



DANISH CORD INTRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Workshop Notes

SUMMARY

This workshop booklet is your companion for exploring the timeless craft of Danish Cord weaving. Combining traditional techniques with modern minimalist design, Danish cord weaving allows you to create beautiful, functional pieces that bring warmth, texture, and character to your home. Throughout this workshop, you'll learn the foundations of working with Danish cord, from understanding the materials and tools to mastering the weaving techniques used by generations of furniture makers and artisans. The rhythmic process of weaving is both relaxing and rewarding.

Suzanne Sinclair

Imprint Corner 2026

Overview of DANISH CORD

History Danish Cord

Danish cord became popular during the Danish Modern furniture movement of the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. This design era focused on clean lines, natural materials, exceptional craftsmanship, and functional beauty.

Many renowned Danish furniture makers incorporated woven cord seats into their designs as an alternative to cane, rush, or upholstery. The woven seats complemented the simple elegance of Scandinavian and Japanese furniture and became a defining feature of Mid-Century Modern design.

Today, Danish cord remains highly regarded by furniture makers, restorers, and craftspeople around the world. Its timeless appearance, strength, and sustainability continue to make it a popular choice for both traditional and contemporary furniture projects. Danish Cord is popular with Japanese furniture makers.

What is Danish Cord ?

Beautiful furniture starts with beautiful materials. When it comes to custom, sustainable, and heirloom-quality pieces, few materials are as understated yet remarkable as Danish cord. Known for its durability, comfort, and distinctive woven appearance, Danish cord has played an important role in furniture design for decades. Its story is one of craftsmanship, innovation, and timeless style—making it a material well worth celebrating.

Danish cord is a durable paper-based weaving material traditionally used for creating seats on chairs and stools. It is made by twisting multiple strands of kraft paper around a core, producing a strong, flexible cord that is both comfortable and hard-wearing.

Despite being made from paper, Danish cord is remarkably robust and can last for decades when properly woven and cared for. It is valued for its natural appearance, sustainability, and ability to create beautiful geometric weaving patterns.

Cord Styles and Types

Laced: A tightly twisted, 3-ply weave that strongly resembles a traditional rope. It has a prominent spiral texture and is typically slightly thicker (around 3.5/4 mm), offering a firmer seating feel.

Unlaced: A softer, less tightly twisted cord. It features a flatter, smoother surface (the individual strands are less visible) and is usually slightly thinner (around 3 mm).



Figure 1 Danish Cord

Common Sizes of Danish Cord

2mm Danish Cord

- Fine and lightweight.
- Often used for decorative weaving projects, basketry, and smaller furniture details.

3mm Danish Cord

- A versatile medium-weight cord.
- Suitable for lighter seating applications and decorative furniture projects.

4mm Danish Cord

- The most common size used for chair seat weaving.
- Provides excellent strength, durability, and comfort while creating the classic Danish cord appearance.

For purchasing you are always contact us or Amazon/Etsy has Danish Cord.

Materials & Tools – Danish Cord Weaving

Danish Cord (4mm): The primary weaving material we are using on the workshop, used to create the seat surface.

Spring Hand Clamps: Used to secure the cord to the frame and maintain tension while weaving.

Ruler or Tape Measure: Accurate measurements are essential for achieving symmetrical weaving patterns, uniform spacing, and proper alignment.

Scissors: For cutting cord to the required lengths.

Paper, Pencil & Eraser: Useful for recording measurements, planning weaving patterns, and making notes during the project.

Large Wooden Weaving Needle: Used to guide the cord through the weaving pattern and make the process easier and more efficient.

Soft Brush. Paper Towel or Cloth: Handy for cleaning and maintaining the woven surface, removing dust and debris during and after weaving.

Screwdriver.

