

PARACORD PROJECTS



Paracord

550 parachute cord, more commonly shortened as paracord, is widely used in tons of everyday situations. The "550" is derived from the fact that it's rated to hold 550 lbs.

Paracord is a slim nylon rope with 7-9 inner strands of nylon. Composed of 2-3 threads, the inner strands and can be unraveled for many different uses.

This versatile material was originally used for suspension lines on parachutes. Paracord was even used by astronauts to help repair the Hubble Space Telescope.

Using paracord offers cordage that is flexible and interior braided nylon strands make it very strong.

Paracord bracelets are a tidy way of carrying 3.5+ meters of cordage on your person. Plus, near-limitless design and colour combinations mean you can personalize it to your taste.

A paracord bracelet is a bracelet woven out of paracord. The bracelets are worn by survivalists, hikers, climbers, campers, or anyone who enjoys the outdoors. These bracelets become extremely handy in survival or emergency situations.

Uses for a paracord bracelet are varied; unravel a bracelet and use cordage to lash timber together to create a shelter, make fishing traps, make general repairs, hang a line and so much more.

Cutting out the inside cord and attaching it to the outer cord using a square knot will often yield many meters worth of cord, which can be used for fishing, sewing, building shelters, among other things.

Usually made with a slide release buckle, they can also be made with shackles, a simple knot and loop, or even a whistle buckle. Using a whistle buckle as your connection piece for your paracord bracelet can be a plus, since creating noise is often useful when attempting to find help



There are several different types of paracord out there, the best of which is 550 specification rated. This type has a stronger inner core with more strands inside.

The most common reason why people carry paracord is for its use in general camping situations but is it comes into its own in emergency situations. Rig a shelter by tying branches together when there's nowhere else to sleep. Cut the cord, pull out the inner threads, attach a hook and you have a makeshift fishing line. Inner fibers can be used as firelighting tinder.



If it's not an emergency situation, paracord can still come in handy. The material is slightly elastic. This allows for easy and snug wrapping. Wrapping a length of paracord around a scout stave or walking stick provides grip, but keeps an unbroken length of the material at hand.

A paracord lanyard is great to attach a compass and whistle to while hiking or a longer length attached to a pocket knife on camp, keeps it handy. With some knot-tying skills, you can whip up lanyards of different shapes and patterns to carry more cordage or fine tune extra material for grip on your tool.

Brightly colored paracord increases visibility, making your essentials easier to find and harder to lose.

It's not uncommon to see paracord used in place of bootlaces. If you have some room to spare in your bag, throw in a hank of paracord and keep it organized with a carabiner.



Keeping a spare length in your pocket you will be amazed at the number of times its will be used as a handy to have item.

Paracord Bracelet

There are a number of ways to make a paracord bracelet. You can make a bracelet with a buckle, without a buckle using a slip knot or a quick deploy bracelet using a coiling technique.

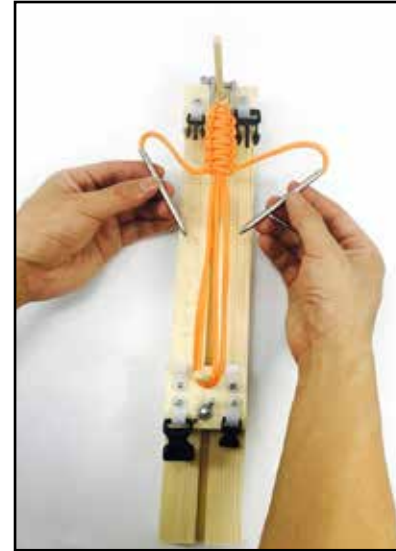
The knots used are simple to make and one knot is repeated to create the bracelet design.

If you wish to make a number of bracelets with buckles then it is a good idea to make a simple jig to help maintain the structure of the bracelet as it is created. The jig also maintains the tension of the core cords and makes the creation of the bracelet easier.

The QR codes will lead you to two instruction videos so you can easily create your own.

A search on the Internet will provide a vast collection of suppliers of simple and more elaborate buckles and paracord supplies.

