BONUS 1

Gift Workshop



12 Handmade Paracord Gifts, Ready for Every Occasion

A Henry Clawson bonus for readers of the Paracord book

How to Use This Workshop

Every project in this workshop uses a knot or weave you already learned in the book. Each card tells you which project page to go back to if you need a refresher.

Every card gives you: what it is, who it's for, the cord you need, the steps, and a finishing touch that makes it look like a gift, not a practice piece.

Cord amounts are for 550 cord with medium tension. Tie a test inch when it matters.

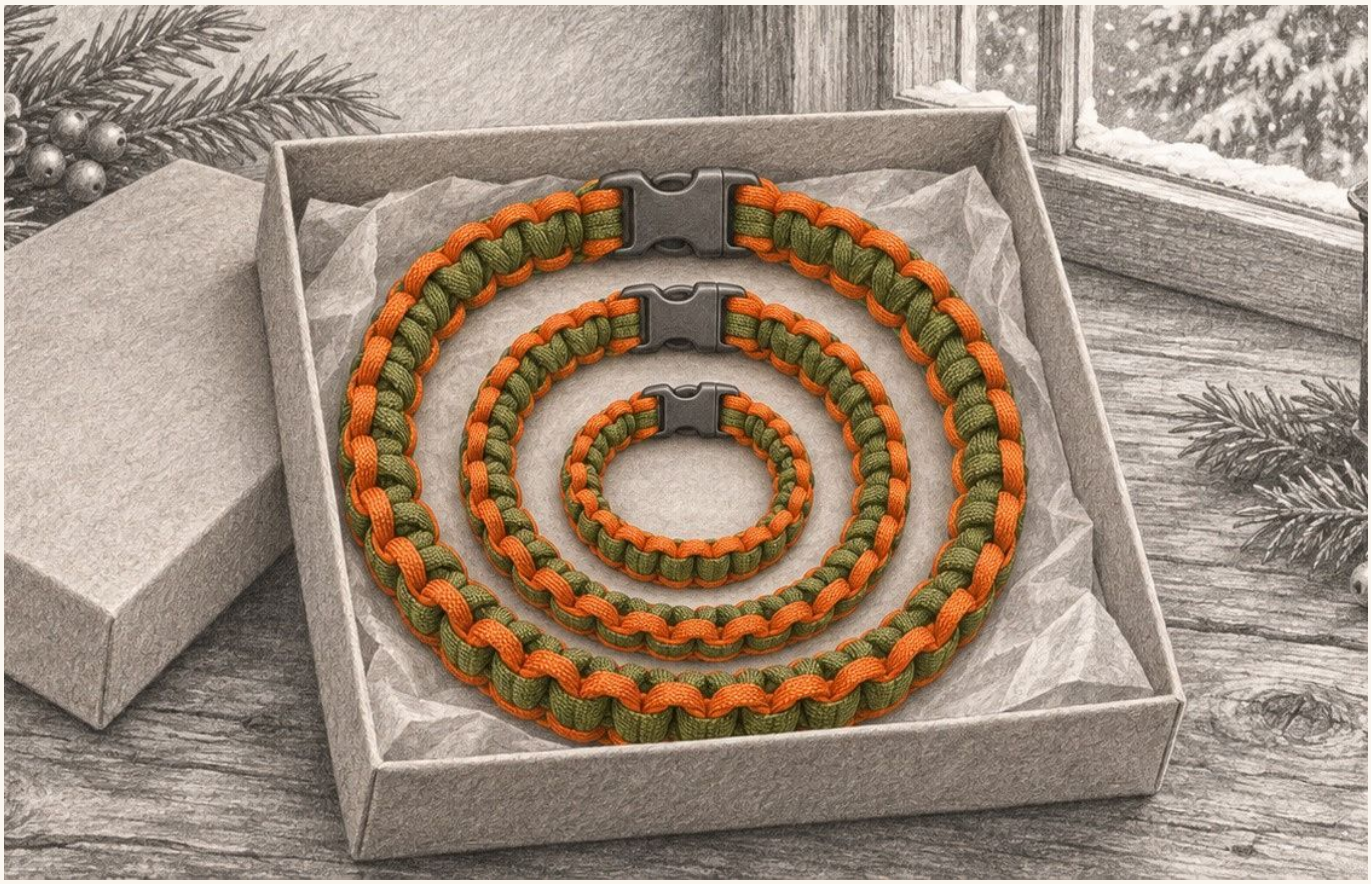
At the end you'll find printable gift tags and cards. Print them on cardstock, cut, and tie them to your gifts.

