

The Survival Bracelet (Free Tutorial PDF)



Wildlife Success Stories

What is a survival bracelet?

It's a decorative and functional bracelet for all ages and genders. The material is 550 parachute cord, and I use the Cobra Weave for the knot work. If you find yourself lost or stranded in the backcountry, you can untie the 550 paracord and apply it to several survival scenarios:

- String up your poncho as a make-shift shelter.
- Tie splints for broken bones.
- Create snares for small game.
- Lash your knife to a stick to make a spear.
- The inner fibers make great fishing line.
- (550 means 550 pound breaking strength)

Each bracelet makes a great gift, scout project or just a plain family fun activity. It will strengthen your knot tying skills and become a new enjoyable hobby.

Some people even sell these for \$6 to \$8 dollars a piece. With additional lengths of cord, you can also make dog collars, belts, gun straps, etc. It's really up to your imagination what you can make with paracord.

You have permission to share this instructional guide with others. All I ask is that you pass it on for free. It is for non-commercial use only. Give it to your kids, a scout master, Sunday school teacher or youth leader—anyone who might enjoy this craft.

Wildlife Success Stories

This particular series of bracelets I call Wildlife Success Stories. They represent a few special animals who have made and are continuing to make spectacular comebacks. Over the years, sportsmen, conservationists, nature lovers and others have contributed monetarily and through voluntary work toward rescuing these animals from the brink of extinction. The colors of the different bracelets shown below, reflect the these animals and their story.



Bald Eagle

In July of 1995, the US Fish & Wildlife Services took the Bald Eagle off the Endangered Species list. They thrive most on the Northwest coast of North America. We're also seeing a resurgence in numbers across the southeast.



Whitetail Deer

The brown, tan, white and black colors of the Whitetail Deer. This beautiful animal has come back in the millions. Sportsmen have done a lot to bring the deer back and control population growth.



Eastern Wild Turkey

The black, white, red and blue colors of the turkey. Estimates say that their populations now number just over 5 million.



Wood Duck

Wood Duck populations started rebounding in the 1920's. They have been coming back in record numbers. You still see nesting boxes throughout the south. These boxes contributed a lot to the Wood Duck's survival.



American Plains Bison

The American Plains Bison is no longer on the Endangered Species List. A history byte—the US Army sanctioned the killing of bison to weaken American Indian populations.



Gray Wolf

The wolf was nearly wiped out in the 1930s. It's still on the Endangered Species list, but their numbers are increasing. Wildlife Biologists would like to confine wolves to more wild places to avoid conflicts with farmers and the public.



Grizzly Bear

Grizzly bears are thriving in the Yellowstone National Park ecosystem. Yellowstone Grizzlies were taken off the Endangered Species List in 2007.

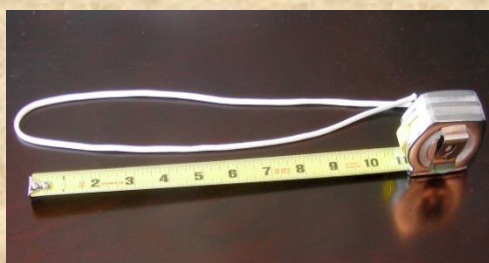
Disclaimer: This craft is intended for adults. Children should do this under adult supervision.



Step 1

Items needed to make the bracelet:

- 550 Paracord (order online or found in local Army Navy Store)
- Measuring Tape
- Lighter
- Scissors



Step 2

Take a piece of white paracord and measure off about 22 inches. Fold the piece around, forming a loop. If you want, go ahead and tie an overhand knot where the two open ends meet.



Step 3

Cut off a 5 foot piece of red paracord and a 5 foot piece of black paracord. Use the lighter to singe both ends. Once the core fibers have melted, carefully push the 2 cords together and allow to cool. The 2 cords will fuse together nicely.

WARNING: Be careful with this step. You can burn your finger easily if not careful. Allow plenty of cooling time.

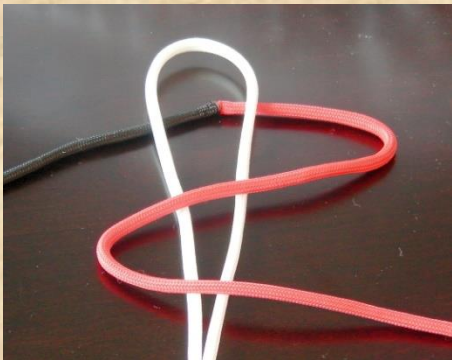


Here is a picture of the 2 colored cords after they have fused together



Step 4

Bring the red/black cord in behind the white loop.



Step 5

Bring one cord (red side) around to the front of the white cord and form an S shape loop. This begins the Cobra Weave.



Step 6

As shown in the picture, bring the black cord around and enter the red loop (left side), go around back of white cord and then exit out of the red loop (right side).



Step 7

Cinch up the knot from Step 6 and it should look similar to the image on left. Be sure to leave about a one inch diameter loop for the white cord.



Step 8

Now, perform the same operation you did in Step 6, but this time create the S loop from the opposite side. Pull black cord through and cinch it up tight.

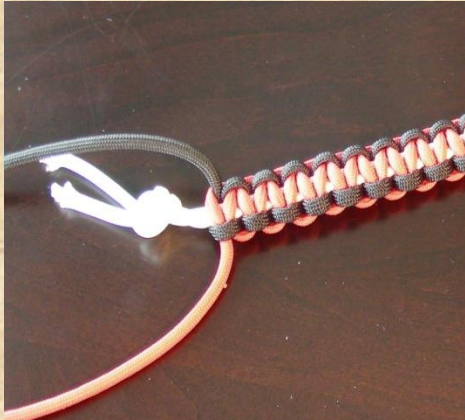


Step 9

Continue repeating Steps 6, 7 & 8. You should see the weave pattern as pictured on the left.



Continue weaving until you reach the overhand knot at the end of your white loop. The overhand knot will insert into the white loop to latch the bracelet around your wrist.



Step 10

Now we've reached the white cord's overhand knot. At this point, check the bracelet's fit around your wrist. Depending on the size of your wrist, you may have to move the overhand knot out farther. Or you may need to unweave the red/black cords a couple of times. Adjust it so it fits comfortably around your wrist.



Step 11

Once you have the bracelet adjusted like you want it, cut the red and black cords close to the bracelet. Then take the lighter and lightly singe the red and black cord's ends. This process will seal the ends into the Cobra Weave.



Here is the finished product. You can also order the small snap-together buckles and use instead of the overhand knot latch. (see example of the Eagle bracelet picture)

Additional Paracord Resources

<http://www.wilsonsactical.com/>

<http://www.cdwplus.com/index.html>

550 Paracord is usually available at local Army & Navy Surplus Stores.

Buy Ready Made Paracord Products

<http://www.survivalstraps.com/>

More Interesting Knot Instructions

<http://www.youtube.com/user/TyingItAllTogether>

<http://www.fusionknots.com/>

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