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# Introduction



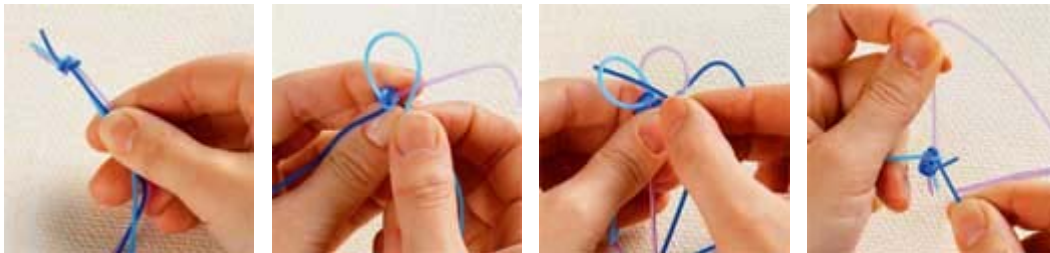
Tying colored strings is decorative and great fun. You can make key rings, figures, jewellery etc.

These hollow strings can be threaded with wire to make them bendable. The string can then be wound round a pencil a few times to make a colorful spiral.

Here we show four different techniques which can also be used for tying figures or other decorations.

If plaiting a keyring you can tie a carabiner hook or keyring into the first knot.

## 3-string technique, round



1. Tie the strings together into a knot.

2. Place the first string over the second, forming a loop, repeat with the second string.

3. Put the 3rd string through the first loop.

4. Carefully pull tight.

## 4-string technique, round





1. Tie one string over the other.



2. Place the first string over the second, forming a loop, repeat with strings 2 and 3.



3. Put the 4th string in the first loop.



4. Carefully pull tight.

#### 4-string technique, square and plait with bead



1. Tie one string over the other as shown in 4-string technique, round (picture 1). Fold string 1 and 3 as shown in the picture.



2. Thread strings 2 and 4 through the opposite loop. Carefully pull tight.



3. Tie as in figure 1 and 2. Place a pencil over the last knot. Tie a new knot over the pencil, pull tight. Tie some more knots before removing the pencil.



4. Put a bead in the hole.

## Scoubidou for beginners.

Most people doing scoubidou use this knot. Its name is crown knot, but it has more names.

Tie four strands together or start with the loop I explain later.

Spread the strands as the spoke of a wheel. You can hold the start with your first finger. Cross the first string over the second, keeping a loop at the arrow. Cross the second strand over number 3, (doing so it also passes over strand 1.) Number 3 over number 4. The last goes through the loop made with strand 1.

Pull nearly tight, then really tight.



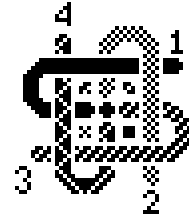
Keep making this knot and your string will become round. That is why sometimes they call this knot the round knot. If you want the square knot you will have to make each second knot the other way round. The knot itself is the same, just mirror image.

A loop to start your work with can be made by folding two strands together and then tie a knot in the lot, it works but does not look good.

If you just cross your strings and then tie a first knot, pull not tight and pull the other string at the back into a loop. Tie a second knot and the loop is fixed.

At the end of the work you want your strands to stay in place. With the plastic strands sold for scoubidou you only have to pull the last knot extra tight. Then cut the ends short. Sometimes you have to help a bit, warm the strands a little, often holding them in your hand will be enough, pull the knot extra tight and leave overnight. If the knot is still tight the next day it will stay tight.

If you work with string, or if for some reason your scoubidou string does not stay in place, you can make another knot. Make one more knot but do not pull tight, tuck each string through once more. In the drawing I have made little spots in its own 'color', go underneath the first one.



If you have tied the strands this way and they still come undone, search internet for another knot, or use a little glue. Test your string with the glue, plastic and super glue do not always go together well.

HELP!!!

I run out of string but I am not ready by a long way.

