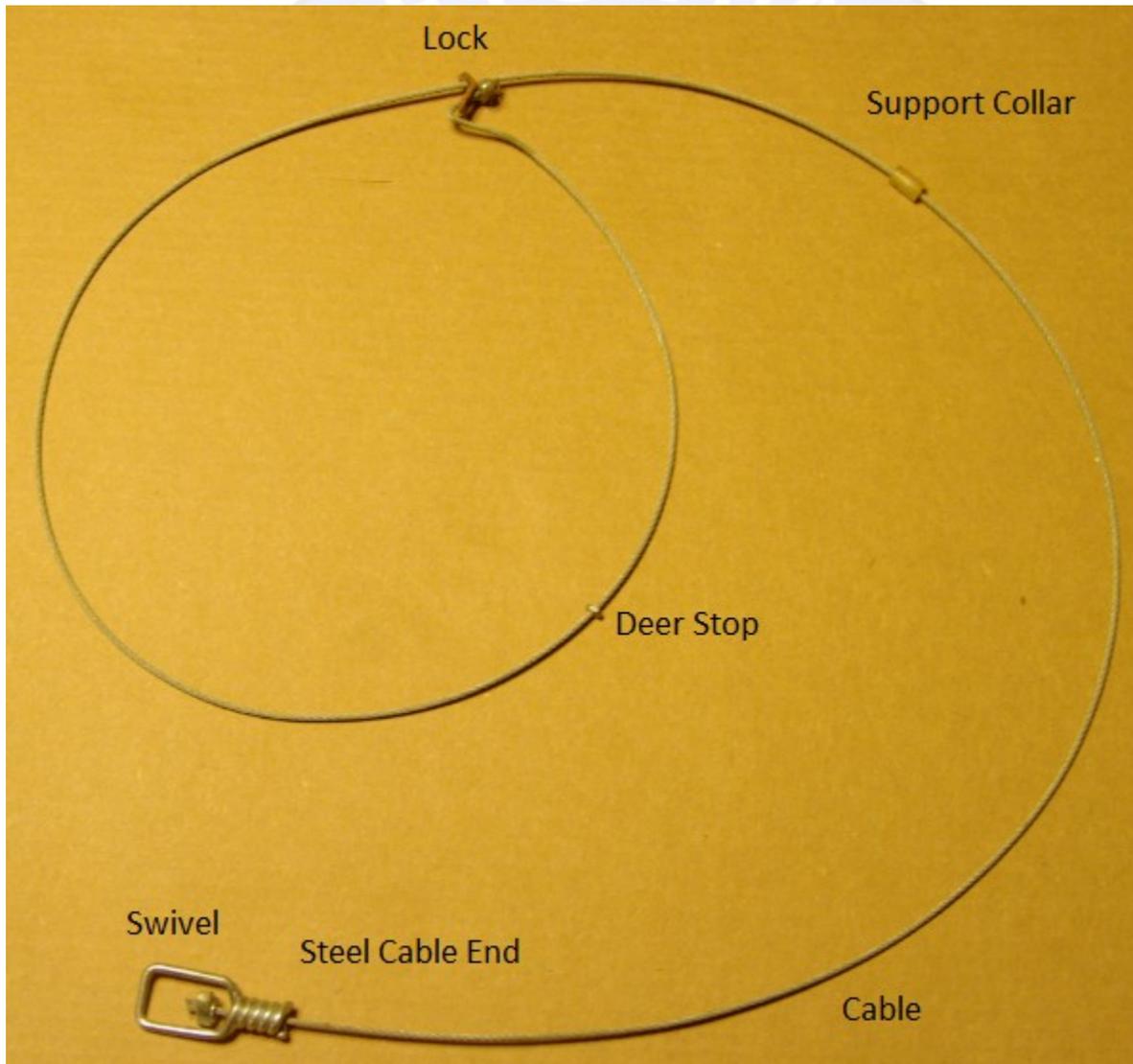


## Basics of Snaring:

The snare is a very powerful weapon in the trapper arsenal, it is the most versatile trap but also one of the most lethal to any animal. When you set a snare, be cautious, always take into consideration the possibilities of a pet or hunting dog to get in it.

*Please think twice before you set your snares, sometimes it takes only one mistake from one person to get our privileges removed.*

### SNARE PARTS



**Swivel** - Allows snare to turn on stake. This prevents the cable from getting twisted and keeps the animal more comfortable.

