

# HOW TO MAKE A MUSKET SLING (this is based on a Napoleonic British pattern)

- 1 - Acquire a length of decent (approx 3mm thick min) leather strap: 45 inches long and 1 ½ inches wide (for a Bess – check sling rings on other types). Buff, black or proper military white.
- 2 - Acquire two shortish bits of leather thong.
- 3 - Make eight holes in the leather strap – using the pattern and measurements shown below.
- 4 - Feed strap end A through the sling ring at the trigger end of your musket – fold the strap around the ring so that the holes meet. Take one piece of thong and tie a knot in one end – feed the unknotted end through the holes in the strap and tie another knot – this knot can be a pretty sturdy one as you shouldn't need to undo it.
- 5 - Feed strap end B through the sling ring at the muzzle end of your musket – fold the strap around the ring so that holes X line up with holes Z. Take the remaining piece of thong and feed the ends through the holes – tie a reef knot. Your musket sling is now in its tight form – to lengthen your sling, undo the reef knot and adjust strap so that holes X line up with holes Y and re-tie your reef knot. NB – the tight sling is the normal position.

