



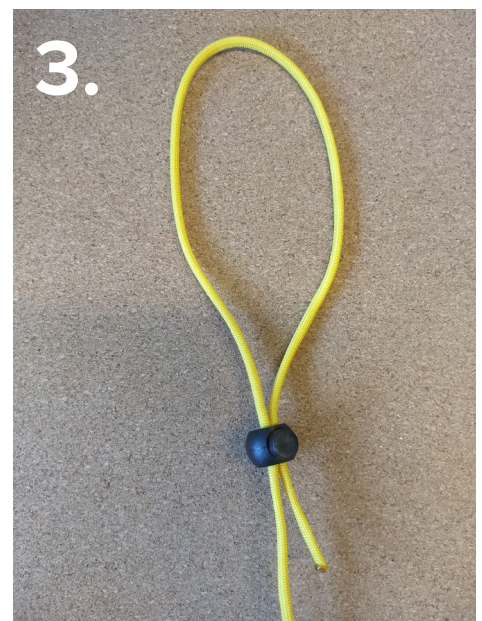
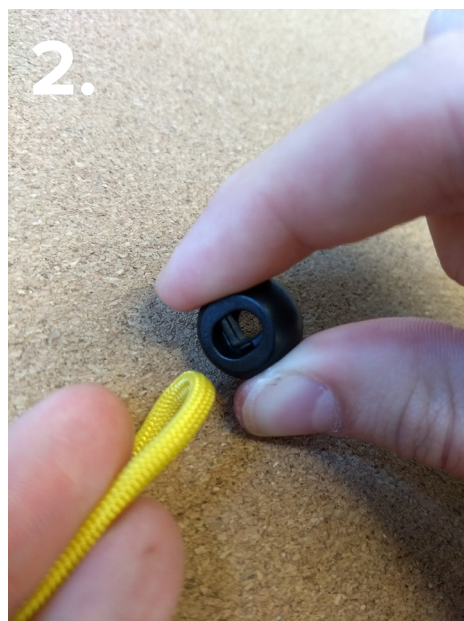
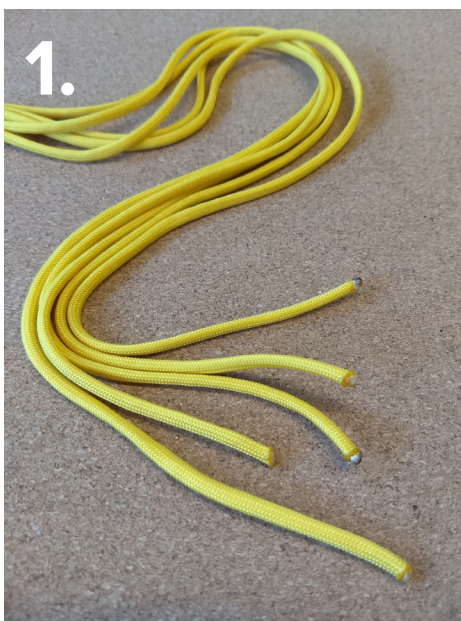
Are you looking for a hands-free way to carry your water bottle? This easy method gives you a net that will hold it's form when the bottle is removed.

YOU WILL NEED:

- 50 ft. of #550 paracord
- 1 1/2 in. welded steel ring
- Round cord lock
- Cutting instruments
- Lighter
- A bottle to wrap
- Ruler(optional)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut 5 pieces of paracord at 5 ft. long each. Set these aside.
2. Using the remainder of your cord, fold it in half and push the bend through the cord lock.
3. The resulting loop should look like this. For now, don't worry about how much slack you have on each side.

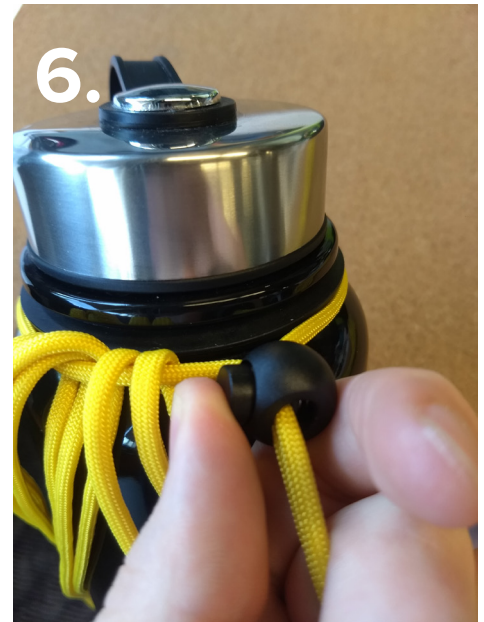




4. Cinch your cord lock loop around the neck of your bottle. You may want to roll your remaining 20+ ft. into a hank to keep things from getting messy.



