This project is going to be divided into multiple parts as you can see from the picture. You'll want to get measurements of your dog before you begin and it is also a good idea to make sure your pieces fit as you go. This first part is going to be the bottom right braid that will go directly behind the front legs of your dog. You'll want each O ring to reach about mid-shoulder. Plan on using about 1.5 feet per inch of braid plus a little extra just in case. For this first piece we made a 15.5 inch braid and used two 12 ft pieces of paracord.

**Materials**

- 50-100 ft of 550 paracord
- 1 inch D ring
- Two 1 inch O rings
- Pet Collar Buckle

{Cost for this project starts at $11}

**Step 1:** Measure and cut your paracord to the needed length. If using two colors, melt and join them together.

**Step 2:** Insert your cord near the middle through one of your O rings.

**Step 3:** Fold the middle of the cord over the edge of the O ring and pull the two strands through the middle of the cord and pull tight.
World’s Largest Selection of Paracord – 1,000+ colors/patterns of 550 paracord at only $4.99 per 100 ft.

Step 4: Bring both strands through the second O ring and fold them over at the needed length with the working ends on each side. It is helpful at this point to use a clip or something to hold the cords at the needed length.

Step 5: Bring the working ends back to the first O ring and insert each end down through the ring with one on each side of the knot.

Step 6: Begin the trilobite weave by bringing the left working end A over the first left strand, under the two middle strands, and over the right strand.

Step 7: Bring cord B under the right strand above cord A, then over the middle strands and under the left strand below cord A as shown. Pull A and B tight and push up toward the O ring.
**Step 8:** Now wrap cord B over the left strand, under the middle strands, and over the right strand.

**Step 9:** Wrap cord A down and under the right strand but above cord B, then over the middle strands and under the left strand below cord B. Pull A and B tight and push up to keep your weaving close.

Continue weaving by repeating steps 6 through 9 until you reach the other ring. Using a lacing needle is helpful at the end to get a tight finish.

Once you reach the end, you can simply trim and melt the ends. For added security, use a lacing needle to weave the ends down through a few stitches on the back of the braid, then trim and melt.

Now we are going to work on the pieces that go around the back of the dog. First the short piece that we’ll attach to a pet collar buckle for adjustability. This will only need to be about 2 inches long so you’ll only need about two 2 ft pieces or one 4 ft piece. Repeat steps 1 through five to attach your cord from one O ring to the bar on the buckle.
Repeat steps 6 through 9 until you finish your braid, then trim and melt as before.

Now we’ll work on the piece that will go through your buckle. We used two 8 ft pieces joined together. Start by tying a knot like in steps 2 and 3 to the O ring.

Measure to the desired length and fold the cords over with the working ends on the outside. Use a clip to help keep your length.

Bring the working ends back to the O ring and insert them down on either side of the beginning knot with the working ends on the outsides.

Start weaving again with steps 6 through 9. Once you get to where the strap will be at the middle of the dog’s back, put a D ring and weave your cord through it to attach it to your strap.

Once you reach the end, use a lacing needle to insert your cords through to create a tight weave.

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Again, you can weave the cords through a few stitches on the back for added security. Then trim and melt the excess.

The last piece will attach at the two O rings. Repeat steps 1 through 9 and make a similar piece as the first one. This piece will go in front of the dog's legs and across the front of the chest. We used two 10 ft pieces to make a 13 inch braid here.

We found inserting the prong of the buckle through the strap to be difficult at first. We suggest using a lacing needle to create a bigger opening at the point you want to insert the prong.

You can finish here, or if you would like, you can make another strap to attach the chest and belly pieces. You'll want to find the middle of each and follow steps 1 through 5 using a lacing needle to attach the cord. Once the cord is attached, continue with steps 6 through 9 to make the braid.