Tying a Sliding Knot
With Leather or Cord

The basic concept for a sliding knot is to tie the cords OVER each side, without tying them together. A simple overhand knot will do the trick, but here are steps for tying a knot with a clean, simple look.

In the pictures below, the red cord is being tied over the brown cord, but you will be doing this with just one cord that will (probably) be all one color.

Allow plenty of working cord – 10 to 12 inches – when first learning to do this. Making large loops makes it easier to bring the working end through them, and at the same time keep the loops close to each other so you don’t have large gaps that can spring out of control.

1. Bring the ends of your cord together so they overlap by about 8 to 10 inches.

2. Bend one side back so it makes a sideways “U” under the other side. This will be your working end.

3. Holding the two cords together at the “U”, loosely wrap the working end around both cords 3 to 4 times, moving away from the “U”.

4. Bring the working end back through the loops you just made, going toward the “U”.

5. Hold both cords with one hand while pulling the working end to snug up the knot. Snip off any excess ends. Repeat on the other side for the other knot.

As you pull the knot snug, gently move it closer to the working end of the cord to avoid having a lot of excess cord.