**Support Collar** - Often referred to as a wammy. After the snare loop is opened to the desired diameter the support collar is slid next to the lock. A nine-gauge support wire is then plugged into the support collar. The support wire is then bent to position the loop to the exact position desired.

**Lock** - Prevents the snare loop from opening after a catch is made.

**Deer Stop** - stops the snare loop from closing completely, thus allowing leg caught deer to escape.

**Steel Cable Ends or Aluminum Stops** - are at each end of the snare cable, this holds everything together.

There are a lot of different options when it comes to snaring, it can be very overwhelming!

The top priority of the entire staff at The Snare Shop is to provide the best products and service possible. Call if we can help in any way.

## **CHOOSING THE RIGHT SNARE**

**1: State Regulations** - It is your responsibility to know and abide by your state's regulations.

*Steel cable snares having a minimum cable diameter of 5/64 inch and a maximum cable diameter of 3/32 inch are legal for all legal furbearer species during the legal trapping season. All snares shall have affixed a tag bearing the name of the owner. Spring activated snares other than Collarum snares prohibited.*

**2: Cable Selection** - There are many different types, sizes, constructions and lengths of cable to choose from.

### **Type of Cable:**

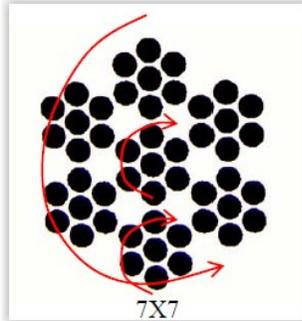
There are many different types of cable out there, all with different qualities, characters, and uses. When the Old Timers were first exploring the land, they used whatever was available to them; vines, horse hair, etc., but times have changed and there are a lot of better options out there for the trappers.

**Galvanized Aircraft Cable** - This is a steel cable that has been galvanized. Galvanized is a process that puts a thin layer of protecting zinc on the cable, this zinc retards the rusting process and give the cable a sort of shiny appearance. Galvanized Aircraft Cable is the most popular type of cable used in the snaring industry today

**Stainless Steel Cable** – This is what it says, stainless steel cable. This cable will not rust, and is stronger than Galvanized Aircraft Cable, but not completely chew resistant. It is a lighter shade of gray than the Galvanized Aircraft Cable and is shinier.

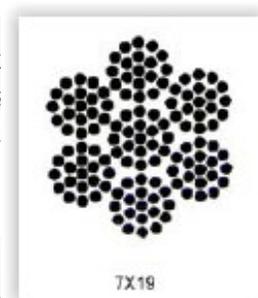
## Cable Construction:

How cable is constructed affects almost every characteristic about the cable. It will determine flexibility, smoothness, strength, weight, etc. Cable construction should be chosen with diameter of cable, different construction may allow you to choose a smaller diameter cable, etc.

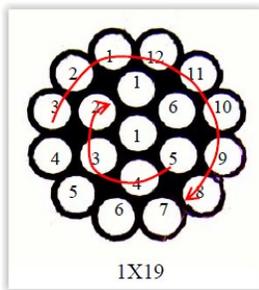


When extreme flexibility is not necessary. It can be used in aircraft and agriculture applications, etc. In snaring, this cable is the most popular. Uses, extension cables, drowners, to connect earth anchors, etc.

When extreme flexibility is not necessary, it's the strongest of the three cables, and is not as prone to kinks. Common uses for this cable include winches, exercise equipment, garage doors, etc. In snaring this cable is used for animal foot snares (bear, hog), drowners, and extensions. It is usually chosen because its flexibility forms a tear-drop loop.



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## Cable Diameter:

The diameter of the cable can be determined by your target animal and construction of cable.

*1/32" - Squirrel, Pine Marten, etc.*

*3/64" - Mink, Squirrel, Rabbit, etc.*

*Not used in Tennessee*

*1/16" - Bobcat, Fox, Ground Hog, etc.*

*5/64" - Bobcat, Fox, Raccoon, Coyote, etc.*

*3/32" - Raccoon, Coyote, Fox, Beaver, etc.*

- Most popular size for snaring, very versatile

- Also used for drowners, earth anchors, extensions, etc.

