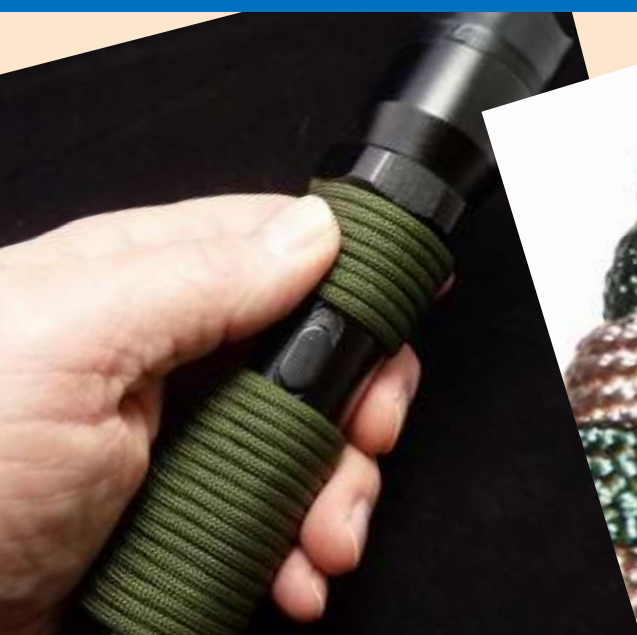




Paracord Skills, Bracelets & Projects for Fun & Profit

DAKOTA
+ GEAR +



Proudly Made in the USA by a U.S. Veteran-Owned Business

DAKOTA GEAR

Copyright 2015 Dakota Gear (TM)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

However, please DO share this book with your Paracord- loving friends, with our compliments!



Paracord Skills, Bracelets & Projects for Fun & Profit



Tale of Contents

About Dakota Gear™ Paracord	Page 4
What IS Paracord, Anyway?	Page 5
What Do People Use Paracord For?	Page 5
Our Favorite Surprising And Creative Uses For Paracord	Page 7
MilSpec vs. Commercial Paracord	Page 7
The MilSpec: MIL-C-5040H (Get Your Own Copy to SHARE!)	Page 8
Does “550 Cord” Have A Breaking Strength of 550 Pounds? (Hint: NO, it doesn’t!)	Page 8
Where Do You Get Paracord?	Page 9
Take Care Of Your Paracord & It Will Take Care Of You!	Page 9
Paracord Skills Clinic	Page 11
Paracord Craft Projects	Page 15
How to Make a 2-Color Fishtail Style Paracord Bracelet	Page 16
Dakota Gear™ Paracord Product Selection	Page 21
THANK YOU for Leaving Us a Product Review on Amazon!	Page 22



Paracord Skills, Bracelets & Projects for Fun & Profit



OK ... We ADMIT it! We're PARACORD SNOBS!



Dakota Gear™ is a U.S. Military Veteran-owned business located in the U.S. We specialize in both Commercial and Milspec Paracord because it's so incredibly handy, affordable, and just plain fun! You want Dakota Gear™ Paracord for the job when quality and reliability actually DO make a difference.

We sell our Paracord exclusively through Amazon.com, because you TRUST Amazon.com.



The Paracord that you buy from Dakota Gear™ is 100% guaranteed with our “No Muss, No Fuss, No B.S. Unconditional 1-year Guarantee.” We make a top quality product, we know it, and we stand behind it ... period.

But don't take OUR word for it, read what our actual customers have to say. You can read their comments on the listing of our “sister company,” Paracord 550 Mil-Spec™, which sells our exclusive line of Military Specification Paracord. Our customer feedback is consistently extremely positive.

Dakota Gear™ Paracord is proudly manufactured and distributed in the United States by a U.S. Military Veteran-owned and operated business.

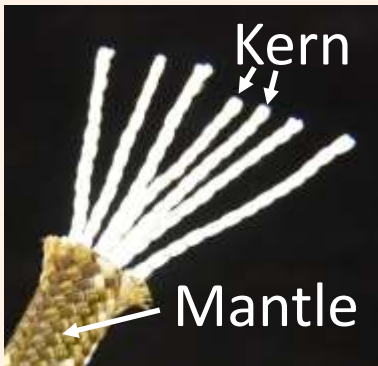
Made in twenty-five popular colors, you're sure to find just the right color of Paracord, in the highest possible quality, for your purposes.



Attention: Paracord LOVERS!

This is a book for YOU!

What IS Paracord, Anyway?