Before You Start: Gift Rules



- Make it in their colors. Ask, or check their gear, their car, their team.
- Size it right. For a bracelet you can't measure, make the adjustable sliding-knot version (book, P10).
- Seal clean. A gift with a burnt blob looks homemade in the wrong way. Seal small and press flat.
- Tell the story. Write on the tag how much cord is inside: "Inside: 9 feet of 550 cord."
- Test it. Clip it, pull it, close it ten times before you wrap it.

1. Family Set: Matching Cobra Bracelets



For: a parent and kids, siblings, a couple. **Level:** 1. **Time:** about 2 hours for three.

Cord: Adult (8 in bracelet): about 9.5 ft. Teen (7 in): about 8 ft. Child (6.5 in): about 7 ft. One 5/8 in side-release buckle each.

How: Make each bracelet as the Classic Cobra (book, P06), all in the same two colors.

1. Measure each wrist and add 1 inch.
2. Set each buckle to its length before the third knot.
3. Weave all three in the same color order, so the set matches.
4. Seal the ends on the back.

> **Finishing touch:** Lay the three bracelets in one box, biggest to smallest, with one tag: "One family. One weave."

2. Initial Keychain



For: anyone; a perfect stocking stuffer. **Level:** 1. **Time:** 20 minutes.

Cord: about 3 ft, one split key ring, one letter bead with a hole big enough for two strands of 550 cord.

How: A Snake Knot Key Fob (book, P03) with a letter in the middle.

1. Tie the cord on the key ring as in P03.
2. Tie snake knots for about 1 inch.
3. Thread the letter bead on both strands and push it up.
4. Tie snake knots for another inch under the bead.
5. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Pick a bead in a color that contrasts with the cord so the letter stands out.

3. Monkey's Fist Ornament



For: the Christmas tree, a car mirror, a gift topper. **Level:** 2. **Time:** 30 minutes.

Cord: about 4 ft, one 1 in wooden bead as a core, a short loop of cord to hang it.

How: The Monkey's Fist (book, P05) tied around a wooden bead, so it's round and firm.

1. Make the three sets of wraps as in P05, with the bead inside after the second set.
2. Work out the slack slowly, one wrap at a time, until the bead is hidden.
3. Bring both ends out together and tie them into a hanging loop with an overhand knot.
4. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Make one in each family member's color and hang them together.

4. Mini Wreath Ornament



For: the tree, a front door, a gift box. **Level:** 2. **Time:** 40 minutes.

Cord: about 10 ft in green, a 3 in metal ring, a short piece of orange cord for the bow.

How: A cobra weave around a ring instead of between two buckles.

1. Tie the middle of the cord around the ring with a lark's head.
2. Tie cobra knots around the ring (book, P02), always from the side where the last one ended.
3. Push the knots tight so the ring disappears.
4. When you're back at the start, trim and seal the ends under the last knot.
5. Tie a small bow of orange cord at the top.

> **Finishing touch:** Add a short loop at the top to hang it.

5. Dog Collar



For: the dog lover. **Level:** 2. **Time:** about 1.5 hours.