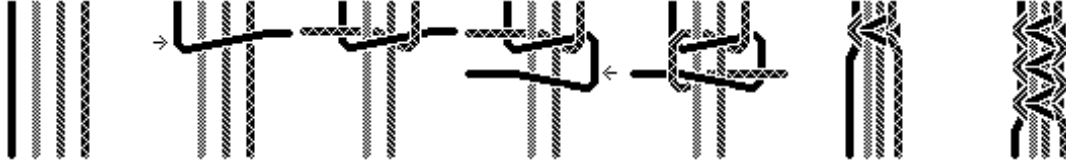
Place a new string along your little end and tie two knots with two strands together. It shows, you can hide it a little by making the ends thinner, just pull on the plastic.

Have fun.

## Scoubidou for beginners 2.

A knot, which works well in scoubidou is the square knot.

I have drawn it with four strands but you can use more or fewer strands in the center.

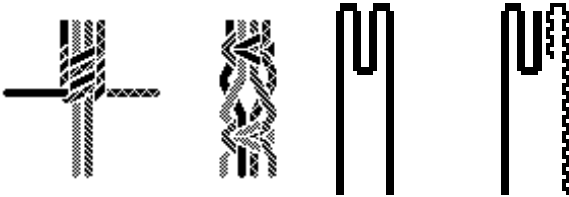


Each time one knot from the left and the next from the right give you a flat result, keep working from one side and it will spiral.

If you run out of outside strands let the inner stands jump and take over.

A key fob or zipper holder can be made by folding your string like this and tying with the outer strands. Have a friend hold the top of the strands in your first try.

A fob in 2 colors is made with 2 strands, with the scoubidou plastic you just hold them besides each other. Make sure there are at least three knots over the two strands together.



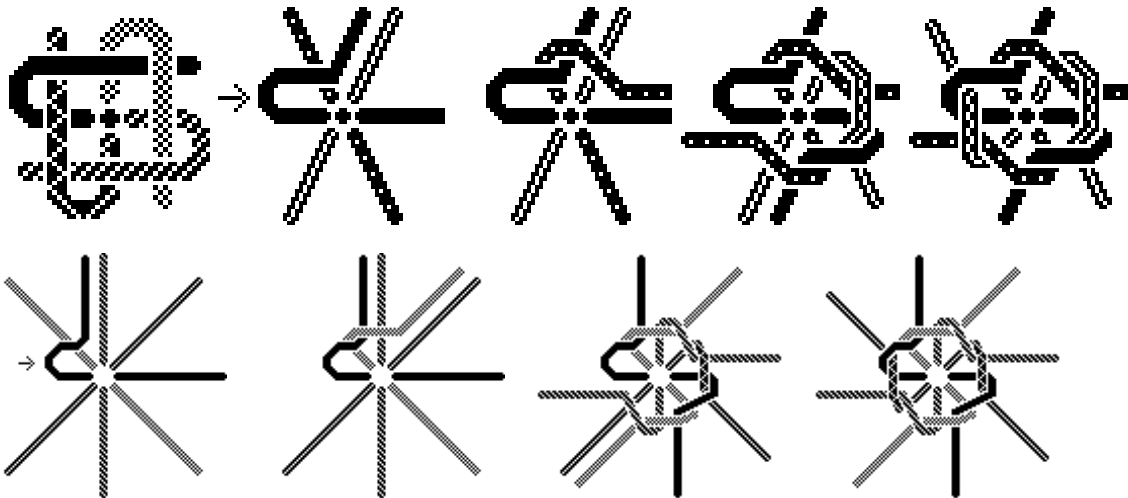
When you make this knot in the plastic strands you also finish with the last two knots extra tight. If you do not like the look, or work with different string, keep the last three knots loose, work the strands in and than tighten those knots. This way looks better but is harder to do. If neither works, glue might be the rescue, test for melting string.

Have fun.