Parachute cord, or “Paracord,” is an inexpensive lightweight, kernmantle rope with extraordinary breaking strength, especially relative to its small diameter.

“Kernmantle” rope or cord is constructed with a removable interior core, called the “kern,” also sometimes referred to as the “guts” of the cord. The “kern” is protected by a woven outer sheath, called the “mantle.”

The “kern” provides the tensile strength of the cord. The “mantle” protects the “kern” from abrasion, and optimizes strength, durability and flexibility of the cord.

Paracord was initially manufactured for the United States Military during World War II specifically for use in military parachute suspension lines. Paracord continues to be used on both military and civilian parachutes today.

Because of its small size, portability, durability, affordability, exceptional strength and versatility, Paracord has become a favorite “must have” piece of equipment. It is used regularly throughout the world by civilian and military people for an increasingly large number of tasks, in the military, on the job, in the home, and especially out of doors.

What Do People Use Paracord For?

Sometimes referred to as the “duct tape” of the military, you’ll be surprised and impressed by the amazing number of uses for Paracord! And you probably know of some uses that we haven’t yet heard of!

Here are just a few:



Everyday home use, household moving and students - clothesline, secure a pet or animal, zipper pull, tie trash can lid onto the trash can, tie twigs for disposal, pull out a loose tooth, latch a door open or closed, hang Christmas or other decorative lights, tie a label onto a suitcase or luggage, repair



wicker furniture, secure electrical or electronic cords, hang wind chimes, hang a pickup topper in the garage, make a basketball hoop net, tie climbing vines to a trellis, tie “just married” cans onto the back of a car, school projects, hang a bicycle in the garage, hang a bird feeder; fly a kite, hang a piñata, groomsmen “survival pack” joke gift, mark off a newly seeded lawn, hang tools (or hanks of Paracord!) on hooks in the garage, securing household goods inside a car

or truck or trailer for moving.

Home Building, landscaping, farmers and ranchers, construction, warehousing, logging and lumber, roofing, road and street construction, painting and trucking - securing / lashing / tying materials and gear, shoe and boot laces, grips for tools (knives, saws, axes, hatchets, etc), sunglass or eyeglass strap, flashlight lanyard, mark out a perimeter fence for “wet paint” or “wet concrete,” hold a door open or closed, tie electrical or electronic cords together, make a “soft patch” repair on a hose or pipe, tie a trunk lid open or closed, drag timber out of a forest, make a carrying handle for a tool box or other box, hang signs or lights, secure an antenna to the roof of a house or garage, fish electrical wires through inner walls or conduit.



Hobbyists and Arts and Crafts - hair accessory; headband; watchband; decorative knots; learn to tie knots; lashing / whipping / grips on hiking sticks / tools / knives; cell phone case; macramé projects; paracord bracelets; ankle bracelet; ring; key fobs; belts; necklace; keychains; self-defense weapon (monkey fist); zipper pull, whistle lanyard, flashlight lanyard; dog collar, leash, restraint; lanyard; rifle sling; lacing lamellar armor; fly a kite, plant hanger,



repair wicker furniture; tie “just married” cans to a car; wind chimes; hammock; hang a bird feeder.

Crafts and Handiwork - Paracord bracelets; necklaces; belts; keychains; watchbands; pet collars / leashes / securing lines; macrame ties and decorative knots; rifle slings; decorative grips on hand tools; lacing lamellar armor.

What are some of the “surprising” and “creative” uses that we’ve heard of for Paracord? Here are some of our favorites!

Emergency stitches for a medical wound; pull out a loose tooth; dental floss; tying beer together to submerge in a stream for cooling; self-defense weapon (monkey fist); tie a fly for fishing; “noisemaker” burglar alarm with cans tied together; a groomsman “survival pack” gift; tie “just married” cans behind a car; lacing lamellar armor; and even “Redneck Suspenders!”



MilSpec Paracord vs. Commercial Paracord

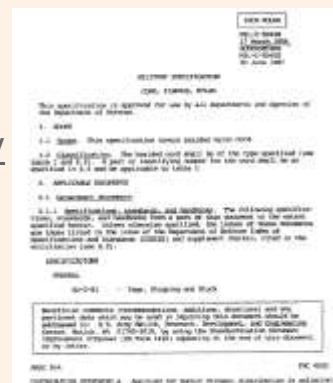
Most Paracord now manufactured is considered “Type III” Paracord, and comes in two general varieties - Military Specification (MilSpec) Paracord and Commercial Paracord.