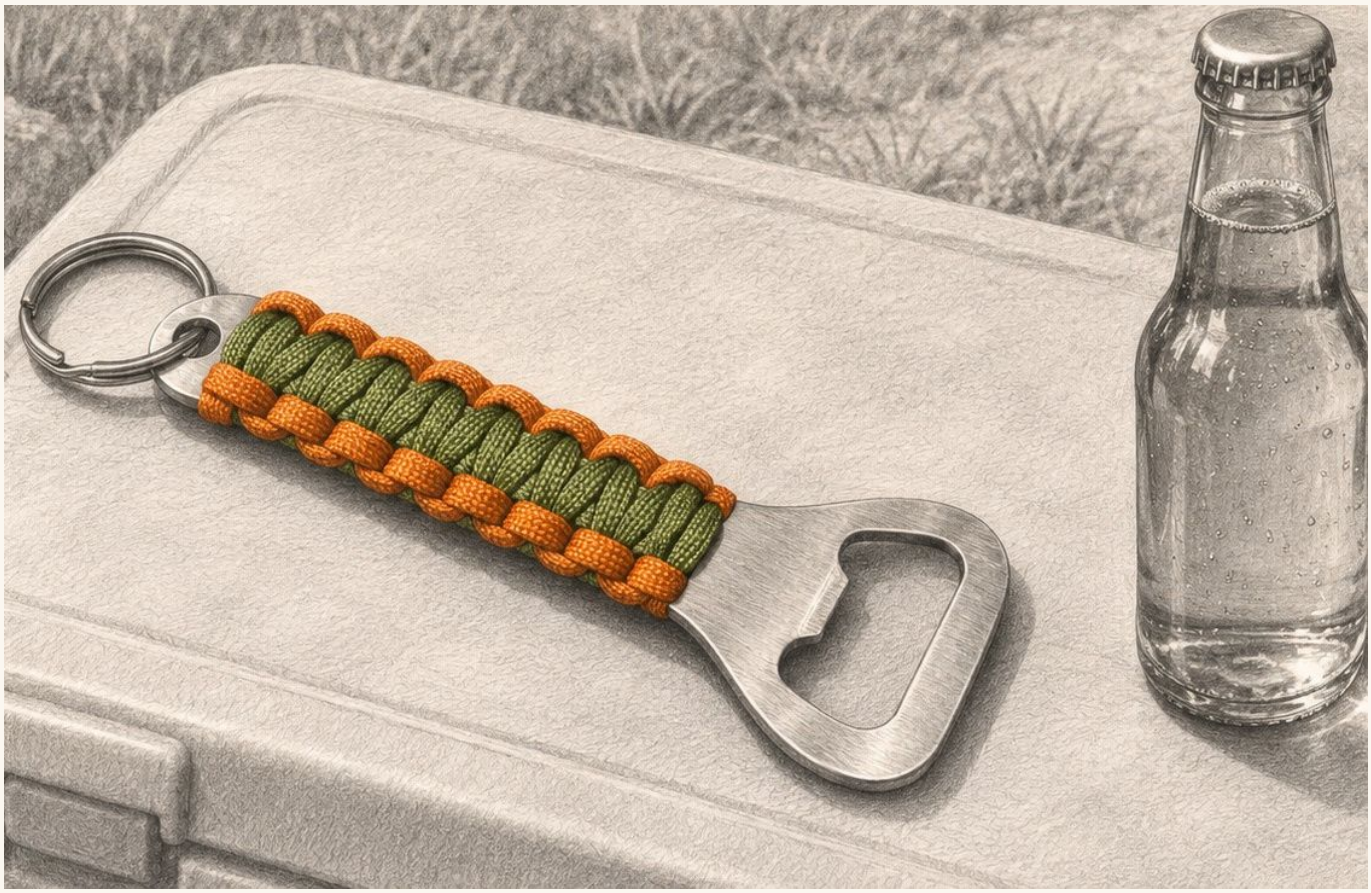
Cord: about 1 ft per inch of collar, plus 2 ft (a 14 in collar: about 16 ft). One 1 in side-release buckle, one 1 in metal D-ring.

How: The Classic Cobra (book, P06) with a D-ring for the tag.

1. Measure the dog's neck and add 2 inches.
2. Before you set the core, slide the D-ring onto the core strands.
3. Set the buckles to the length and push the D-ring next to the male buckle.
4. Weave cobra knots over the core, around the D-ring base, to the other buckle.
5. Trim and seal on the inside of the collar.