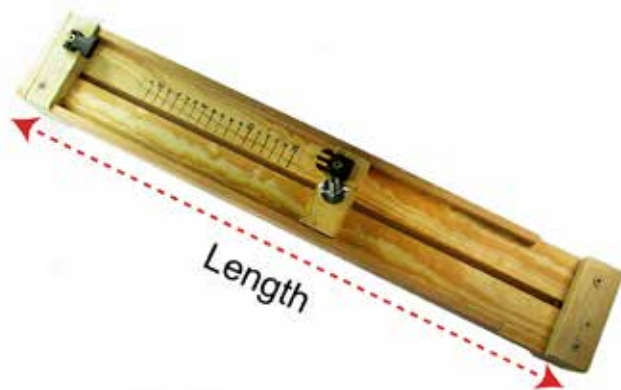
The bracelet illustrated is the basic paracord design using the sennit knot. Many designs are possible and more advanced sennit/plaiting type knots will provide different design twists.



Make a Paracord bracelet jig



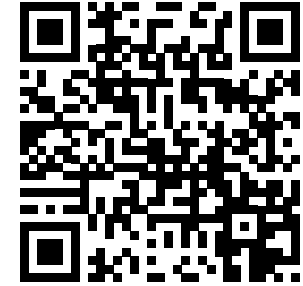
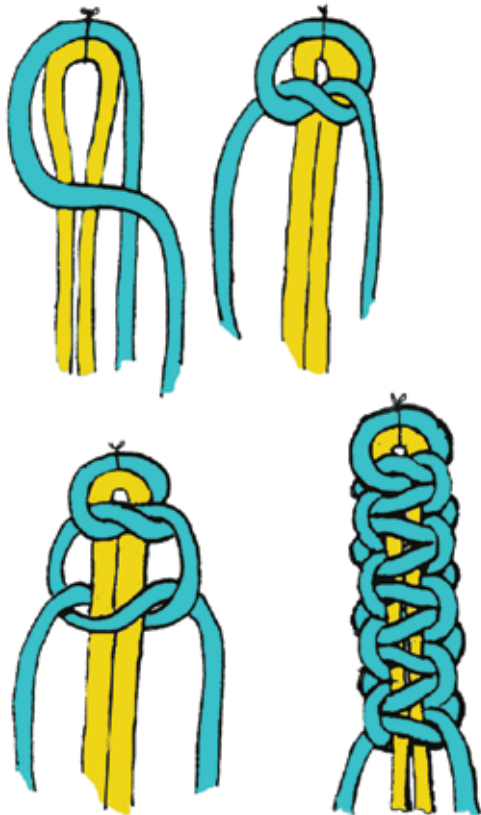
Make a Paracord bracelet 2 jig



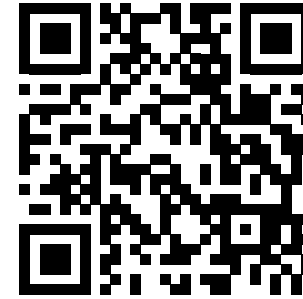
Sennit knot

The sennit knot is basically a reef knot tied around a core of two strands of cord. Practice the knot for a short while and you should be good to go. Basically the knot is repeated down the length of the core cords. Keep the knots tight to maintain shape and prevent gaps in the design.

You can create a slip knot bracelet design without the need for a paracord bracelet jig. In that case you should use a small piece of cord to keep the loops in place and a good idea it to place this loop on a door hook or a nail in a board so that you can maintain tension as you make the knots



Bracelet without buckle

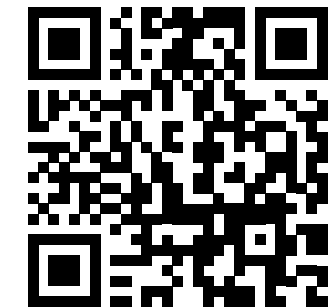


Quick release paracord bracelet



Be Prepared

Paracord bracelets have become a fashion item and while they have a function, if deconstructed, in an emergency a more practical alternative is to create a quick release bracelet. While not as pretty as the paracord bracelets using the sennit/plaiting knots it can be deconstructed and constructed within a minute. It is created like a rope whipping or rope coil. It is a more practical bracelet because of its easy construction and you will find many uses for it whenever some cordage is required.