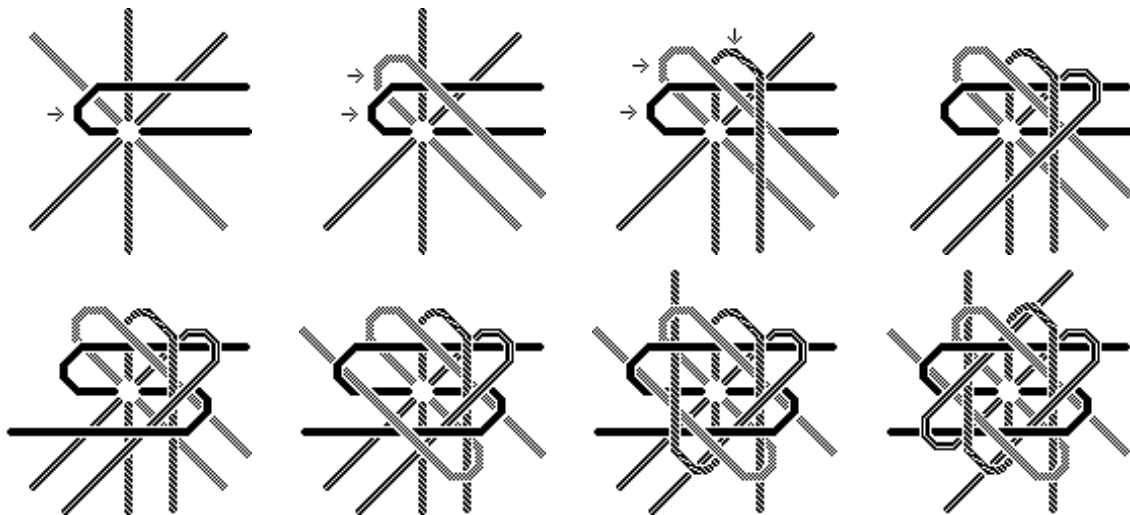
## Scoubidou 3.

For those who know a little already.

If you have done some scoubidou you know the crown knot with four strands, the first picture below. You can also tie this knot with two strands at a time. If you do not know the knot, go to the website for more explanation. You can also tie this knot with more strands, one at the time, below there are pictures for six and eight strands.



If you tie six or more strands into a string it becomes a hollow tube. If you want the tube to be sturdy, tie the knots over more strands. Below the drawings for tying over three, but over two or more than three is also possible.



When you make bigger object you will find often the strands are not long enough. A good looking way to replace your strand is as follows. When one of your strands becomes short, place a strand in the center of the knot, (where the hollow of a tube would be,) tie a few more knots and then exchange place with the short end. Tie a few more knots and cut the left over bit short. With a bit of practice it is nearly invisible.

Have fun.



## Scoubidou 4.

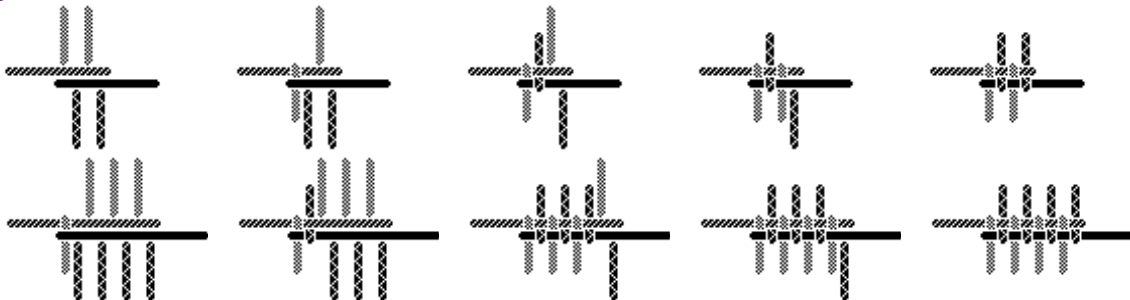
### A scoubidou crocodile.

You need about 9 strands of scoubidou, (the 80 cm or 1 meter size.) If you keep your knots a little loose maybe more. If you want a lifelike animal use all greens you have at hand. You are likely to need more strands than the greens you have, you can use yellow, brown, gold or black. The color you start with is going to run out before you are finished, put three strands of this color to the side, for use later on.