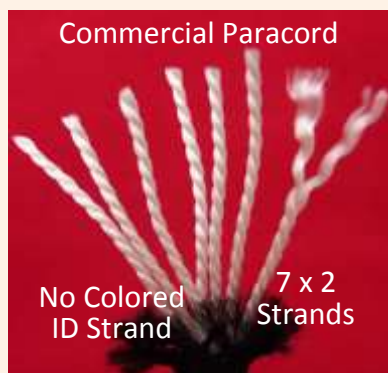
MilSpec Paracord is manufactured in the United States in strict compliance with the very tightly-defined, U.S. Government Specification: MIL-C-5040H. As such, MilSpec Paracord must be manufactured from 100% nylon, and is more expensive, less readily available, and found in generally a small number of “military-related” colors.

If you’re interested in Military Specification Paracord, we also sell this product through our “sister company,” [Paracord 550 MilSpec](https://www.paracord550.com), exclusively on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Also, [CLICK HERE](#) if you'd like your own complimentary copy of MIL-C-5040H from Paracord 550 MilSpec™.



Commercial Paracord is manufactured in many parts of the world under no particular standard of manufacturing processes, materials or quality. Commercial Paracord is manufactured from a variety of materials, including Nylon, Polyester, Dacron, or other materials, is less expensive than MilSpec Paracord, and can easily be found in a huge selection of colors.



The problem is, since commercial paracord is not manufactured to any agreed upon standard, you don't know at all what you are getting, and very few people can actually tell the difference.

This affords many opportunities for manufacturers of commercial paracord to make their product "cheaply," sell it less expensively, and even misrepresent their paracord.

“550 Paracord” Does NOT Mean that the Break Strength is 550 Pounds!

Paracord is often referred to as “550 Cord,” “550 Paracord” or “Paracord 550.” Here is what happened: Although MIL-C-5040H does not refer to Paracord as “550 Cord” or other variations of “550,” it does define the minimum breaking strength be 550 pounds.

So the descriptive names of “550 Cord” or “550 Paracord” have evolved from the Military Specification requirement for minimum breaking strength. However, when these terms are used today to describe Paracord, they absolutely do NOT indicate that the break strength actually IS 550 pounds. We've found plenty of “550 Paracord” with an advertised break strength of less, and sometimes much less, than 550 pounds.

MIL-C-5040H					
TABLE II. Physical requirements					
	Type I	Type IA	Type II	Type IIA	Type III
Breaking strength (pounds), minimum	95	100	400	225	550



Your Dakota Gear™ Commercial Paracord is manufactured from 100% Polyester, as good as, and in some ways better than, nylon. This polyester Paracord is less expensive than nylon Paracord, and still maintains a breaking

strength of over 550 pounds.

In short, be SURE you buy your Paracord from an honest and reputable manufacturer and distributor!

Where Do You Get Guaranteed High Quality Paracord?

Obviously we're biased ... but we're also bona fide "Paracord Snobs," and we DO know the difference between high quality and "cheap" Paracord. We manufacture and distribute the Paracord that we love, and you will love, too. Dakota Gear™ Paracord is 100% guaranteed with our "No Muss, No Fuss, No B.S. Unconditional 1 year guarantee. We make a great product, we know it, and we guarantee it - period!



[Click HERE to see the Dakota Gear™ line of Commercial Paracord on Amazon.com.](#)

If you want MilSpec Paracord manufactured beyond the requirements of MIL-C-5040H, check out our "sister company," Paracord 550 MilSpec™, also sold exclusively on Amazon.com.

Take Care of Your Paracord and it Will Take Care of YOU!



High quality Polyester Paracord does not rot, mold, mildew, or fade in color. However, no Paracord is indestructible.

Protect Your Paracord from Chemicals: You will generally want to protect your Paracord from exposure to corrosive chemicals, like harsh detergents or cleaning solutions, bleach, kerosene, oil, gasoline, "white gas" (like for camping stoves and lanterns), lye, paint, paint thinner, turpentine, acid, and other chemicals, especially those which might react with or weaken the cord.



Store Your Paracord in a Cool, Dry Place: Even though your Paracord will not rot or mildew when exposed to water, it is better stored in a cool, dry place. And, although also resistant to the deteriorative effects of ozone, your Paracord is best stored in places without extended periods of direct sunlight.

Use Caution with Your Paracord Around Open Flames or Extreme Heat: Your Paracord is flammable, although not explosive. So do not allow your Paracord to come into direct contact with open flames, like a campfire, or extreme heat, like from a camping lantern or room heater.

