

This fast, one-cord Fob may please you.

It uses one cord, ties as easy as a Half Knot (over-and-over-and-over...) and eats very



little time. My pictured "Pet Rope" is 3/16 Diamond-braid Nylon, but this would be awesome in that Dacron "Blind Cord".

As with Solomon and Bannister Bars, the Ends' exits determine the direction of the kinks around the Foundation. The hardest part is keeping track of which End comes out which Way, erupting toward you or away from you. Traditional methods allow the kinks to parallel each other, but I wanted a counter-helix look with one cord.



To Tie

Start with a pre-cut piece of cord. Middle it & put in a Noose (ABOOK #43) but see it as a Half Knot (#47) around the Standing Part. Make the Loop as long as you want the Whole Fob to be. See which kink of the Half Knot has the Working End erupting from it? Call that "The First End".

If you want your kinks to helix, make sure that the Half Knots always go the same way.



Alternate them (LRLR...) to make straight line(s) of kinks (Solomon Bar).

Now take your Standing (slipping) Part, think of it as "The Second End" and lead it over the first Half Knot to put the next Half Knot around the Loop which now becomes the Foundation of your Bar. Its End will erupt from the Half Knot pointing in the same direction (toward you or away from you, not the same direction around the Foundation) as the First End's Half Knot, unless you're making a different fob.



If the Second End's knots face the opposite direction of the First End's knots, meaning they go the same direction around the Foundation, the two lines of kinks will helix in parallel as they go, just like a "normal" Bannister Bar; but I want the intertwined "DNA" look, not another screw pattern.

Going back to the First End, make another Half Knot around the Foundation so that the First End comes out the same way as it did the first time.

Take the Second End and repeat its Half Knot around the Foundation, going the same direction as the first Second End Half Knot...



Repeat until your brains fall out...

The kinks will get closer together until they cross, then diverge to later cross on the other “face” of the fob, etc. should you choose to continue far enough. You could arrange to stop at “a certain point” to make a “Jesus Fish” Fob... When the two lines of kinks meet, it is very easy to mix up in which direction each End is going! I would tie a knot in the end of one just to keep track.

It just occurred to me that you could make all the First End's Half Knots go in the same direction for a helix and have the Second End's Half Knots go in alternate directions & make a straight line, all in one cord on the same fob...

Haul away on each End as each Half Knot is done, and pull all the slack out where each one's Standing Part crosses over the previous hitch. Once the Half Knot closes up around the Foundation Loop, you can hang the loop on a nail or finger and pull the current End against the Loop to make that Half Knot Tight. The next-previous Half Knot's End can be hauled on this way as well, if needed.



If you keep both kinks in opposition, a nice counter-helix appears. The beginning tiers (not “tyers”) in the pictures show this.

After ADD set in, I mixed up the ends & you can see how -- if you change to “go the same way with both ends” -- one line of kinks “keeps going” and the other “turns” to parallel it. You can “steer” the line of kinks this way, as you know.

End it with a Wall & Crown or any other 2-strand knob around the Foundation. Or just Brion Toss the ends as you see fit.

For shackle fobs in Blind Cord, these almost fall out of your hands unbidden, as you get going. Flip this End this way; tuck the Loop, Haul away. Flip that End that way; tuck the Loop, Haul away. Repeat ad nauseam. As long as you get all the slack out, and don't change direction (unless you want to), the pattern of kinks will take care of itself.



I wasn't sure I could do this, but I did it anyway.

Seems useful to me...