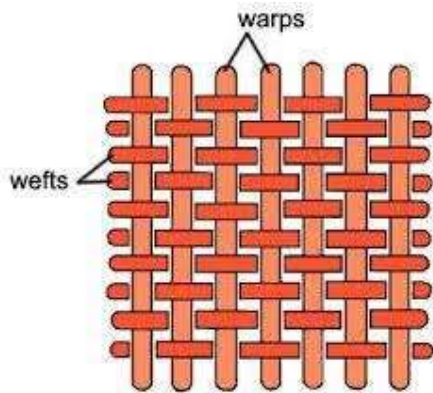
Wooden Length for Tension: A length of wooden e.g. ruler to provide space for Weave growth

Weaving Terminology:

WRAP : The first set of cords laid down on the chair frame. They are typically stretched from the front rail to the back rail and act as the foundational grid.

WEFT : The weaving cord that is interlaced perpendicular to the warp. This side-to-side weave creates the intricate patterns (such as the envelope or square pattern)

The warp runs front-to-back, while the weft (weavers) runs side-to-side. Both directions use continuous 3-ply paper cord. This creates a tight, interlocking structure famous on mid-century Scandinavian



The Warp Direction (Front-to-Back)

How it works: The cord is stretched vertically from the front rail to the back rail. Direction change: To return the cord to the opposite side. Warp cords are typically spaced in bundles of two to four, leaving distinct gaps that the weft will fill in.

The Weft Direction (Side-to-Side)

How it works: The cord travels horizontally between the left and right rails, weaving over and under the vertical warp cords. In weaving, the weft is the cord layout that passed sideways across the other threads. Direction change: As the weaver reaches the side rails, it wraps directly around the rail itself and turns back across the seat in an alternating pattern.

Pattern: The weft packs together tightly to completely cover the warp cords, creating the signature pattern and the structure of your design.

