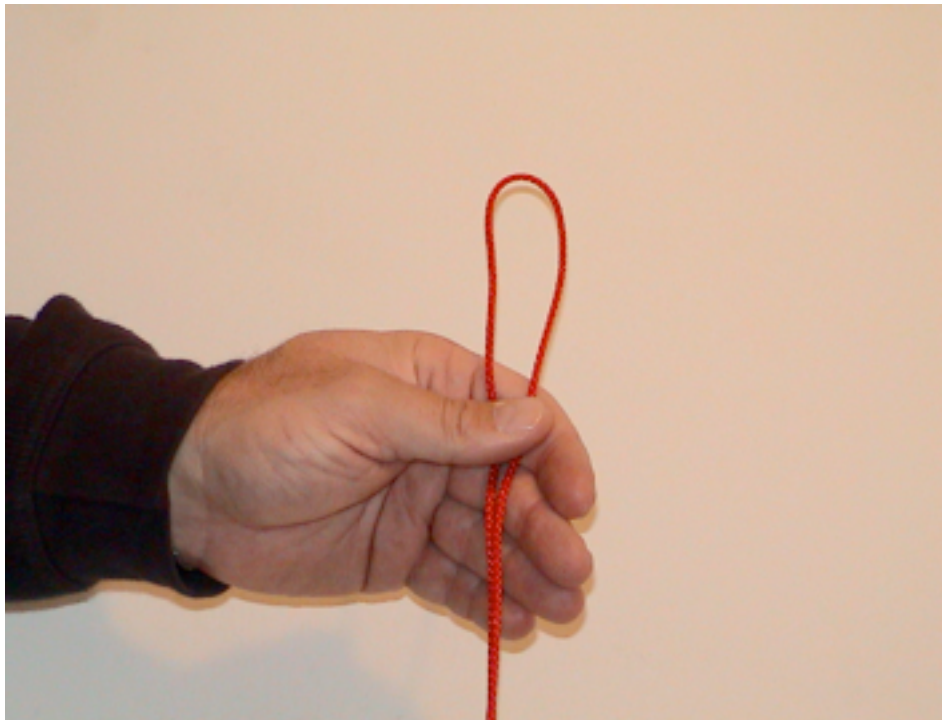


# **Scout Cords – Make your own.**

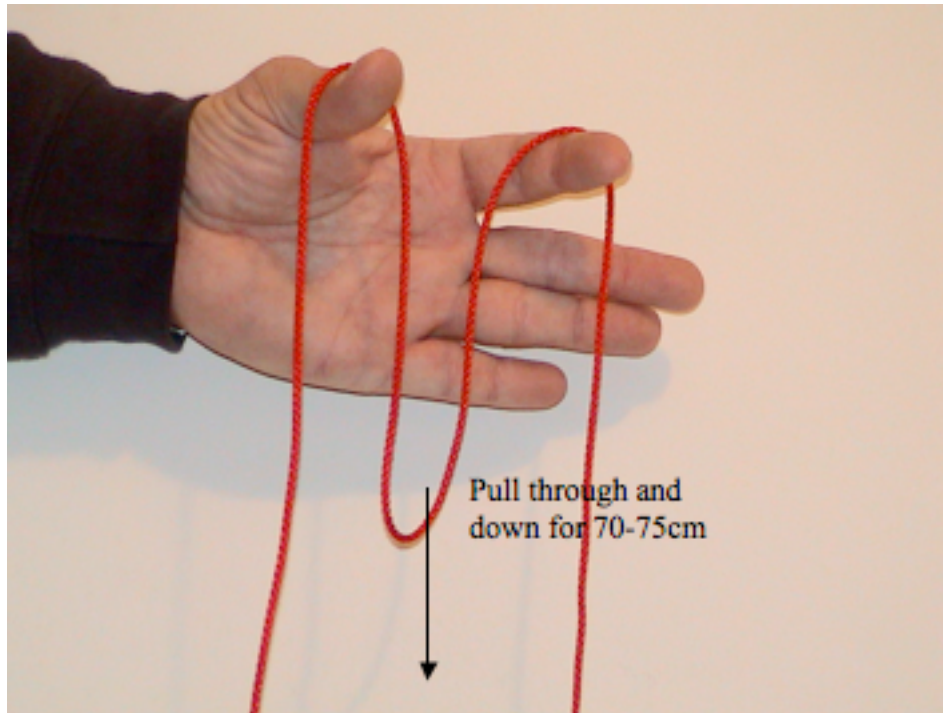
Equipment: Red, blue or green Venetian blind (VB) cord x 2.5mm thickness  
(available at most rope stores and usually sold in 100m roles)  
1 x sharp knife  
1 x measuring tape  
1 x torch-lighter to melt the cut ends

Method:

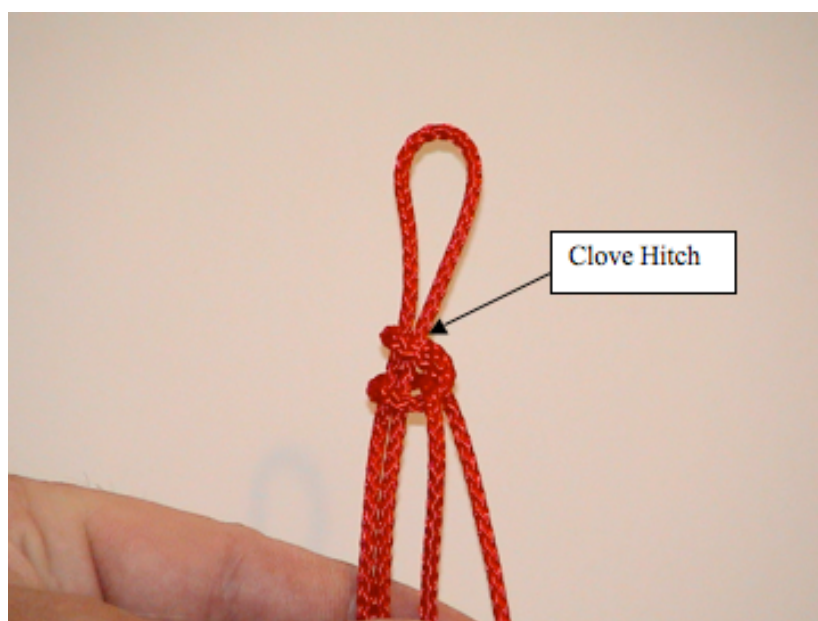
1. Measure off 5 metres of cord.
2. Cut and melt the ends to prevent excessive fraying during the process of making the cord.
3. Double the cord and ensure that both working ends are of equal length.