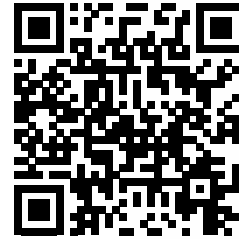


Bracelet ideas

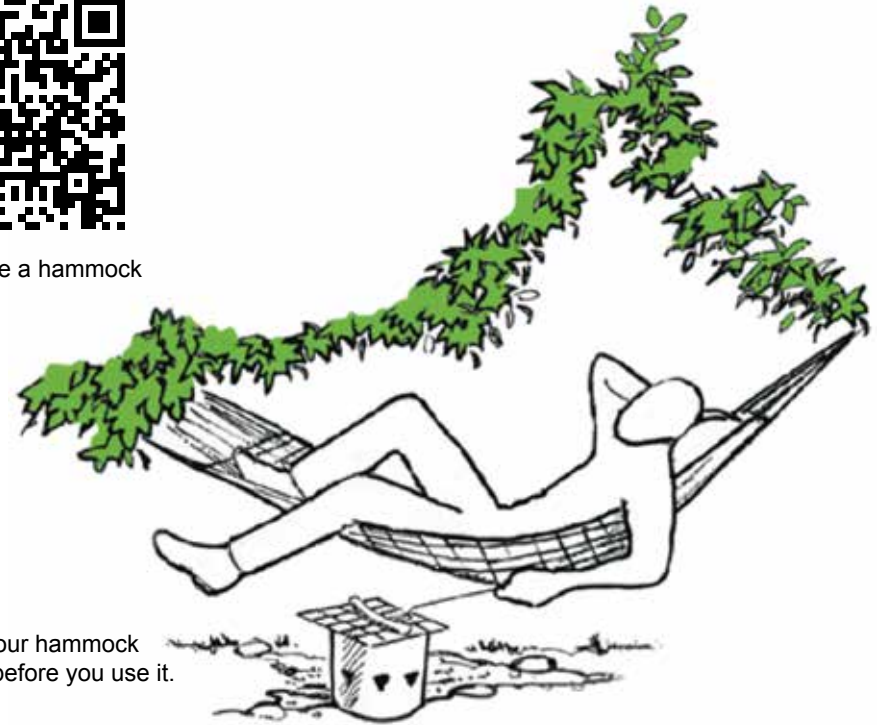
Paracord Camp Hammock

A camp hammock is a fun activity you can make on camp or in your back garden.

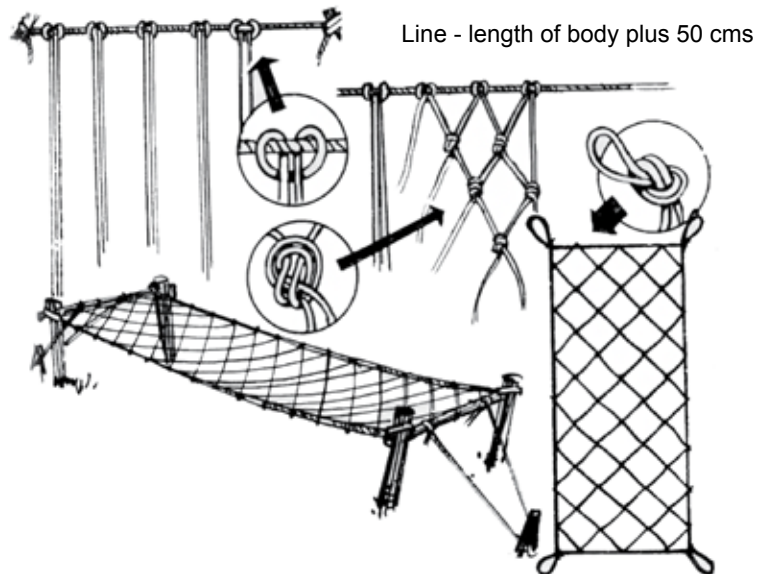
The knots used are simple, the larkshead knot, the reef knot and the overhand knot. The construction of the hammock will take time and care to produce a web structure of similar size. Start by creating a 'line' similar to a clothes line on which to create your hammock web.



How to make a hammock



Always ensure your hammock is safely secure before you use it.



A more durable hammock can be made by constructing it from head to bottom rather than side to side as shown above.