Start with two dark greens, they may be different colors. Place them as they are in the first picture, tie a crown knot, the second picture. You may need a little help, ask a friend to hold a finger on the crossing. Make the next knot the other way round, the next picture. Make a total of four knots. Make a next knot but do not tighten, put in a new string and then tighten.



Tie two knots with six strands, this is called the lengthened crown knot, going the other direction each next knot. In the third knot you add a new string again. Make three knots with eight strands, in the next do not tie the middlemost two strands but let them stick out from between the longer strands. Tighten this knot real well, as you do with the next two. Now go on tying with all strands, again for three knots.



If you want to give the crocodile legs, take one strand you had put to the side, cut it in four. Place them into your work by threading them through a loop, at the side/bottom of your work, before tightening the knot. You can do two at a time or one on each side now and again in the next knot (looks better.) Pull softly on the leg strands to check they do go around a loop. When making the legs, put also an extra strand in the middle of the body.

Tie one or two knots with the ten strings for the body to fix the leg strands. Then make the legs, I just make the crown knot turning, (the first knot on this page over and over again.) Six knots gives nice legs, tighten the last two knots really well. If you work with the special hollow scoubidou strands you can just cut the strands short, if you work with normal string, use a little glue to fix the strands before cutting.



From adding the last new strand make 14 knots before starting the hind legs. When you add the strands at the side, take the middle two strands out in between the long strands, taking them out of the work. Tie two knots, cut the strands taken out short and tie the hind legs. Tie another knot. Take the next two strands out and tie a next two knots, cut the ends and tie another knot. Go on till there are only four strands left. If at the start of the tail one strand is too short you can tie the tail out of three strands, if two strands are short either replace them with one of the strands you should take out, or put one new strand in. The tail should be 12 knots long. Tighten the last two



knots real well, if working with scoubidou cut short, working with string, use glue and then cut short.

If one end run short you can place a new strand along the left over bit and tie them together for a few knots. If they are the longer one in the lengthened crown knot, (the long ones in the pictures on this page,) one knot will be enough. You can also have a strand in the middle of the knot (like when taking out strands) and exchange it with the short strand.

If you are afraid the knot will get undone when you cut short, leave the work overnight and check the knot the next day. When working with the special scoubidou string if the knot has stayed tight it will not come undone any more, and you can cut at less than one mm. If in doubt or working with other string use glue but check on a leftover piece of string because some glues melt plastic.

Have fun.

## How to make a Mouse with SCOUBIDOU®

**You will need: 3 SCOUBIDOU® strands, 2 of the same shade and 1 pink one. 1 piece of iron wire (appr. 14cm), 1 piece of iron wire (appr. 7cm) and 2 stick-on eyes.**

Take a piece of pink **SCOUBIDOU®** and cut to about 14cm long. Insert the 14cm piece of wire. Starting without a loop tie 4 round knots with your other same shade strands around the pink **scoubidou** strand (see photo 1). Make sure to leave approx. 1.5cm of the pink strand extended to make a nose.

Now take a new piece of pink **SCOUBIDOU®** strand of approx. 7cm and again insert your 7cm long piece of wire inside. Now shape the ears as in photo 2. Add the ears to your creation as shown in photo 3. Tie your next knot carefully over the ears to attach them.



photo 1



photo 2

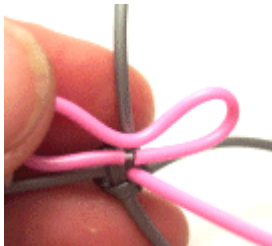


photo 3



Now continue knotting for another 4cm (photo 4). Turn your creation around and knot over the existing knots (photo 5). Continue until you are almost at the ear level.



photo 4

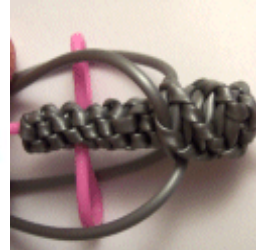


photo 5

To create a round nose, bend the pink string at the front using a pair of pliers. If the strand is too long, cut it shorter before bending.

