PARACORD was once reserved for survival gear and scout camp, but now it’s a crafting world staple. We’ll show you how to turn this durable material into wearables, carryalls & play things.
CORD CROCHET

Durable paracord does double-duty as both a handy drawstring bag and a fun fashion statement. We made this sturdy carryall by single crocheting in the round until the size suited our needs. Then we added a drawstring-type closure and a canvas strap to carry our books in style. Too cool for school, indeed!

KEYED UP

This kooky jellyfish-style key fob starts with four 1-foot lengths of paracord. Using two lengths, make a crown knot for the base. Then thread the other two lengths through the middle, and finish with an 8-strand diamond knot bell (see diagram on page 11). Add beads if you like and some studded rhinestones for extra glitz and glamour.
STRIKE A CORD

This reptile-reminiscent guitar accessory is definitely noteworthy. We used a fishtail knot (see diagram on page 12) formed on D rings for the strap. Then we added spring snap clasps to attach it to the instrument. Whether your skills rival those of Hendrix or you can barely pick out a tune, you’ll be strumming in style with this show-stopping strap.
TOP DOG

Man’s best friend deserves some attention-to-detail accessories too. Treat your precious pooch to a handsome paracord collar and leash set. We used the wide cobra stitch (see diagram on page 13)—forming it on a reflective buckle—to make the collar. Tip: For every foot of leash you want, you’ll need 8 ½ feet of paracord.

ORDER IN THE FORT

Rainy day? No worries—it’s paracord to the rescue! Build your little ones an hours-of-fun fort out of camo paracord, bamboo poles, burlap panels and ribbon. Scroll to the next page to find out just how simple it is to become the coolest parent around.
» READY TO RIBBON

Ribbon isn’t just for the girls, you know. Not convinced? Head on over to the Fabric Department and check out the two different kinds of camo ribbon we used for this army-inspired fort. Simply knot it to the top loops of the netting and weave it through the rest.

To help prevent the ends of paracord from fraying over time, carefully use a small flame to melt the ends.

IMPORTANT: Adult supervision required.
ALL BAUBLED UP  Pretty up plain paracord with an assortment of blingy baubles and beads. This one-of-a-kind piece features two lengths of paracord outfitted with ribbon crimps. We embellished ours with crystal rings and a sparkly bow-shaped buckle, but feel free to mix and match trinkets that reflect your personal style.

ON SECOND KNOT To make this quirky bracelet, we used basic knots and faceted beads. We tied a knot in the middle of a length of paracord, added a bead, and tied another knot to secure the bead in place. Then we did the same on another piece of paracord. We attached ribbon crimps to the ends, hooked the bracelets together with a jump ring, and added a lobster clasp.
PARACORD PALOOZA

1. We’ll just call you a modern day MacGyver—or better yet, MacStyler. This hot orange and black number—perfect for both guys and gals—is made using the popular river bar technique.

2. You’re sure to be noticed when sporting this chunky neon Solomon’s heart bracelet (see diagram on page 14). The hearts are formed by alternating which color is on top.

3. For this easy-breezy bracelet, simply knot three strands of paracord together and go. Now that’s survival of the hippest!
HERE a cord, there a cord, everywhere a paracord. That’s right, people; this look is setting up camp for the long haul. You can do a fashionista twist on the trend by incorporating pretty trims, beads, chains and charms.

1. A fishtail braid with gemstone trim (Fabric Department) stitched down the center.
2. Linked chain and crystal cup chain worked into the braid—and delicate pearl strands attached with jump rings.
3. Ornate silver bead cones (wire is attached to the bracelet and fed up through the cone) and a heart-shaped lobster clasp.
4. Twisted paracord, vintage-style crimp ends, coordinating chain and a dog tag charm.
5. Rhinestone rings and crystal cup chain stitched to a fishtail braid.
**BRAID SECRET**  Paracord is known for saving lives—but it can also save you from a bad hair day. Tame wild tresses with this eye-catching headband. We made ours with the trendy double-braid technique. You’ll be ready for whatever comes your way with this fashion-forward accessory.

**SEEING DOUBLE**  This twice-as-nice necklace starts by simply braiding coordinating colors of paracord and knotting the ends. We chose to connect ours—using jump rings and a clasp—but they’d be just as fashionable if worn alone. For an extra pop of color and interest, we wove strands of hemp floss through one braid.

**POSITIVELY PINK**  DIY jewelry doesn’t have to be complicated. This no-findings-required choker has just two components—neon pink paracord and a cable chain. We simply wove the paracord through the chain and knotted the ends around the last links. No-fuss fashion at its finest!
PICK A PENDANT

The focal point of this paracord pièce de résistance is a gorgeous pearl-and-rhinestone pendant. We picked it up in the Jewelry Department, and then we decided to change it up. A little yellow paint (acrylic) made it absolutely good to glow. Tip: You can wire the pendant to the necklace, or you can attach it to one of the chains with a jump ring (we did).
1. Using two 1-foot strands, make a loose “Crown Knot” as shown in Figure 1. Pull one cord loose on the back side to form the loop for the key ring.

2. Using 2 remaining 1-foot strands, feed them through the middle of the knot as shown in Figure 2. Pull tight.

3. To make a “4-Strand Diamond Knot”, working in a counter clockwise direction, lay the first strand over the next strand as shown in Figure 3.

4. Still working in a counter clockwise direction, lay the next strand over the previous strand and over the next strand as shown in Figure 4. Repeat with all strands.

5. After doing step 4 with the last strand, pull it under the last strand it was placed over. Your fob should now look like Figure 5. Pull tight. This forms a “4 Strand Diamond Knot”.

6. To complete your key fob, pull each strand under the next 2 strands as shown in Figure 6. This will bring all the loose strands to the middle. Pull tight, trim and add beads.
TO ATTACH YOUR STRAP: Using one VERY long strand, thread it through one D-ring leaving a 2 inch tail. Thread the other end through the other D-ring leaving a space the length of your strap between the two rings. Thread the same long strand through the first ring again and begin your knots as shown in Diagram 1.

1. To complete your key fob, pull each strand under the next 2 strands as shown in Figure 6. This will bring all the loose strands to the middle. Pull tight, trim and add beads.

2. Now take the same working strand UNDER the tail and the right strand and OVER the far left strand. Repeat step 1 and 2 continuing this same UNDER OVER pattern until you reach the end of the strap.
COBRA STITCH DIAGRAM
(from page 4)


2. Strand 1 UNDER 2 and OVER 3. 3 OVER 2 and UNDER 1. 4 OVER 5 and UNDER 6. 6 UNDER 5 and OVER 4. Tighten and cross the two middle strands. Repeat from beginning til you reach the desired length of your project.

3. Tip: When you cross the two middle strands, be sure to alternate left over right then right over left to make the zig-zag look in the middle.
1. Take left strand OVER the two middle strands then UNDER the last strand.

2. Take right strand UNDER the middle two then OVER the first strand. Pull tight.

3. Left strand OVER then UNDER.

4. Right strand UNDER then OVER Pull tight.

5. Now the left strand UNDER the middle two then OVER the last strand. Right strand OVER then UNDER Pull tight.

6. Left strand UNDER then OVER. Right strand OVER then UNDER. Pull tight. *Repeat Steps 1-6 til you reach the desired length.