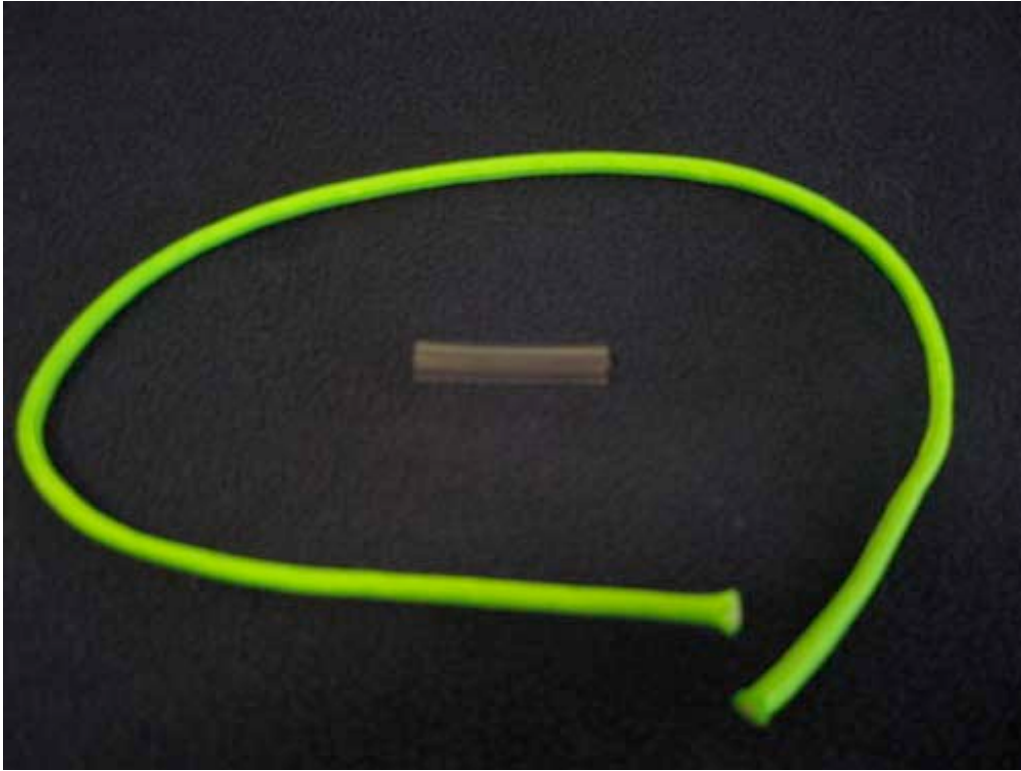
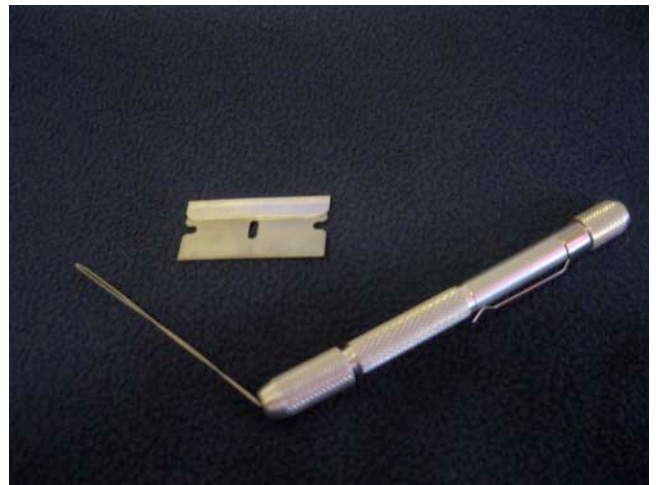
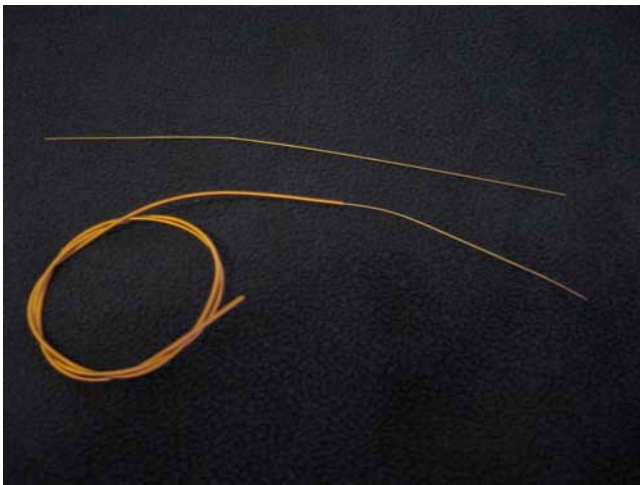


