

Paracord Double Helix (DNA) Braid

by **hawcrofta** on February 14, 2014

Intro: Paracord Double Helix (DNA) Braid

How to make a double helix (DNA) knot keychain.



Step 1: Step 1

The first thing you will need to do is gather your supplies. You will need:

1. A lighter
2. Something to cut the paracord
3. A measuring device
4. The paracord you wish to use

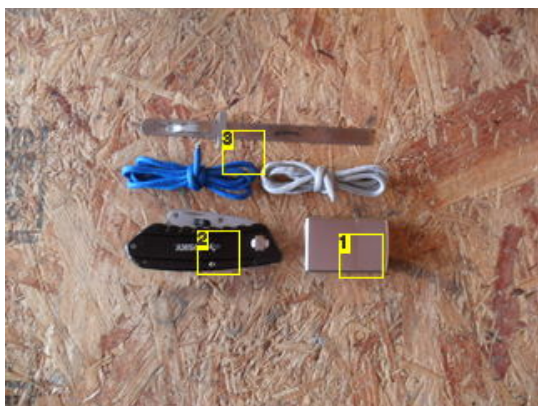


Image Notes

1. Using a lighter is much easier than matches
2. It really doesn't matter what you use to cut the paracord, but I use a razor knife because it makes cleaner cuts.
3. I use a machinists ruler because it is a convenient size.

Step 2: Step 2

Then you will need to determine how long you want your finished product to be as this will determine the amount of paracord you have to use. A good rule for finding out how much cord to use is to use 1 foot of cord for every 1 inch in your project. In my case I wanted to make the key chain 4 inches long using two colors, so I would need 4 feet of cord, or 2 feet of each color. After you have cut the paracord to the correct length singe both ends to prevent them from fraying. Then heat one end of each color with your lighter and push them together. Hold the two ends together until they cool. Be careful not to burn yourself.

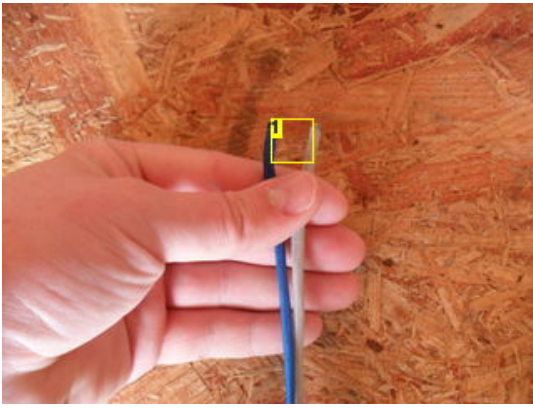


Image Notes

1. Burn the ends to prevent them from fraying.

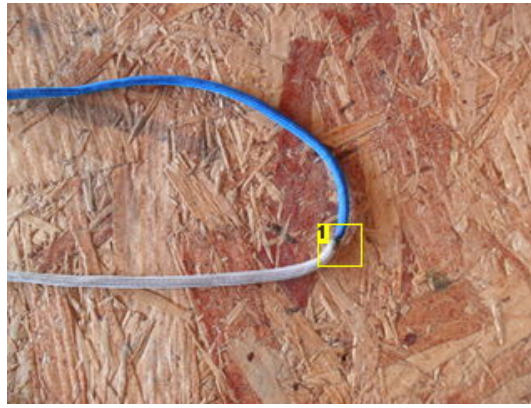


Image Notes

1. Melt the two ends together to create one single strand of paracord

Step 3: Step 3

Now you start to work on the weave. You will want to fold the cord in half so that the place where you joined the two ends together is about 2 inches from the bends. Measure the cord to find where you want to start the weave. Now comes the fun part. Take the strand on the left side and cross it over both strands going to the right. Now take the right strand and go over the the strand you just crossed over, then under the two strands and then up through the loop of the left strand. Pull everything tight and measure it again as this will be the finished length of your project. Repeat this process until you are about one-half inch from the end. You want to leave this loop to allow you to attach it to something. Now simply cut off the excess cord and melt the ends. Congratulations you have made a double helix paracord keychain.

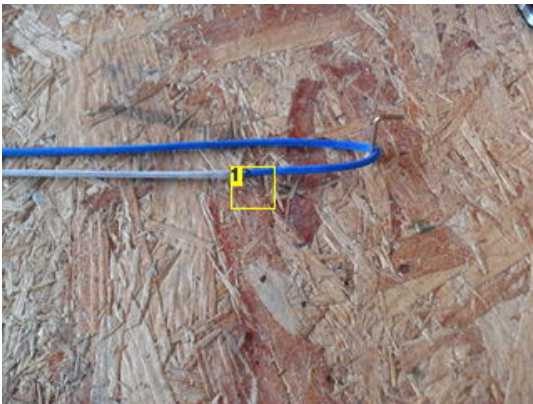


Image Notes

1. The joint doesn't have to be pretty as it will be covered up

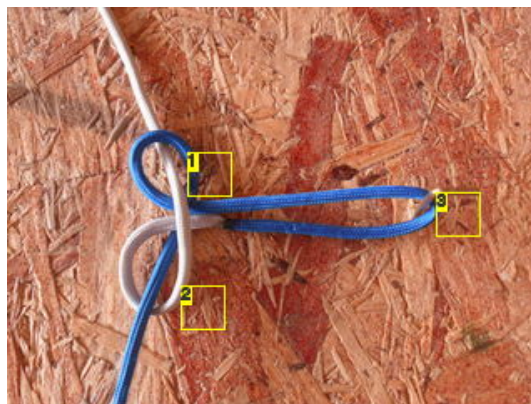
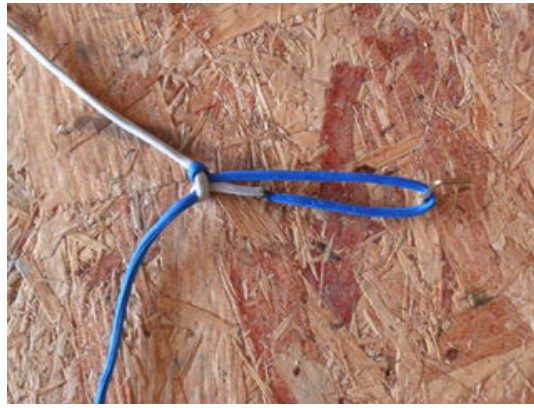
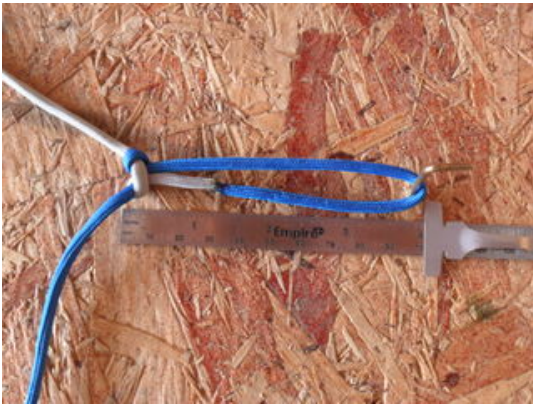


Image Notes

1. The right strand
2. The left strand
3. It may help you if you use a jig. I am just using a small hook here.



Step 4:

You can use this knot to make all kinds of stuff!



Image Notes

1. DNA Bracelet

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Double-Helix-DNA-Braid/>