Protect Your Paracord from Dirt, Abrasion, Sharp Edges and Unnecessary Knots: Be careful not to drop your Paracord in the dirt and walk on it, or scrape it over the sharp edges, like those of rocks, metal, concrete or trees. Your paracord is RESISTANT to abrasion, but will be damaged by abuse.



Do not let children, pets or other animals chew on your paracord, as this will certainly damage it.



And do not tie unnecessary knots in your Paracord, as knots weaken all types of string, line and rope. Learn to tie a few “good” knots and use them sparingly.

“Good” knots are knots that:

- hold very securely
- weaken the cord as little as possible
- are easy to untie.

Be careful what you use Paracord for! One of our customers told us he wanted to use Paracord for the string in his hoodie sweatshirt. We advised him to be EXTREMELY careful, because of the danger of such a small diameter, extremely strong cord, wrapped so closely under his chin or around his neck. Remember, Paracord is VERY strong! Don't allow children to play unsupervised with Paracord.



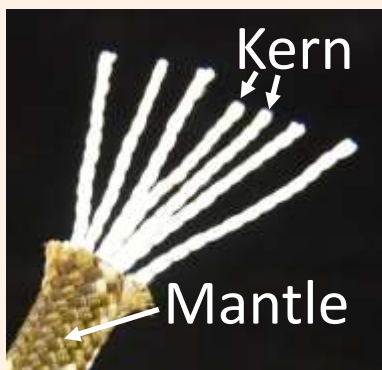
With just a minimum of care, your Paracord will serve you well for years to come.

Paracord Skills Clinic

Below are some skills that you will definitely find helpful when using Paracord. They will also help you get the most out of your Paracord.



The “Kern” and the “Mantle”: Paracord is made up of multiple internal strands, called the “kern.” These internal strands generally make up the tensile strength of the paracord. These internal strands are contained



inside a woven external sheath, called the “mantle,” and slide freely inside the “mantle.” This “free sliding” of the internal strands contributes to the flexibility and pliability of Paracord. This external sheath protects the internal strands from abrasion and damage.

The internal strands of Paracord can be removed from inside of the sheath and used as individual strands. For example, you could use the inside strands individually for fishing lines, sewing thread, or even dental floss.

The braided outside sheath can also be used by itself, with the internal strands removed, in situations where you might want the color of the sheath, but not the “bulk” or extra tensile strength of the inner strands. For example, you could use the Paracord sheath with the inner strands removed for shoe or boot laces. (remember to tie a “double-knot” in your boot laces or the knot will slip.)

Cutting Paracord: The best way to cut paracord is with a sharp knife or scissors. With so many smaller threads twisted and braided together, a “clean cut” will allow you to better secure the ends of your Paracord (see “Securing the Ends of Paracord” below) and prevent the internal strands from sliding out of your Paracord.



Securing the Ends of Paracord: Because Paracord has multiple, removable, strands inside of the woven sheath, if the Paracord is cut or broken, the internal strands will slide in and out of the sheath. If you do not want the internal strands to move inside of the sheath, you will want to secure the ends of your Paracord. You can easily do this in several different ways:



- Overhand or “S” knot: The easiest way to secure the end of a piece of Paracord is to simply tie a knot in the end. This will also help you to find the “bitter end” of your Paracord when you’re next ready to use it.

- Glue: You can also use a small dab of everyday household glue, like Elmer’s Glue to secure the ends of Paracord. Remember to let the glue dry completely before using your Paracord.

Burning the Ends of Paracord: Perhaps the most popular method of securing the cut ends of your Paracord would be to burn the ends with a match or lighter. This melts the many small internal and external threads of the Paracord together so that they don’t unravel.

Be extremely careful with matches and lighters. And DO NOT TOUCH the hot end of the Paracord just after you have melted it. The hot, molten Paracord will stick to your skin and cause a very nasty burn.



To burn the ends of your Paracord, first make a clean cut on the end. Then use a lighter or match to heat and melt the small internal and external threads of your Paracord together.

The tip of the flame is hotter and will melt the fibers together more quickly. But some people think that using the tip of the flame causes your Paracord to “blacken,” and they prefer to use the side of the flame.



Practice burning the ends of a few pieces of “scrap” Paracord for practice. Try using the tip of the flame, and the side of the flame, and see which works best for you. **Seriously, DO NOT LET THE HOT, MOLTEN PARACORD TOUCH YOUR SKIN!**

Also, burning Paracord creates an unpleasant odor and fumes, so be sure and burn the ends of your Paracord in an area that is safe for the use of open flames and also provides good ventilation.