## HOW TO MAKE A FINGER SLING

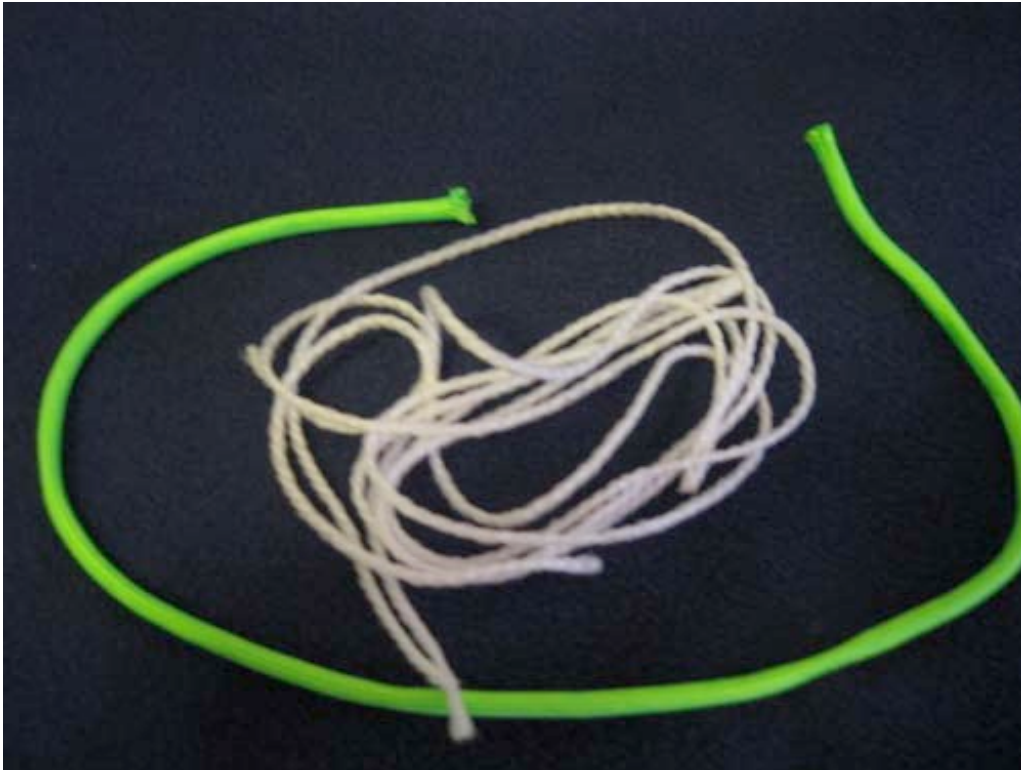
Raw Materials: Approximately 18" of parachute cord (AKA paracord; 550 cord)  
1 3/8" of 1/4" OD vinyl tubing.