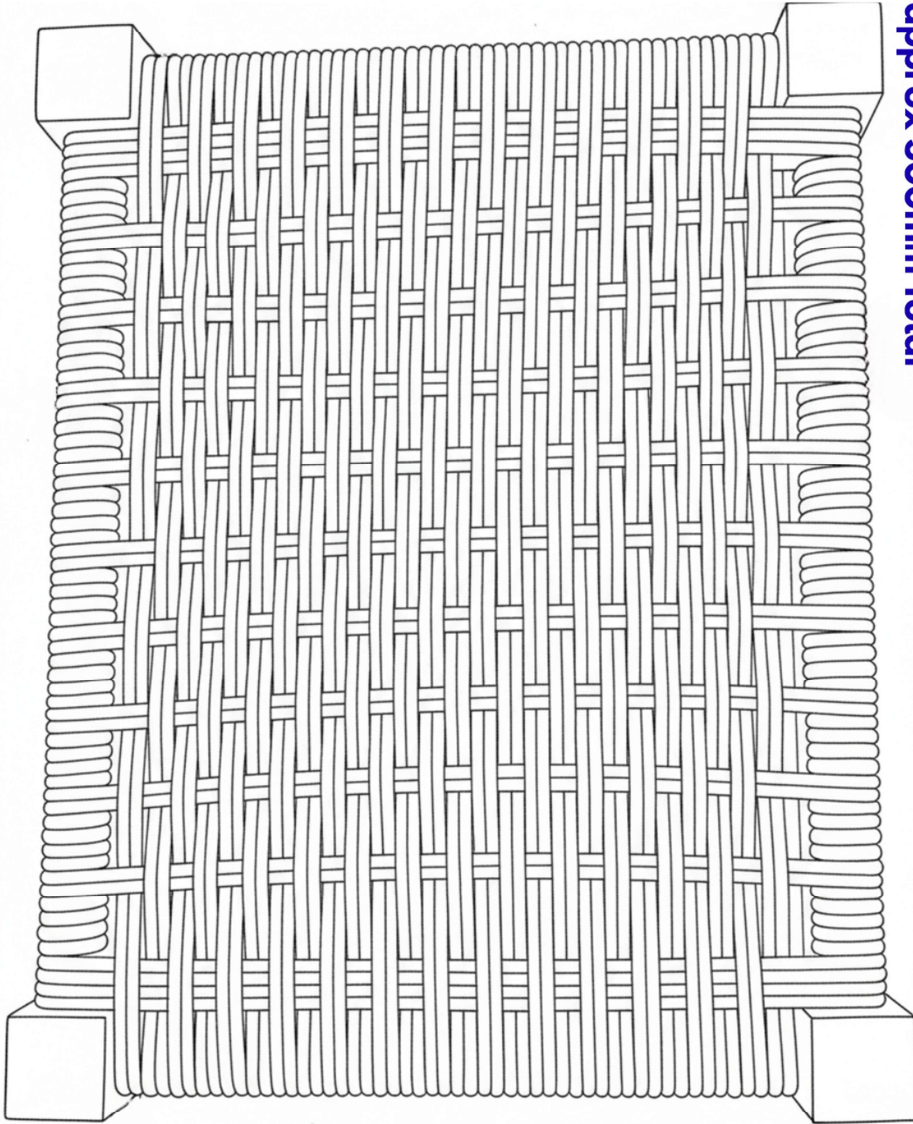
Pattern Layout

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Danish Cord Weave Layout : Example Pattern

Weave Area : 300mm (30cm) : < >

**Pattern : 4 Wrap, 9 x 6 Wraps Groupings, 4 Wraps + 4 Wraps
18mm + 243mm (9 x 27mm), 18mm, 18mm =
approx 300mm Total**

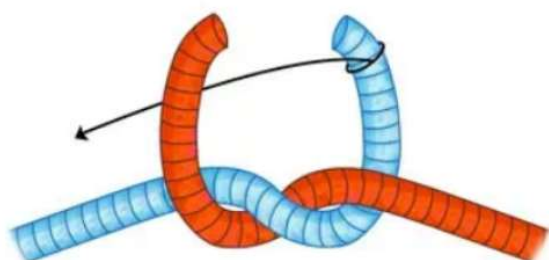


Weave Area : 220mm (22cm) < >

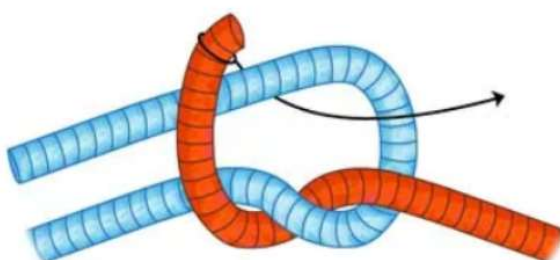
**Pattern : 26 WELF Patterns (13 Over, 13 Under)
220mm (13 x 17mm) Total Approx 220mm**

