

Snow Shoe Body and Toe Webbing

1. Select the body and toe webbing of your choice. Hypalon works well and is used by the better commercial snowshoe manufactures. Other products including pack cloth, nylon canvas, sheet plastic, and conveyor belting also work. Cost, appearance, and/or availability will control which material you choose. Look at the commercially manufactured snowshoes for more ideas.
2. Select a lacing to hold the webbing in place. Parachute cord is relatively inexpensive and available most everywhere. Depending on your selection of webbing material, grommets may be necessary to prevent the webbing from ripping. Again, look at the commercially manufactured snow shoes for ideas.
3. A pivot rod is used on many commercially manufactured snow shoes. See suggested design on the detail sheet. Native Americans used only leather lacings. You can use their shoe design with parachute chord. The steel pivot rod design will likely last longer and require less frequent adjustments while the snowshoes are in use.
4. Install your selected webbing (solid webbing is recommended) as shown below. A solid webbing shoe provides more floatation than an open web snow shoe.

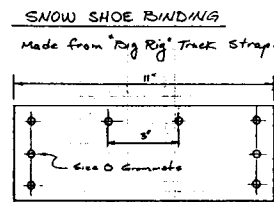
Binding

Several types of bindings are commercially available, or you can create your own. The "strap binding" shown is made from a section of truckers strap, i.e., the strapping used to secure a load of lumber. Damage load straps can sometime be found at the local lumber yard at no cost. Seal the ends with a flame; this will require full time adult supervision, and punch holes with a 1/4" diameter punch (available from a hardware store). Reinforce holes with grommets. 1/4" diameter grommets are recommended. Secure the strap to the pivot point rod with cord and tie your foot into the binding with a lace. Make the lace long enough to go around your heel before tying in the front. The effect will be similar to the Lampwick Binding, also shown below, but offers a more secure boot attachment.

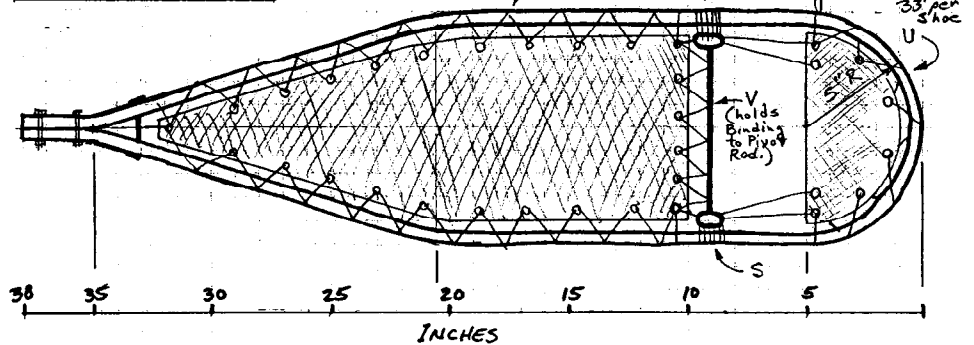
The cheapest binding is made with just a piece of lacing. It is called a Lampwick Binding . . . see drawing below.

There is a greater pride of ownership when you made them yourself!

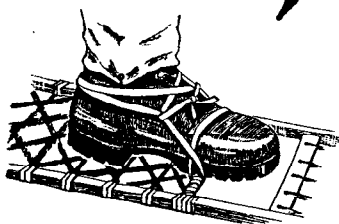
Strap Binding



Lacing: Parachute Cord
 $W = \text{Lacing for Binding}$
 $R = \left. \begin{array}{l} S \\ T \\ U \\ V \\ W \end{array} \right\} 3\frac{1}{2} \text{ ea.} = 7'$
 $S = 13'$
 $T = 3\frac{1}{2}'$
 $U = 2\frac{1}{2}'$
 $V = \text{Lacing} = 7'$
 $W = 33' \text{ per shoe}$



Lampwick Binding



EMT SNOWSHOES

2 Shoeshoes
requires 66'
of parachute cord.