An inexpensive wood burning tool or a commercial “hot knife” can also be used to melt the ends of Paracord together.

Melting 2 pieces of Paracord Together:

**(BE CAREFUL when burning Paracord!
Read the cautions in the paragraphs above!)**

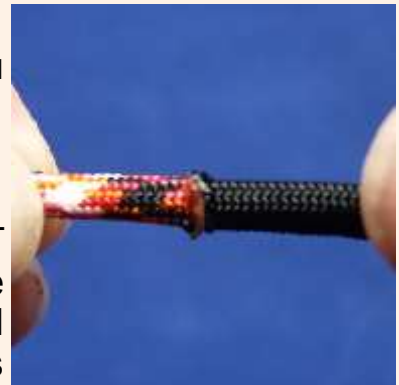
There are a few times when you might want to melt two pieces of paracord together. For example, when making some particular types of multi-colored Paracord bracelets, like the very popular two-colored Cobra Style bracelet, you might want to melt two different colors of Paracord together.

To melt two pieces of Paracord together:

- make a clean cut on the ends of the pieces of Paracord that you want to melt together.
- Heat both ends of your Paracord until they start to melt
- Gently press the molten ends of the Paracord together, and hold them together for maybe 5 or 10 seconds.

Practice on a few pieces of scrap Paracord before you try this on a “real” bracelet project.

NOTE: Melting two pieces of Paracord together will NOT provide you with a “full-strength” splice and cannot be used to bear a load. But these two pieces of Paracord can be melted together securely enough to use them as “one” piece of differently-colored Paracord for many of your Paracord Projects.

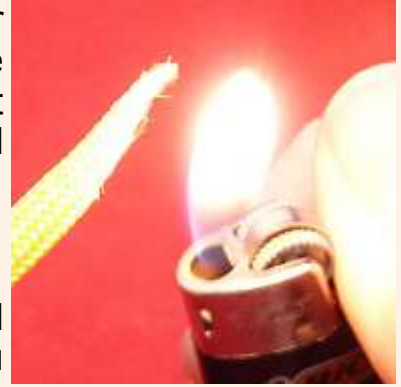


Paracord Needles can be a very handy tool to use with your Paracord Projects. If you want to do much at all with Paracord, you’ll very probably want to get a Paracord Needle, and / or an inexpensive pair of hemostats (see “Hemostats” below) .

Paracord Needles typically come in lengths of 3” or longer, and either straight or curved needles. One end of the Needle is bluntly rounded. The other end of the needle is hollowed out and threaded.

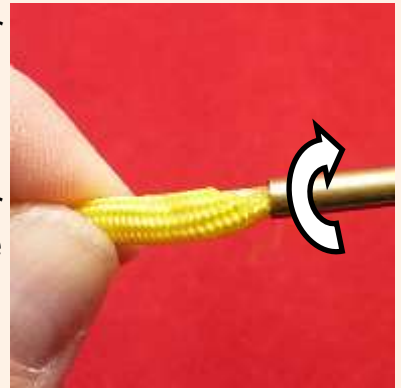


The easiest way to thread your Paracord into the back end of the Needle is to cut your Paracord at an angle, and burn your paracord lightly, creating a pointed end.



Thread this end into the back end of your Paracord Needle. You can pull the end of your Paracord under and through the stitches and braids in your Paracord Projects.

(HINT: You can also use this technique to make shoe or boot laces with a point that can be threaded through the eyelets of your shoes or boots.)



NOTE: Use caution when burning Paracord, and using Paracord Needles



Hemostats will also be a very handy addition to your Paracord Projects tools and equipment. As demonstrated in this picture, hemostats can be used to slip under or through the stitches and braids of your Paracord Projects, grip the end of your Paracord, and pull it through the stitches and braids.



Now that you have a few tools and skills under your belt, let's move on to the FUN part, actually making some of these Paracord Projects!

Paracord Craft Projects



Paracord is a fun, functional and inexpensive material to use for making many great projects! Some of the most common projects include:

Paracord bracelets; watchbands; shoelaces; necklaces; rings; wrapping and grips for tools, walking sticks, and flashlights; lanyards for knives, whistles and flashlights; keychains; zipper pulls; hatbands; bookmarks; pet leashes and collars; hair accessories; headbands; belts; rifle slings; monkey fist (self-defense); hammocks, and so many more Paracord craft projects.