Joining the Threads / Box Knot

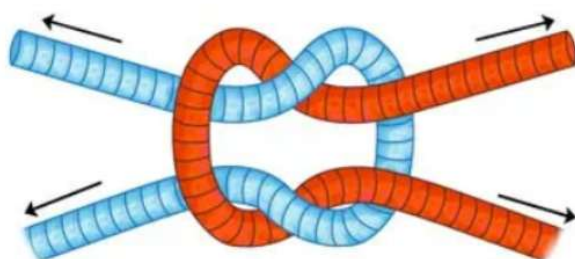
HOW TO CREATE A BOX KNOT



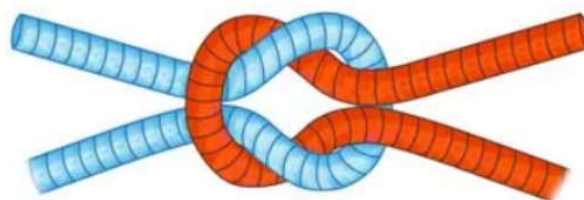
1 Cross the blue and red ends



2 Pass the red end through the blue loop



3 Pull the ends to tighten



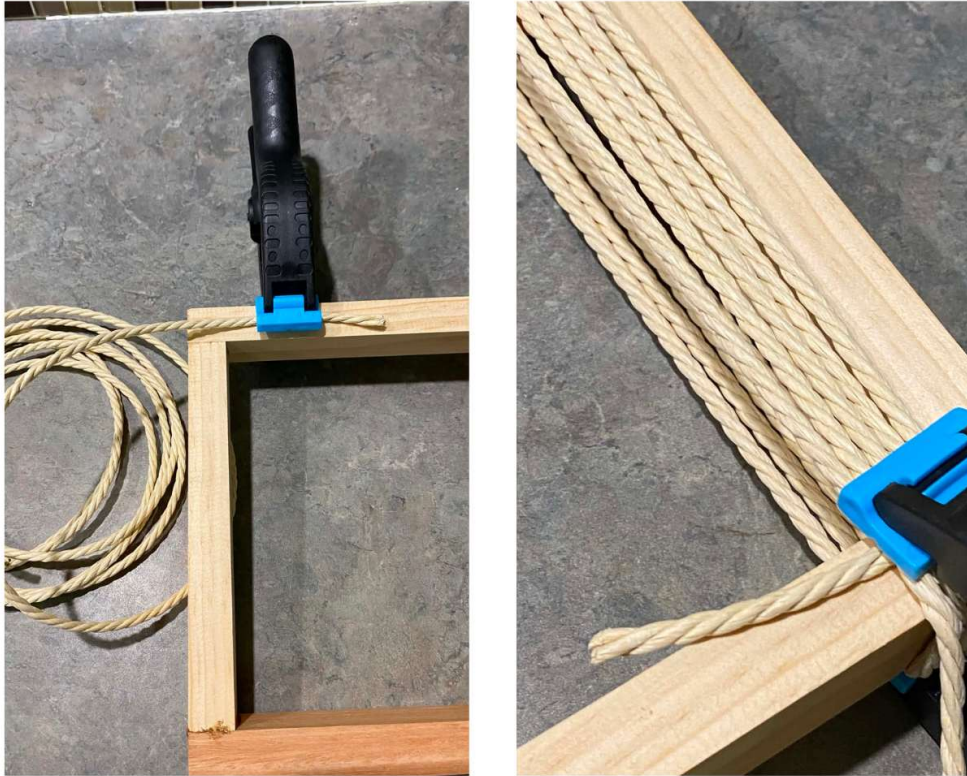
4 The knot is complete

To join two lengths of Danish cord, use a box knot. This strong and secure knot connects the ends of the cord, allowing the weave to continue smoothly while minimising bulk and maintaining tension throughout the project.

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Starting your project

How to start a Danish Cord Project



- Begin without tying a knot in the Danish cord.
- Place approximately 7 cm of cord along the underside of the stool frame, running in the direction of the weave.
- Hold this short tail in place as you bring the working cord up and around the wooden frame.
- Continue wrapping and weaving as normal.
- The starting tail will become trapped and secured within the woven cord structure, eliminating the need for a knot and creating a neat, professional finish.

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Finishing your Weave

To finish your Danish cord weaving, tie off the end of the cord securely and knot it in place. Make sure it is firmly fastened before trimming.

Always think twice before cutting any cord.

Trimming Excess Cord

Carefully trim any excess Danish cord from the stool frame. Use sharp scissors or a utility knife to create clean, neat edges. Take care not to cut any cords that are part of the woven pattern.

Concealing Cord Ends

Tuck the cord ends neatly under neighbouring warp cords on the back side of the stool frame to create a tidy, secure finish. Use a sewing needle, screwdriver, or pliers to help guide the cord into tight or hard-to-reach areas.

Inspecting the Weave

Check the entire weave for any loose sections or uneven tension. Gently adjust by pulling and tightening cords where needed to ensure a smooth, consistent surface.

Final Inspection

Once everything is tightened and secured, do a final review of the piece. Check for any areas that need minor adjustment and ensure the weave is even, with cords aligned neatly both vertically and horizontally.