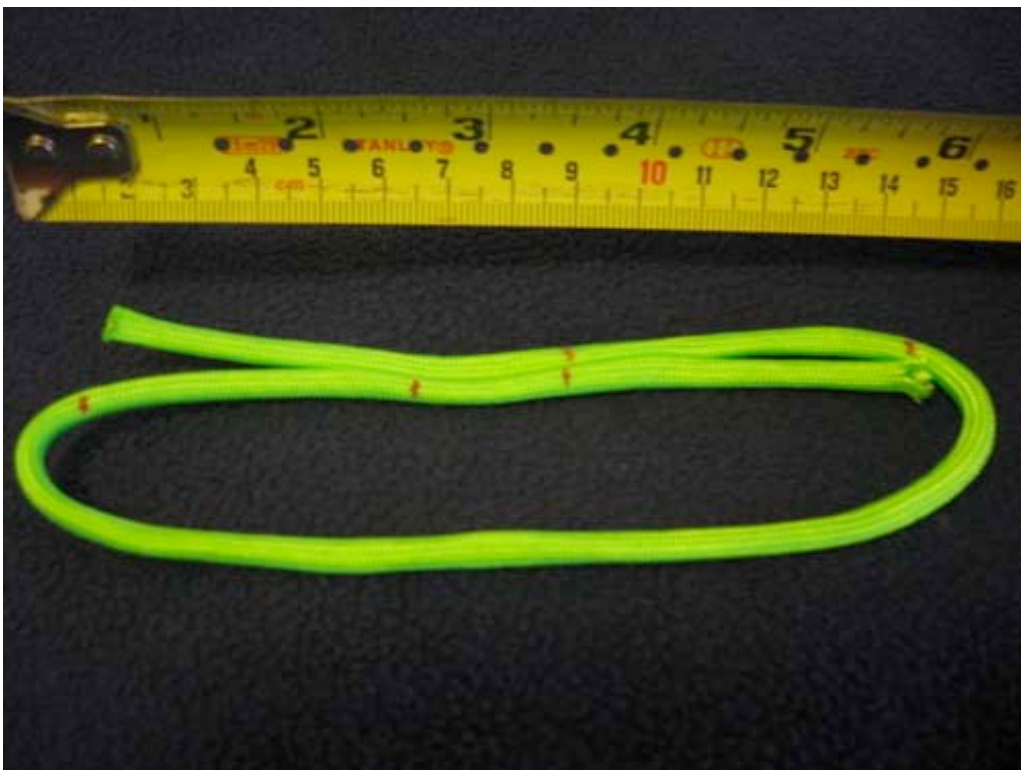
Tools Required: You'll need a stiff, fine wire "threading" tool. I made mine from the inside of an old guitar string (about .02" thick). Bend the wire in half and secure it in a handle of your choosing. I used a pin vise. You could use a pair of locking pliers if you wanted to. A razor blade comes in handy too.



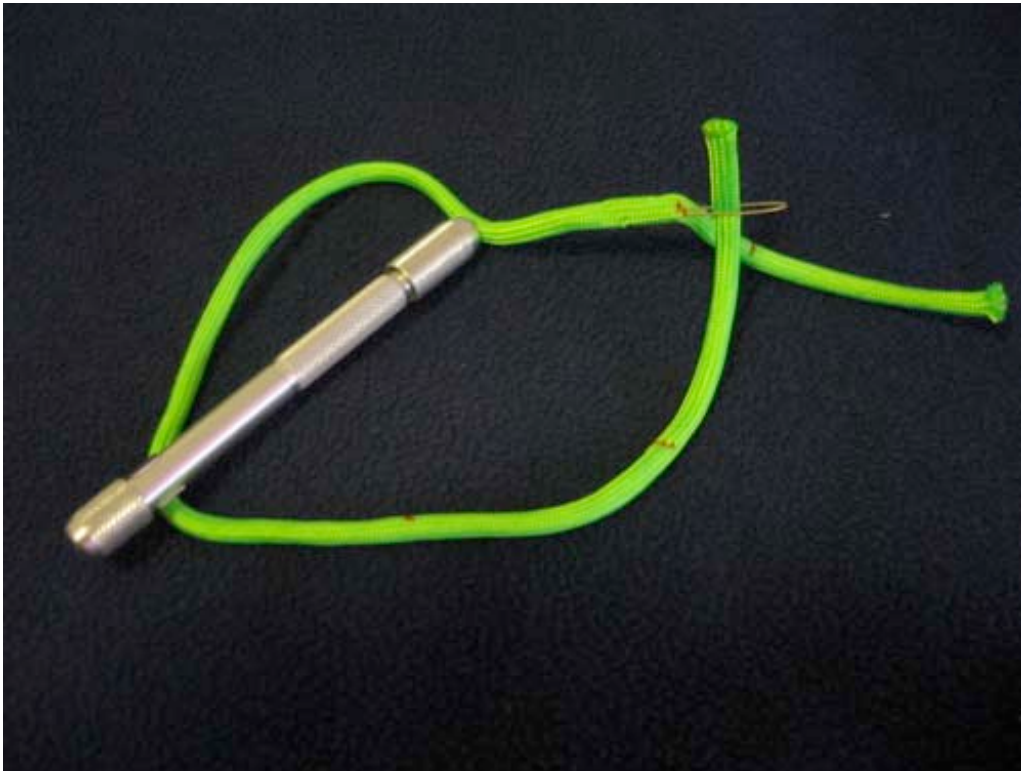
Step 1: Remove the paracord's inner strands.