*1/8" – preferred size used for drowners, earth anchors, extensions, etc.*

DIAMETER	Breaking Strength (lbs)			
	1X19	7X19	1X7	7X7
3/16"	4700	4200	3990	3700
5/32"	3300	2800	2940	2600
1/8"	2100	2000	2100	1700
3/32"	1200	1000	1200	920
5/64"	800	?	800	650
1/16"	500	480	500	480

### **Cable Length:**

Different situations call for different lengths of snares.

30" - Mink, Squirrel, Rabbits, etc.

4' - Beaver, Raccoon, Fox, Bobcat, Badger, Rabbit, Opossum, Ground Hog

5' - Raccoon, Fox, Beaver, Coyote, etc.

6' - Coyote, Beaver, Wild Hog

**3: Anchoring End** – To determine what type of end you want on your snare, you should know what type of anchoring system you will be using. Whether you prefer to use a rebar stake, an earth anchor or a Pogo anchor, the end on your snare can make attaching them a lot easier.

*Adjustable Loop End:* This loop can be adjusted bigger and smaller allowing you to loop it around a fence post, or rebar stake. It also allows you to easily run the snare back through the loop to anchor to a tree, brush, etc. This type of end has no swiveling action and tends to kink the cable badly when an animal is caught, but actually makes it work better than a swivel in an entanglement situation (dispatch snares, kill poles).

*Solid Loop End:* A solid loop has many of the same qualities as an adjustable loop, except it cannot be made bigger or smaller. We put solid loops on our under-ice beaver snares; they can easily be nailed to a bait pole.

*Swiveled End:* Swivels are the most popular type of anchoring end. They allow the cable to turn with the animal as it rolls and fights, which means less kinking. If you want to live catch anything a swivel is a must.

*Combo Snare Ends/Tree Lock:* Combo Ends can be used for many different things; swivel, adjustable loop end, drowner lock, or in-line swivel. We don't have any pre-made snares with these ends on them, but they can be custom made, or you can put them on yourself if you like.

**4: Snare Lock** – All snares must have some sort of locking mechanism to work. Whether it is a bent washer lock, mechanical lock, or a knot in the cable, a lock is what closes down on the snared animal and holds it there.



*Relaxing Lock:* A relaxing lock will close down on the animal when they walk through the snare and are pulling on the cable, but it will release the pressure off the cable once the animal stops pulling. Relaxing locks tend to be less aggressive, but some newer locks, like the Micro Lock, are just as aggressive as the non-relaxing locks. A relaxing lock should be used if you are trying to live catch an animal, and they greatly reduce fun damage commonly caused by non-relaxing locks. (i.e. all of the washer locks, Micro Locks, Relax-a-locks)

*Non-Relaxing Locks:* A non-relaxing lock is designed to hold its position on the cable. When an animal is pulling and fighting the snare, the non-relaxing lock will get tighter and tighter, and when the animal stops pulling the lock bites into the cable and holds its position tight around the animal. These are great in dispatch sets, and entanglement situations. (i.e. Berkshire Sure lock, BMI Locks, Grawe's Bullet Locks, Gregerson Locks, Berkshire Modified L-Locks)

*Mechanical Locks:* These locks are a non-relaxing lock with moving parts. They are very aggressive, fast, and non-forgiving, but you can easily release them off an animal once they are dispatched, etc. (i.e. Cam-Locks & Amberg Wedge Locks)

**5: Support Collar** – The support collar is the device that attaches your snare to the support wire. The wire can then be adjusted to the proper height and position in the trail.

*Twist-On Support Collar:* All our snares feature this support collar. They fit 3/64"-1/8" cable and 14ga - 9ga wire, so no more wondering what size wire you have, these will fit on any wire you've got. To attach to your support wire, twist the collar with a left-hand thread. If you are holding the wire in your left hand and the collar in your right hand, twist the top of the collar toward your body. These are fast when you're out on the snareline and when you're building your own snares!

*Wammy Support Collar:* These are the old style of support collar. They are specific to cable size and wire gauge. To attach to your support wire, simply plug the wire into the collar. Wammy Support Collars are a headache to keep separate when you are building snares, but on the snareline go on fast.

*Plastic Tubing:* We do not offer plastic tubing on snares, but it is being used. It is usually just a 1" – 2" surgical tube on the snare. To attach to the support wire, simply slide the wire into the

tubing. We don't like the tubing because in cold weather it tends to crack and get brittle and not usable.

*No Support Collar:* You can opt to have no collar on your snares if you like. If you are setting them under a fence and want to just use a piece of string to hold the loop up, or if you bend the support wire into a "W" and lace the snare through it for support, you don't necessarily need the support collar.