5. Take all of the 5 ft. pieces that you set aside and tuck them through the neck loop.

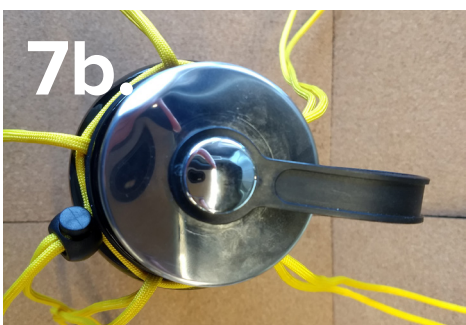


6. Cinch the cord lock tight. Your 5 tucked cords should be pulled through so that they form 10 even strands.

7. Spread these out so that they are equal distance apart from each other. On each cord, the end that goes under the neck loop should be oriented to the right (a). This is merely for aesthetics. From the top, (b) they will look like a 5-pointed star.

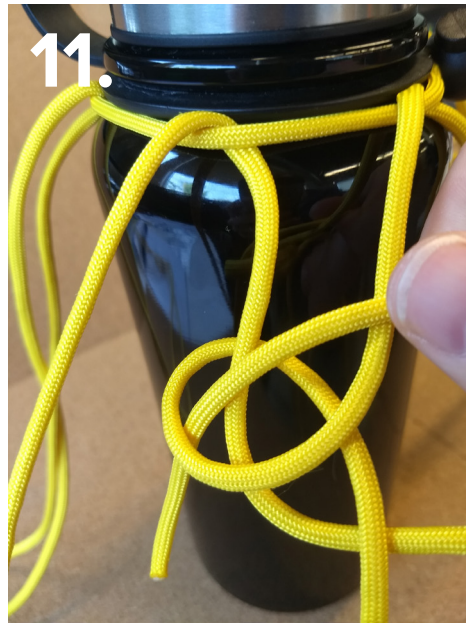
8. Now it is time to start the net. For this, we are going to use the "snake knot." Take the left strand of one group and cross it over the right strand of the group to the left.

9. Loop that same cord behind and back to the left. As shown in the photo, make sure the working end loops up instead of down.





10. Pull the left cord behind to the right. The hand in the picture is holding the correct cord.



11. Poke that same cord through the left loop.



12. Slowly tighten your knot. It should look like this when pulled tight. The spacing of the net is a matter of personal preference, just keep each row even.

13. Move on to the next two cords and do the same thing. Again, make sure this knot is level with your previous one.

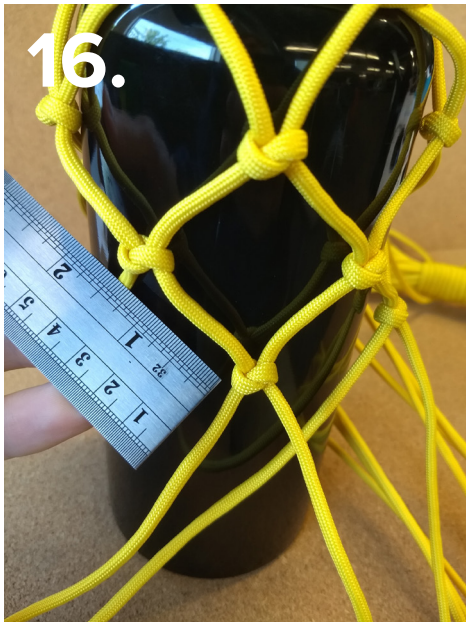


14. This is what your first row will look like when you are done.



15. Start on the next row. Again, use cords from two adjacent groups.





14. The pictured net is spaced at about 1 1/2 in. If you want to be exact, you can measure it out each time. If you are less concerned with perfection, eyeballing is sufficient



17. Keep knotting until you reach the bottom of the bottle. The last row of knots should almost reach the base of the bottle when pulled taut.



18. Take a right-sided cord of one of the groups, and loop it through the welded steel ring in a loop as shown in the picture. You are making a "cow hitch." knot.