Step 2: Fold the cord into a loop approximately 6" long. Mark the cord approximately 3" from each end, at the corners and on the "inside" of the loop aligned with the 3" mark on the "outside" of the loop. I used red ink for clarity in this example. The marks will show up on the finished sling. You can either make the marks faintly with a pencil or just wag the locations for the following steps.



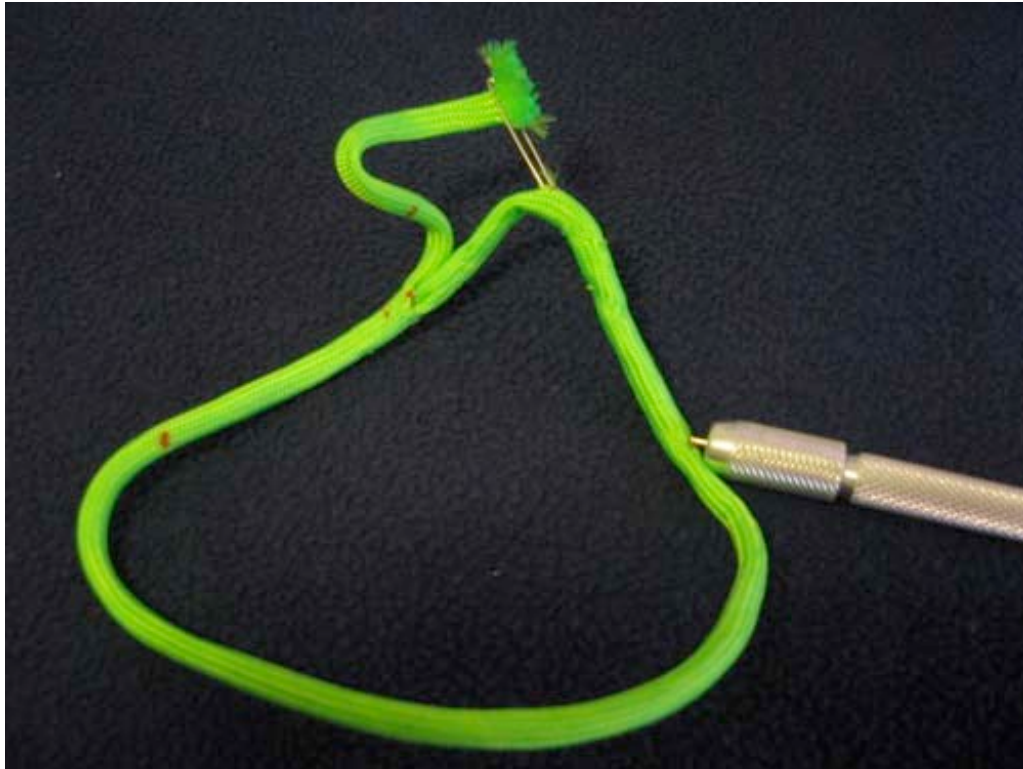
Step 3: Insert the wire tool into the corner mark on the inside of the loop. Run the wire inside the paracord tube and poke it through the 3" mark. Feed the end of the outside loop into the wire tool. This works best if the ends of the paracord are freshly cut – not melted to prevent fraying.