> **Finishing touch:** Two fingers must fit between the collar and the neck.
>
> **Important:** This is a collar for an ID tag, not for pulling. Always walk a dog with a proper leash attached to a proper collar or harness.

6. Bottle Opener Keychain



For: the friend who brings the cooler. **Level:** 1. **Time:** 25 minutes.

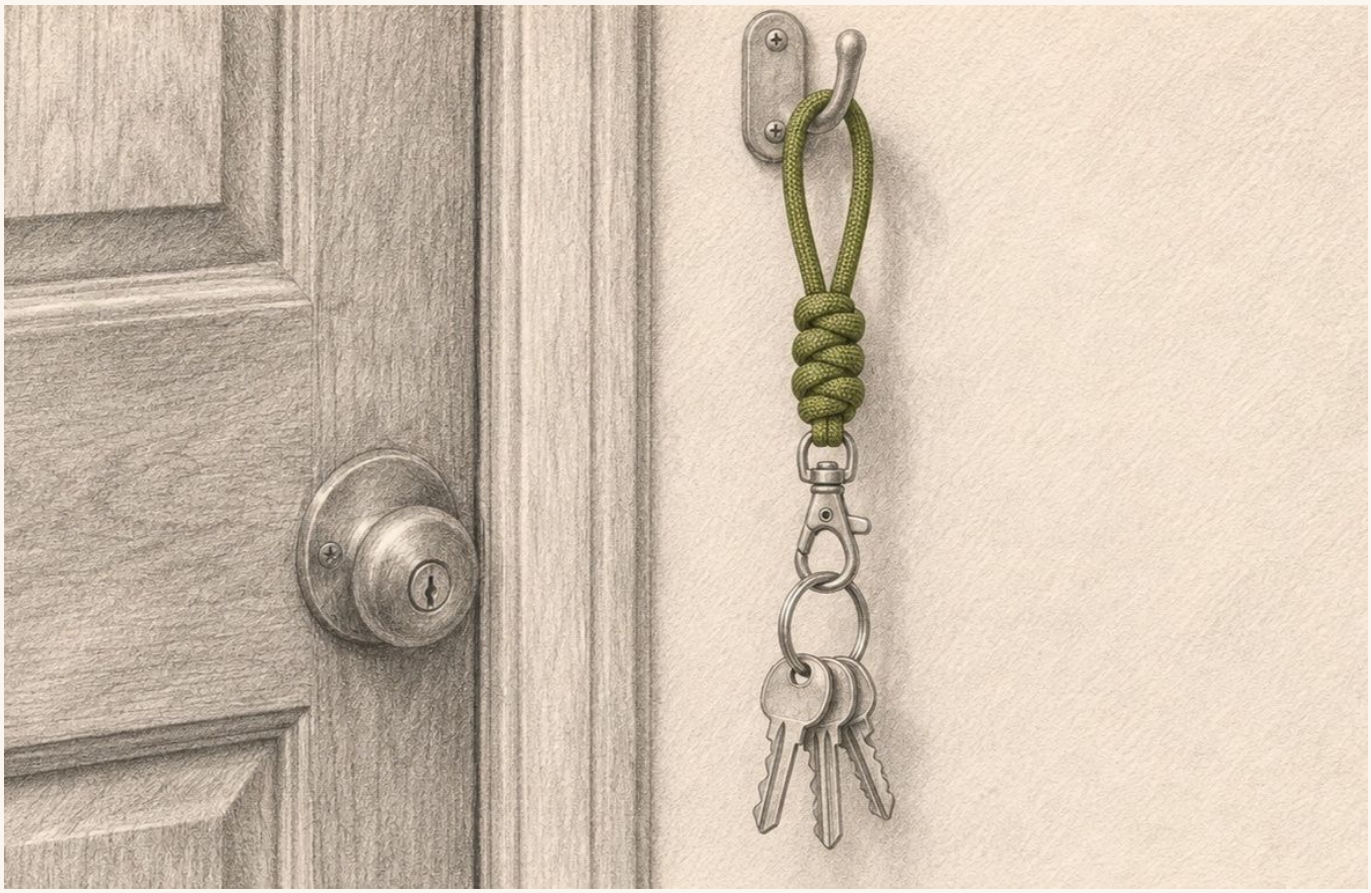
Cord: about 4 ft, one flat keychain bottle opener with a ring.

