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Paracord Survival Bracelet

Instructions

These are the instructions to make your own paracord survival bracelet. You can wear the bracelet to camps – it holds 2m of spare cord which you can untie and use for odd jobs around your site and re-tie again when you're finished. Handy in an emergency.

You can make a bracelet from a single 2m length of cord, or you can have a 2-colour one as shown here. The 2 colour version is made by melting the ends of 2 x 1m lengths of cord together. This gives a pretty strong join for normal wear, but don't expect it to hold strong as a single 2m piece of construction rope – you'll need to use as 2 separate ropes.

The cord here is "550 Paracord". We are using a 15mm curved plastic buckle. We'll use the 'Cobra Weave' style knot.

Step 1



Start with your 2m length of rope. Above shows the pink and black 1m lengths after the ends have been melted together.

Step 2



Tie the cord onto one end of the buckle using a 'larks head' knot. To do that you fold the middle of the cord where the 2 colours join into a loop and pass it through the buckle as shown above. You then thread the 2 loose ends through the loop and pull it all tight against the buckle as below. Note that the curve in the buckle is bending away from the camera in these pictures. That will ensure that the join in the ropes is hidden behind the knot in the finished bracelet.



Step 3



Plug the other piece of the buckle into the first and pass the loose ends of cord through it as shows. Put it on your wrist to find the length of cord you will need as shown below.



With the cord wrapped comfortably but firmly around your wrist, pinch the trailing cords about 4cm away from the buckle. Slide the buckle out to your fingers. This is the length your bracelet should be when you start tying it. You need this extra length to allow for the size of the weave as well as a little slack around your wrist. You'll probably not be happy with the length on your first attempt, but after you've done it once, you'll find it quick and easy to untie and re-tie the bracelet at a better length.

Step 4



With the second buckle at the right distance from the first, and the curve of the buckles bending face down, form one of the working ends into an 'S' shape across the 2 cords which will form the core of the bracelet. Now thread the other cord down through the lower loop, and up through the higher loop as below.



It's worth mentioning now that you will repeat this many times. You will always use the same colour cord to form the S, and the other cord to thread through it. Whichever cord you choose to make the S with will be the one that gives the colour down the middle of the bracelet. The other cord will be the edging colour. If you are only using a single colour length of cord, just keep swapping sides as you work.

Step 5

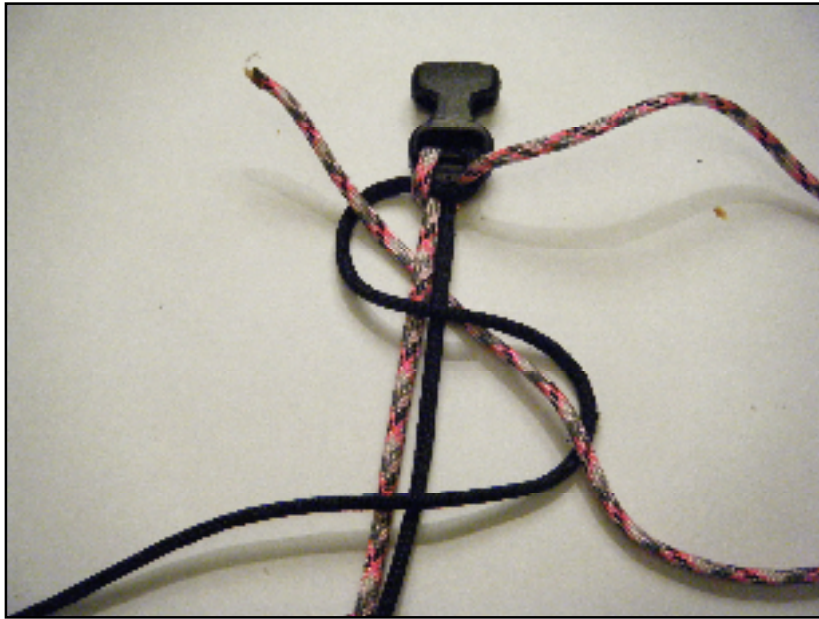


Pull the cords tight around the core cords and push the knot up against the buckle as below. Make sure the core cords between the 2 buckles are still the same length. Tidy them up if not.



Step 6

Repeat the above by forming the black rope into an 'S' again. This time it starts from the other side, so everything is the reverse of the first time. Remember to pull the knot nice and tight.



Step 7

Repeat this same tight weave until you reach the other end buckle or you run out of cord.



Step 8

If you ran out of cord before reaching the end buckle, spread out the weaving you've made by pushing it towards the end buckle to fill in the remaining gap. If instead you have reached the end buckle and you have lots of cord left, then you may have the length of the bracelet too short and it won't go around your wrist (you need to undo it and start again). If it does fit comfortably then you may need to push your knots tighter together – remember you want to get as much cord into this bracelet as you can, so pushing the knots tighter together away from the end buckle should give you more space to add more knots.



If you run out of cord, push the knots towards the end buckle



Step 9

Trim off the excess cord close to the bracelet and lightly melt it onto the last knot using a lighter (not shown here). This seals the freshly cut end of the cord and will prevent it from untying accidentally.