Think of Paracord Projects for your Boy and Girl Scouts, Church groups, summer projects, fund-raising projects, school and Team Spirit projects, and more!

If you have your own Paracord and supplies

(Paracord in various colors, buckles for bracelets, carabiners, key rings, Paracord needles, hemostats, etc.) you can “charge forth” with making an attractive 2-color Fishtail style Paracord bracelet.

(See Page 16 in this ebook for close-up pictures and simple, detailed instructions for making a 2-color Fishtail style Paracord bracelet.)



If you DON'T have your own Paracord and supplies, you might be interested in our [Paracord Bracelet & Project Kits](#). These kits have everything that you need to get started with fun Paracord Projects. These kits are [available exclusively on Amazon.com](#).



How to Make a 2-Color Fishtail Style Paracord Bracelet

A Fishtail Weave Paracord Bracelet is an attractive and simple bracelet to start with. Here's how to make a 2-Color Fishtail Paracord Bracelet:



This is what a 2-Color Fishtail Weave Paracord Bracelet looks like.

It's a great-looking bracelet, and an easy bracelet to make for your first bracelet.



Materials Needed

- Paracord - 2 pieces, 4-5 ft long, each
- Ruler or Tape Measure
- Paracord Buckle - 3/8" or 1/2"
- Lighter or matches
- Sharp Scissors or Knife
- Paracord Needle or Hemostats (optional)

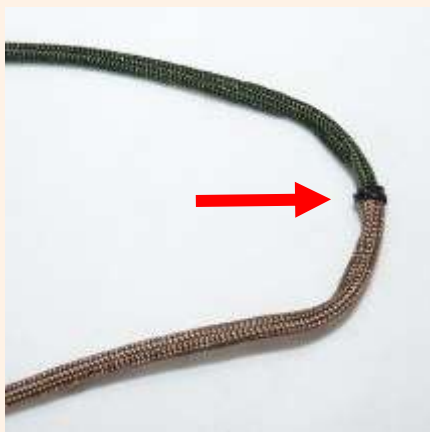


1 - Measure Your Wrist

Wrap a piece of paracord around your wrist. Then measure the paracord to get your wrist size.

In this example, we'll make a paracord bracelet for a 7 1/2 inch wrist.

Write this measurement down. You'll be needing this in later steps.



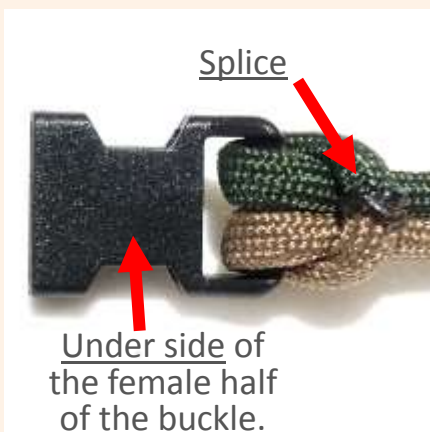
2 - Melt the 2 Pieces of Paracord Together

(see the instructions in the “Paracord Skills Clinic” of this book for more specific instructions on melting two pieces of paracord together.)



3 - Start Threading Half of the Buckle

On the female half of the buckle, thread both ends of the paracord from the top side of the buckle through to the bottom side of the buckle.



4 - Make a Lark's Head Knot

Thread the loose ends through the loop that you just made, creating a Lark's Head Knot.

Tighten the knot.



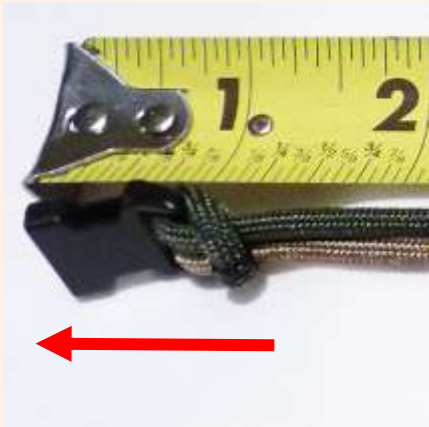
5 - Thread Through the Male Half of the Buckle

On the male half of the buckle, thread both loose ends through the buckle, from the top side ... down through to the bottom side of the buckle.