How: A cobra weave over the opener's flat handle.

1. Tie the middle of the cord to the opener's ring with a lark's head.
2. Use the opener's handle as the core.
3. Tie cobra knots down the handle (book, P02), leaving the opening end free.
4. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Use their team colors.

7. Key Lanyard



For: keys, an ID badge, a small flashlight. **Level:** 1. **Time:** 30 minutes.

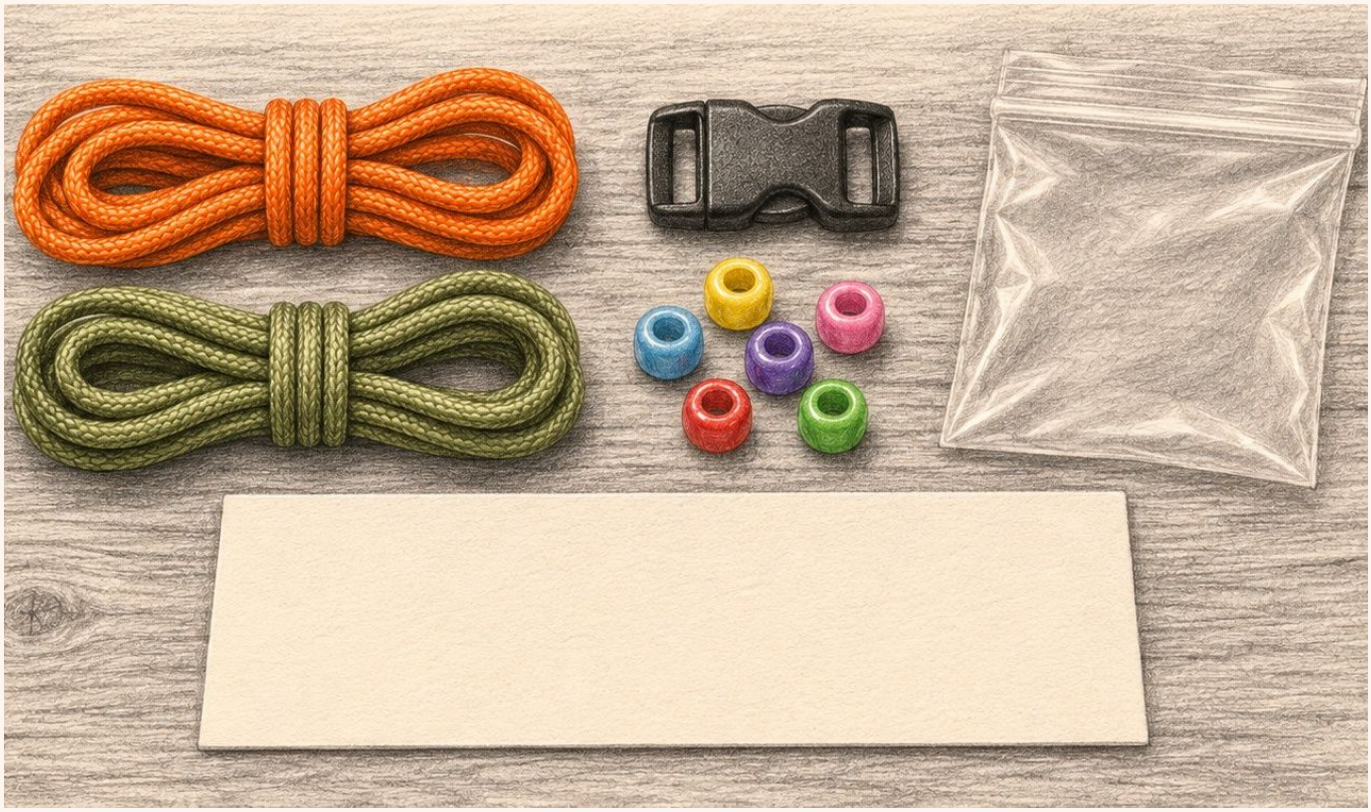
Cord: about 6 ft, one swivel clasp, one split ring.