Use the extended pink strand at the back to make a tail, bending it until you are happy with the result.

Use stick-on eyes to complete your mouse.

**Tip: You can glue your mouse onto a pin to make a cute brooch.**

# Starting Stitches

## *Before you begin a project*

Make sure you have the following BEFORE you start a project:

- Enough Scoubidou to DO the project
- Scissors
- Ruler or tape measure
- Tape, tacks, paper clips
- A lanyard hook, swivel, or ring
- Pony beads, pom-poms, pipe-cleaners, etc.

Regardless of WHICH project you'll be doing, you will need the first 2-3 always. The others only if the project calls for it.

# ***Starting A Project***

## ***Starting Tips to Remember***

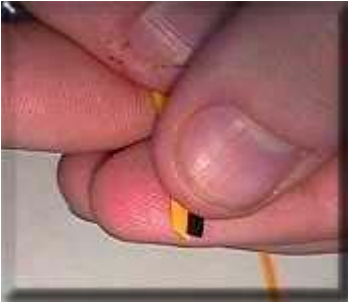
Remember the following tips while working on projects. They will save you time and energy in the long run, not to mention they're awesome!

- Get yourself a **RULER** or **TAPE MEASURE** and **USE IT ALWAYS!** If it says a project needs 2 feet of one color and 3 feet of another color, guess what, **THAT'S EXACTLY** how much is needed. If you simply take a strand of scoubidou of any length, you'll either **RUN OUT** and not be able to successfully complete a project, or else you'll have **GOBS LEFT OVER**, which will only go to **WASTE**
- Learn how to **FIND THE CENTRE** of a strand of Scoubidou.
- You do **NOT** have to pull your stitches **EXTREMELY** tight. I happen to myself, but that's only because I'm a grown man. The tip to remember is to maintain the same level of pull to each of your stitches. If some of your stitches are loose and others tight, you'll notice your projects have an odd look to them, where some of the project appears "fat", while other portions appear "thin"...
- If you have to stop working on a project before it is completed, use a paper clip to keep the ends of your scoubidou in place, right after the last stitch you completed. Place the project somewhere where you can allow the ends of the scoubidou that you have not yet used to dangle or lie flat. Try **NOT** to simply crumple the whole project up and stuff it in your pocket. Doing this will cause the strands to become hard to work with.
- If you can, work outside in the sunlight. The sun can make working with the strands easier, as the heat makes the scoubidou more pliable (squishy), which makes threading the ends into their loops all the more easy. You'll notice that as the day wears on and evening sets in, the strands begin to get harder to work with.
- When you complete a project, finish it off properly using the **completion stitch**. You can then trim the project to allow 1 to

**1½ inches of tassel. If you'd like to complete the project without tassels, pull your last stitch EXTREMELY tight, then put it away for 12-24 hours before you trim off the leftover strands. Doing this will "train" the scoubidou to hold its shape, and you can then trim the excess very close to your work WITHOUT the need to use GLUE or FLAME to make it stay together. Provided you won't be giving this to a small child (baby), it should stay together forever!**

## ***Finding The Centers***

The first step in starting most scoubidou projects is in finding the centers of the strands you'll be using. It doesn't matter how long the strands are when you're first starting out, but they should be long enough so that, when folded in half, you'll have enough length to complete your goal.



Using two pieces of scoubidou the same length, start by holding the strands, so that both ends meet between your fingers...



Bring the other ends up and between your fingers, so they meet the first two ends...



After matching them up so they're even, start running your fingers down the length of the strands...



Eventually, you'll come to the end, where the strands have formed a loop...



Right at the center of this loop is the **CENTER** of each strand of scoubidou!



## ***Starter Square Stitch***

Learning how to **START** the Square Stitch goes **FAR BEYOND** simply being able to do the Square Stitch. This opening stitch is also used to start Circle, Combo, Fishy, Dragonfly, and a **BUNCH** of other stitches!

Before you begin, you'll need to **FIND THE CENTERS** of these strands...