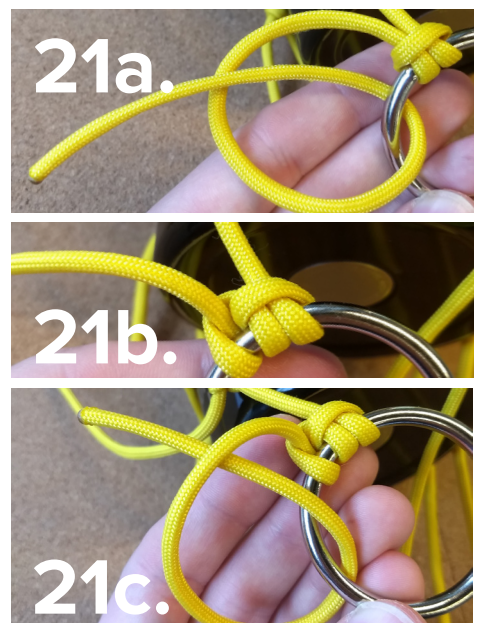
19. Finish off the cow hitch by looping the cord through the opposite way and feeding the working end through the resulting loop.



20. Tighten the completed hitch and adjust the length of your standing end so that the ring sits just past the center of the base of your bottle.

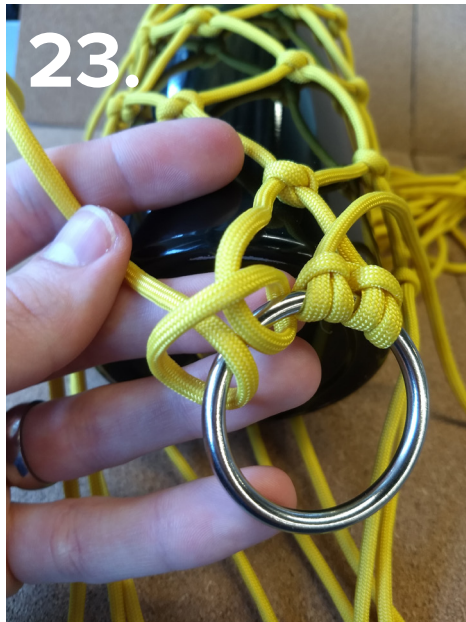


21. Make one more cow hitch by forming two underhand loops in opposite directions. (a,c) Pull tight after each loop. (b)

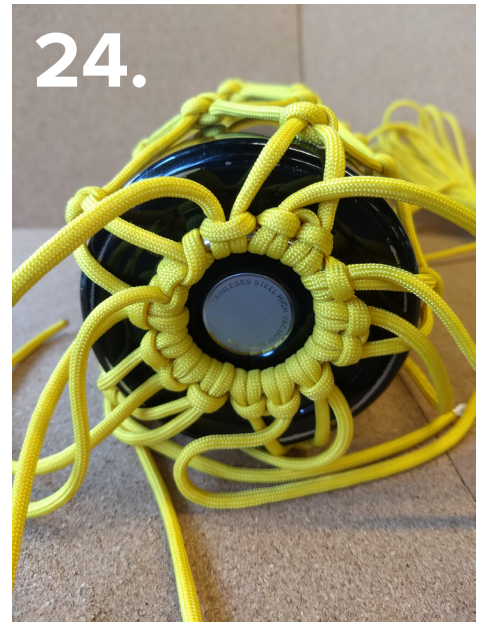




22. The result should look like the photo above. This form of knotting is called "alternating ring hitching."



23. Take the next cord to the left and make a single cow hitch around the ring. Do not make a second hitch with this cord. (Note: 2 loops = 1 hitch.)



24. Continue this pattern until all cords are tied to the ring. The right side cord of each group will have two cow hitches, the left side cords will have only one.

25. Cut each cord end a little less than 1/4 in. from the knots. Don't let them slip out!



26. Melt the ends and flatten them against the knot with the side of the scissors. The net portion of this project is now finished.



27. Now, to form the carry strap, you need to make both ends of the bottle neck loop equal length. Each should be about 10-12 ft. long. You will have to unravel your hank to do this.





28. Form the core of your strap by looping the ends of these cords through the opposite side of your neck loop. Use about 3 ft. of cord for a shoulder strap. For a smaller handle, use 1 1/2 ft.



29. To make the strap wider and more comfortable to carry, let's use the most basic of paracord weaves: the cobra. If you are making a short handle, continue weaving the entire length. To make the shoulder strap, end your weave here. Cut, melt, and flatten your ends.



30. Do steps 28-30 only if you are making the shoulder strap rather than the short handle. Restart your cobra weave about 8 in. back from the middle of your strap. (See final step picture for reference.) Attach your weaving cord using a simple double overhand knot.

31. Resume weaving.

32. After you have completed a few passes of the weave, you can undo your overhand knot.

33. Continue weaving until you run out of cord or your two sides are even, as in the picture. Cut, melt, and flatten all remaining cord ends. 🐞