How: A snake knot column (book, P01) with a loop for the wrist.

1. Fold the cord to make a 6 in loop and put the swivel clasp at the bottom of the loop.
2. Tie snake knots from the clasp down for about 3 inches.
3. Finish with a split ring at the end.
4. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Make it long enough to wear on the wrist.

8. Kids' "Make Your Own" Bracelet Kit



For: kids from about 8, Scouts, a birthday party. **Level:** 1 (to make), 1 (for them).

Time: 15 minutes to prepare one kit.

What goes in the kit: two pieces of cord in their favorite colors, about 4 ft each; one 5/8 in buckle with the core already set to their wrist; one printed instruction card (at the end of this workshop); a few pony beads.

How to prepare:

1. Measure the child's wrist and add 1 inch.
2. Set the buckle and the core for them (book, P06, steps 1 to 3).
3. Tie the first cobra knot yourself so they can see it.
4. Put everything in a small bag with the card.

> **Important:** Sealing the ends is always a job for an adult.

9. Camp Mug Handle Wrap



For: the coffee drinker who camps. **Level:** 1. **Time:** 20 minutes.

Cord: about 6 to 8 ft, one enamel or steel camp mug.

How: The Handle Wrap (book, P15) on a mug handle.

1. Lay the loop along the handle as in P15.
2. Wrap tightly from the top down.
3. Finish with the end through the loop and pull it under.
4. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Give it with a bag of good coffee.

10. Holiday Napkin Rings (set of 4)



For: the holiday table, a host gift. **Level:** 1. **Time:** about 1 hour for four.

Cord: about 6 ft per ring, one short piece of cord as the core.

How: A short cobra weave closed into a ring.

1. Make a core about 6 inches long.
2. Tie cobra knots over the core for about 5.5 inches.
3. Bend it into a ring, overlap the ends and join them with two tight wraps of thin inner strand.
4. Trim and seal.

> **Finishing touch:** Make the set in two colors, alternating at the table.

11. The Outdoorsman's Bracelet



For: the hiker, the hunter, the fisherman. **Level:** 1. **Time:** 1 hour.

Cord: 8 to 10 ft, one side-release buckle with a built-in whistle.

How: The Classic Cobra (book, P06) on a whistle buckle.

1. Measure the wrist and add 1 inch.
2. Set the whistle buckle exactly as a normal buckle.
3. Weave, trim and seal as in P06.

> **Finishing touch:** On the tag: "Inside: about 9 feet of cord and a whistle."

12. Team Bracelets



For: a team, a club, a group of friends. **Level:** 2. **Time:** about 1 hour each.

Cord: about 5 ft of each team color per bracelet, one buckle.

How: The Two-Color Cobra (book, P07) in the team's two colors.

1. Make one bracelet first and check the color change.
2. Cut all the cord at once: same length for every player.
3. Make the others in a row, one evening at a time.

> **Finishing touch:** Hand them out at the first game.

Printable Gift Tags



Print on cardstock, cut along the edges, punch a hole and tie with a short piece of cord.

• Handmade by: _____
For: _____

• Inside: ____ feet of 550 cord

• Made with my own two hands

• One family. One weave.

• For your next adventure

• Merry Christmas from my workbench

Kids' Kit Instruction Card

Your Bracelet, Step by Step

1. Look at the knot already tied for you.
2. Tie the next knot from the other side.
3. Push it up tight.
4. Keep going, left side, right side, left side.
5. Stop when you reach the buckle and ask an adult to finish the ends.

Great job! You made it yourself.