**6: Deer Stop** – Is a stop placed on the inside of the loop that prevents the loop from closing past a certain point.

*Deer Stop:* A standard deer stop makes a 2 ½" diameter loop. The deer stop allows a leg caught deer to pull its leg back through the snare, and allows you to re-set the snare. Check your state's regulations when it comes to deer stops, some states require them, some don't, and some have specific diameters the deer stop must be set at.

*Live Catch Stop:* A live catch stop is the same stop as a deer stop, it is just placed to make a bigger loop on the snare. The standard live catch coyote stop is set at a 3 ½" diameter loop. This loop will not allow the coyote to escape, but will make sure the snare doesn't close too tightly on the coyote and choke it out. This need to be apply to any snares where hunting dogs or pet dogs are susceptible to be present.

**7: Breakaway Device** – A breakaway device is required in some states, but not in Tennessee. They can be a couple different things; S-hooks, J-hooks, Release Ferrules, or Breakaway Locks. They are devices that are designed to "breakaway" at a certain poundage of strength; they can straighten out, or pull off the end of the cable.

*S-Hooks:* An S-hook is an "S" shaped hook, usually made from a galvanized wire, with a pre-determined breaking strength. These S-Hooks are designed to complete the loop, between the lock and the cable, when they breakaway they straighten out releasing the loop and allowing the caught cow or deer go. S-Hooks work best with Cam-Locks or Wedge Locks, because of how they lay on the cable.

*J-Hooks:* A J-hook is a "J" shaped hook, usually made from a galvanized wire, with a pre-determined breaking strength. These J-Hooks are designed to complete the loop, between the lock and the cable, when they breakaway they straighten out releasing the loop and allowing the caught cow or deer go. J-Hooks work best with washer locks and Micro Locks, because of how they lay on the cable.

*Release Ferrule:* A release ferrule is a small stop placed behind the lock on the cable. When the animal pulls with more force than the ferrules are rated for, the stop will pop off and release the loop and the animal. To properly use release ferrules, you must have the appropriate swag tool and compress the tool completely. If you do not follow directions with release ferrules the breakaway poundage might end up way lower or higher than what they are actually rated for.

*Breakaway Locks:* A breakaway lock is designed to “tear-out” at a pre-determined poundage. They started when guys would drill or cut out locks for homemade breakaways, and now are tested and made by a manufacture. Some states don’t accept breakaway locks as a breakaway device, so make sure you know your state’s regulations. (i.e. Gregerson Locks, Grawe’s Mini-Mag Lock, NWRC Locks)

**CHOOSING THE RIGHT SNARE LOOP SIZE & HEIGHT**

TARGETED ANIMAL	LOOP	HEIGHT
Groundhog, Opossum	5-6”	2”
Fox	8”	8”
Bobcat	8”	8”
Raccoon	6-8”	3-5”
Coyote	10-12”	10-12”
Beaver	10”	2-3”
Wild hog	Up to 18”	10-12”

Unless an animal has a good reason to act to the contrary it will take the path of least resistance. This principle is what makes snaring so effective. In areas where coon, fox or coyote exist, find a path, gully, log crossing, fence, dugout, culvert or other features that restrict the line of travel and place a snare ***DIRECTLY IN THE CENTER OF THE LINE OF TRAVEL.*** Fox, coon and coyote

meet hundreds of small obstacles such as branches, weeds or vines every time they travel and will walk right into a snare as if it were just another weed or branch. They have no idea they are in trouble until it is too late.

**ADVANTAGES OF SNARING**

**Low Cost** - Can buy dozens of snares for the same price of a few traps. Less attractive to thieves

**Versatile** - The same snare can be used for fox, coyote, coon, beaver, skunk or opossum.

**Weather Proof** - Rain, freezing weather, strong winds or snow will not hinder a snare's performance

**Easy to use** - Snaring is very simple. Faster and easier than most trap sets

**Selective** - Small animals such as birds and mice will not be caught

**Compact & Light** - Over a hundred snares can be put in a 5-gallon bucket. A dozen snares weighs very little and can easily be carried in a hunting vest.

**Natural** - Catches many trap shy animals. A snare loop looks like a weed or piece of grass to most animals.

**Caution** - Do not use snares where livestock are grazing. Use deer stops, a breakaway device or step-over sticks when deer or livestock are present.