300# line. If you are flying a kite that requires more than 300# line, you probably already know more than this tutorial can teach you! It's always better to be cautious with string, because otherwise you'll find your kite floating away across the sky. Remember stronger line, equals heavier weight. So, don't put 150# line on a 4.5' delta kite because it just won't want to fly!

Techniques: What's the best method to get my kite in the air?



Short Line Launch: Hold the kite with the nose up in one hand while holding the string securely in the other. When you feel the kite trying to lift, release it. Let the string out slowly as the kite rises.

Long Line/Partner Launch the famous ("run with the kite method"): This is great for lighter winds. Have a friend hold your kite. Let out as much line as possible between you and the kite. When the wind starts to blow a bit, run opposite to the wind, and at the same time, have your friend release the kite. It will soar into the air.

Repairs: Most quality kites are very strong, however if something does break *most kites can be repaired*.

Holes: If your kite has a small puncture hole, it can usually be repaired with a special type of repair tape. We prefer Tedlar®, but normal rip-stop repair tape works great too. Any good kite shop should have this readily available. Having said that, your kite is probably tougher than you think. Bigger holes (rips) might require surgery and a more extensive fix. It is most likely still fixable, though.

Spars/Sticks: Most modern kites use fiberglass or carbon fiber for their sticks (commonly referred to as spars). Again, if one breaks, most kite shops should be able to get you fixed up.

World Wind Kites: *We want you to have fun with your kites. We want you to tell your friends about us so they'll come buy kites as well. After all, we are kite flyers too. Please let us know if you ever have any questions about your kites.*

Final Words: **DO NOT FLY** your kites near electrical lines or airports. **DO NOT** fly your kites during thunderstorms. **DO** enjoy yourselves.

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