The reason your thread knots up is because you're working against the grain of the thread. You will need to find the end of the thread that frays, separates, by tapping each end of the thread. The end that separates, divides into two strands, will be the end of the thread that you pass through the needle. Do not thread your needle from the side you just cut from, use the opposite end, which is the end from the previous cut. I personally have not found that my thread knots up because of the length of the thread, but if you use a strand of thread that's too long you're taking a chance your thread will weaken and pull apart. I like using thread heaven to help prevent any damage to my thread.

When you have a knot in your thread, hold the thread on the taut side below the knot, pass the needle through the loop of the knot and pull away from the taut side of the thread. This will remove the knot from your thread. If you go in the opposite direction the knot will be permanent.

Thank you for stopping by, Happy Stitching