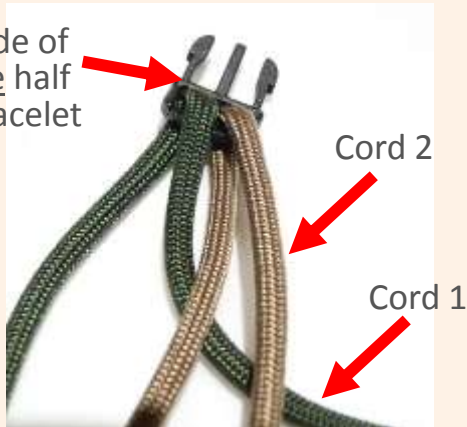
6 - Measure the Bracelet

Take the wrist measurement (7 1/2 inches) and add 1/2 inch (8 inch bracelet).



Measure from the end of the female side of the buckle to the horizontal piece of the male side of the buckle.

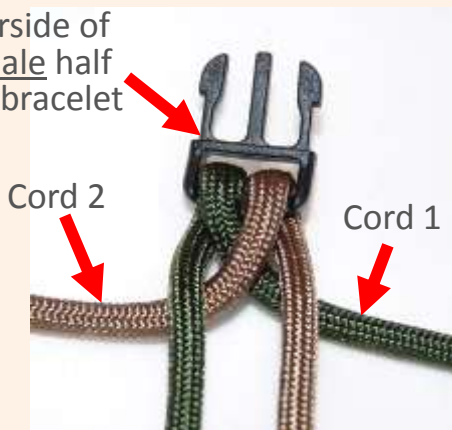
Underside of the male half of the bracelet



7 - Begin the Weave - Cord 1

Pull Cord 1 underneath both of the right-hand strands.

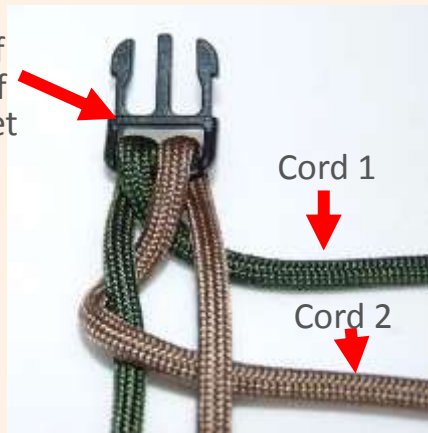
Underside of the male half of the bracelet



8 - Begin the Weave - Cord 2

Pull Cord 2 over Cord 1 and under the left outside strand.

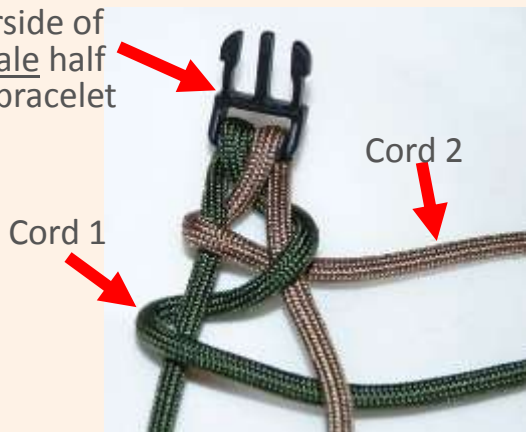
Underside of the male half of the bracelet



9 - Continue the Weave Cord 2

Bring Cord 2 around the outside and over the top of the left, outside strand, and under the right, outside strand.

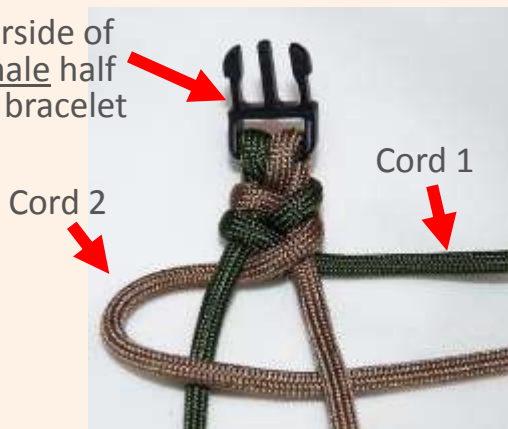
Underside of the male half of the bracelet



10 - Continue the Weave Cord 1

Bring Cord 1 over the right outside strand, over Cord 2, under the left outside strand, around and over the left outside strand, and back under the right outside strand.

Underside of the male half of the bracelet



11 - Continue the Weave Cord 2

Bring Cord 2 over the right outside strand, over Cord 1, under the left outside strand, around and over the left outside strand, and back under the right outside strand.