4. Take the bend of the cord in one hand and with the other hand pull the bend directly down to create two further bends. This has the effect of doubling the cord again. Continue to pull the cord through for 70-75cm from the top/fingers. (This will form the length of the finished cord.) You should now have four parts in your hand. Ensure that the two working ends are still approximately the same length.



5. Take one bend and using it as a working end, tie a clove hitch over the other bend in the cord beside it. You have now created a loop at the end of the cord. The loop should be approximately 2cm long.



6. Still using the same working end, take a further half-hitch around all parts and **BELOW** the clove hitch.



7. You have three main parts now. The two long working ends which are approximately the same length (one may be a bit shorter now after tying the knots) and the core section which is formed by the two strands making up the long loop.
8. Now you are ready to start the main knotting length to create the cord effect. To do this tie Over-hand knots over the core section. Take the Left-Hand strand across the front of the core and the Right-Hand strand across behind the core. Pass the working ends through the loops on either side to complete the over-hand knot.



9. Hand tighten the over-hand knot up against the hitches and repeat the process of tying the over-hand knot BUT this time take the Right Hand strand across the front of the core and the Left Hand strand across behind the core. This process of alternating the front strand creates a “flat” knot effect. (Note that if you do not alternate the front strand then you will create a “spiral” knot effect)



10. Continue to hand tighten each alternating over-hand knot to ensure an even flat finish to the knots. Repeat this process until you have covered 30cm from the bottom of the small loop at the top. Approximately 70 over-hand knots.





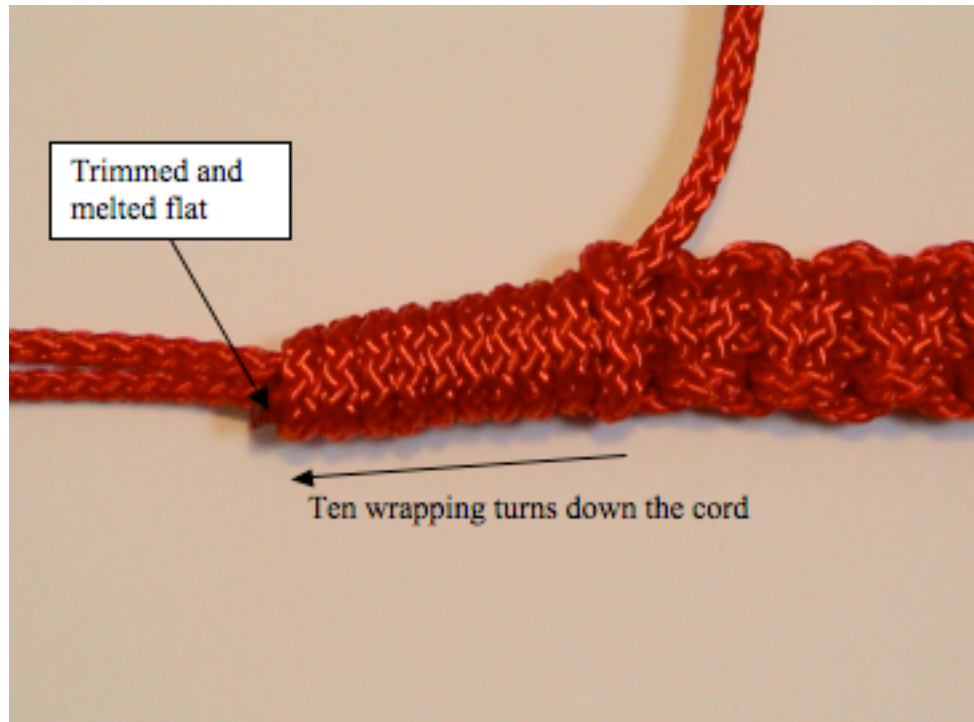
11. Once you have completed the 30cm (70 knots) length you need to create a short whipping to finish of the working ends and prevent the cord from unravelling. Choose the shortest of the two working ends (you should have about 15-20cm left on each end), and bend it double approximately 4cm below the last over-hand knot.



12. With the other working end proceed to take ten (10) wrapping turns around all parts of the cord working down and away from the over-hand knots. These turns should be tight enough to hold the turns together but not too tight or you will not be able to pull the loose end up into the whipping.



13. Once ten turns have been completed, tuck the working end through the loop of the whipping and pull the other working end to tighten the loop. Slowly pull the knot up under the wrapping turns to create the whipping. As this is done gently tighten the whipping by pulling back on the other working end. This has the effect of tightening the knot and in turn tightens the wrapping turns around the knot as it is pulled up to create a tight whipping.



14. Trim off the loose working ends and melt to form a tight and tidy whipping. If the ends are melted flat this will assist in preventing the whipping from become undone. You are now finished.