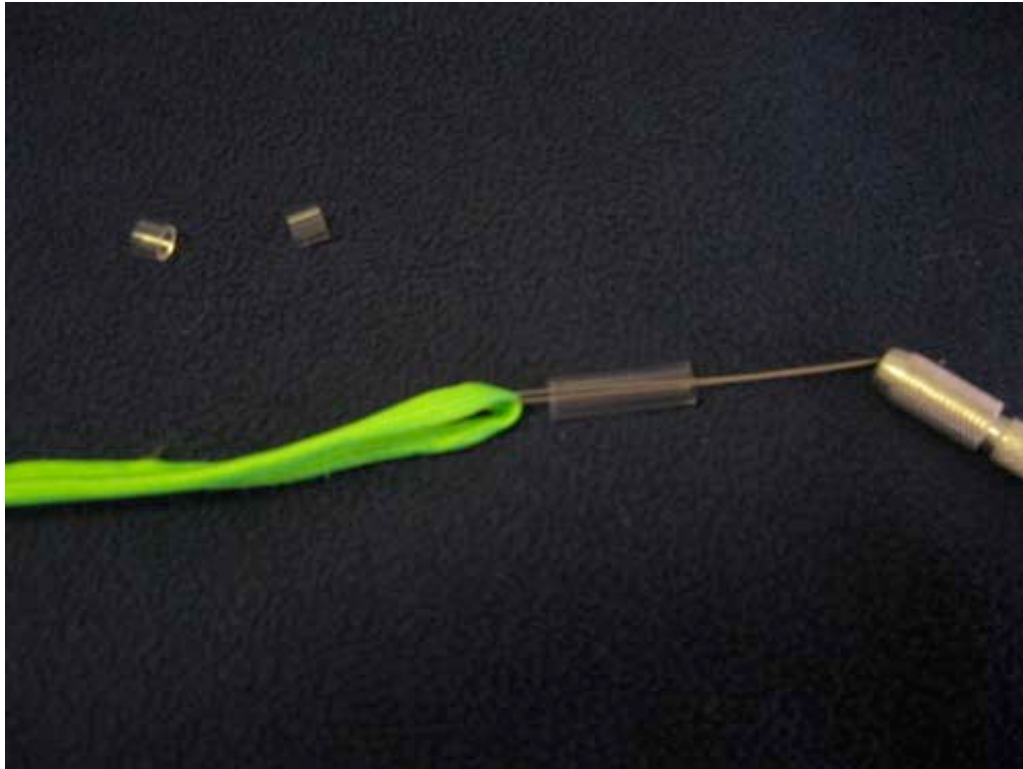
Step 4: Slide the cord so just enough is through the wire loop to have a good bite on the cord and then pull it through the inside of the cord. When the tool exits the insertion point, a little of the end of the cord may come with it. Just pull it back so the end is just inside the tube.



Step 5: Insert the tool at the other corner mark and poke it thorough the 3” mark again. Insert the remaining end of the cord in the tool and pull it through the tube. Make sure you hold the cord in such a way you don’t undo the work you’ve already done. You’ll find the resulting loop very difficult to pull apart – it is a lot like those paper finger trap puzzles!



Step 6: Cut two ¼” pieces from the clear vinyl tube. Remove the wire from the pin vise, capture the loop in the wire, thread the large piece of tubing over the wire and pull the loop through the tubing. Slide the tubing to the middle of the loop. Repeat this procedure for the small pieces of tubing, one on either side of the large tubing. In use, the small pieces adjust the size of the loop around your fingers.



The finished finger sling is ready to use! Of course, you can buy finger slings like this for about \$2.50 but that's not really the point is it? It took me longer to describe the process than to make the sling. Archery is a sport where many enthusiasts pride themselves on doing their own work – maintaining and making their own equipment and accessories. I just wanted to share one small aspect of that pursuit.