Underside of the male half of the bracelet



12 - Tighten Your Weave

Push the loops snugly towards the male half of the buckle and pull the loose ends tight.



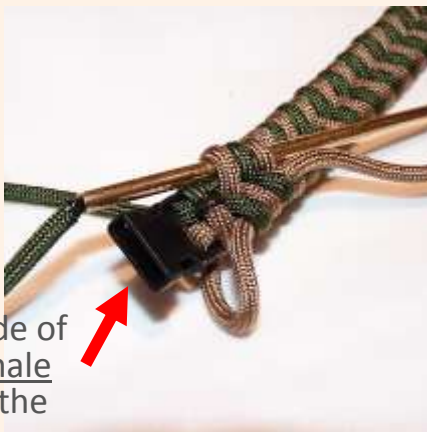
Double-Check the Bracelet Length

You should be able to comfortably slip one finger between the bracelet and your wrist.

If the bracelet length is too loose or too tight, adjust the length now, start a few braids, and re-check the length.

Remember, your bracelet will shorten up as you continue weaving it.

Repeat Steps 10 and 11 until you have braided down tightly to the female half of the buckle.



Underside of the female half of the

Finish the Bracelet

Make a final check of the length of the bracelet.

If the length is correct, use a paracord needle, hemostats, needle-nosed pliers, or large tweezers to thread the loose ends underneath about 3 braids on the underneath side of the bracelet.

Pull the loose ends snug.

Trim the Loose Ends

Take a sharp knife or scissors and trim the loose ends that remain on your bracelet.

If you tuck the ends of your bracelet underneath 3 or so braids, there is no need to burn or melt the ends of your bracelet.



Strong work!

Wear Your New 2-Color Fishtail Bracelet Proudly!

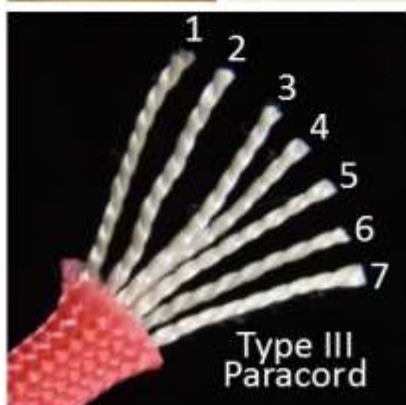
Or ... give it away to your lucky friend, or sell it to earn money to buy more Paracord!

When you're ready for more Paracord, [Dakota Gear™](#) has the Paracord that YOU want! Twenty-five popular colors in 1,010 ft. lengths. Available exclusively on Amazon.com. Click on any picture to [Order yours TODAY, exclusively from Amazon.com.](#)

Dakota Gear (TM)

Genuine Type III 7-Strand 550 Paracord

1,010 Ft. Spools



Proudly Made in the USA
THANK YOU! Dakota Gear (TM)

And when you're ready for more Paracord Bracelet and Project Kits, Dakota Gear™ has MANY to choose from! Available exclusively on Amazon.com.

Click on the picture below to Order yours TODAY, exclusively from Amazon.com.

Paracord Bracelet & Project Kit

Dakota Gear (TM)

Fun!

Profit!



Surf's UP!



Starter Kit - Girls



Starter Kit - Guys



Candy Shoppe



Sniper



Color Explosion



Prepper Plaid



Commando



Patriotic



Grass Stains



MilSpec Montage



Late Sunset



Jamboree



Happy Zombie



Proudly Made
in the USA

THANK YOU!
Dakota Gear (TM)

U.S. Military Veteran-
Owned Business

THANK YOU!! (Seriously!) THANK YOU!!

Many THANKS for your interest in Dakota Gear™ Paracord. We LOVE Paracord, and you will, too!

We are absolutely committed to providing the highest quality product at a reasonable price, with our solid and confident, “No Muss, No Fuss, No B.S. 100% Unconditional 1-year Guarantee.” We make a top quality product, we know it, and we stand behind it ... period.



We're a small, U.S. Military veteran-owned and operated business. We have to compete with BIG sellers on AZ.



Join the thousands of satisfied customers that we already have with our “sister brand,” Paracord 550 MilSpec. And join the many hundreds who have left us a Product Review on Amazon. We APPRECIATE our customers, and APPRECIATE those of you who tell our “future customers” about our product!



If we can help you, please contact us any time. (unless I'm out on the trail!):

Darren9159Wright@gmail.com

Darren Wright

V.P. Customer Relations

[Dakota Gear™](#)

[Paracord 550 MilSpec™](#)