Holding the strands at their centers, turn one of the strands, so that it crosses the other strand...



Hold this cross with your thumb to free up your other hand...



Take one of the strands and flip it up and over the crossing strand...



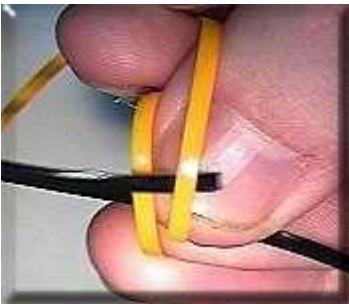
This will create your first LOOP, and should look like the left...



Now grab the other end of this strand and flip it up and over from the other direction...



This creates your second LOOP, and should look similar to the left...



Now comes the WEAVE. Take the strand at your LEFT and place it OVER the first LOOP and UNDER the SECOND loop...



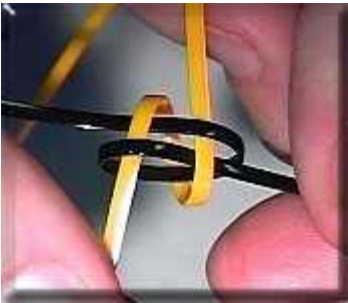
Which should look something like the left...



We're almost done! Take the strand at your **RIGHT**, pass it **OVER** the first **LOOP** and **UNDER** the **SECOND** loop...



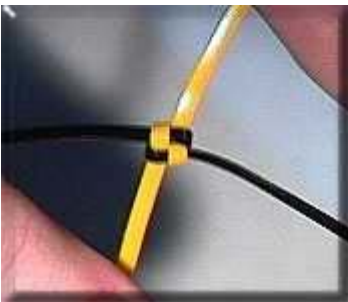
Sorta like this...



Now comes the **PULLING!** Slowly begin to **PULL** the strands to create the first stitch!



Pull them **TIGHT**, but not **TOO** tight! If you pull them too tightly, you may **SNAP** the strands...



Here's what the finished opening stitch should look like...

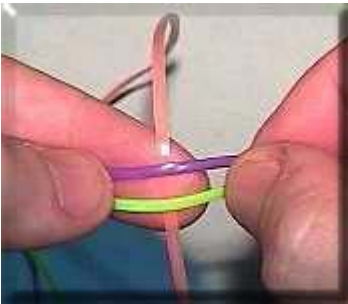


...and if you turn it over, you'll notice the **BOTTOM** of the opening stitch looks like this!

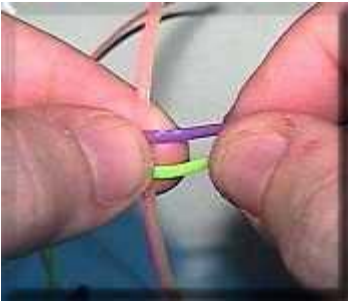
# Starter Brick Stitch

Learning how to **START** the Brick Stitch is similar to starting the Square Stitch, only you have one additional Scoubidou strand. This stitch is also used to start Twist, Heart, Eye-Glasses, and some Combination stitches!

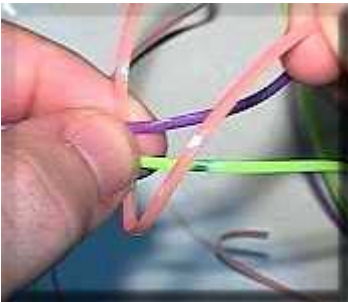
Before you begin, you'll need to **FIND THE CENTERS** of the three strands...



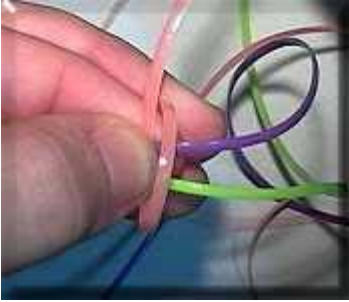
Start by laying the two shorter strands **ON TOP OF** and **ACROSS** the longer strand, which should be facing away from and towards you...



Hold the strands with your thumb to free up your other hand...



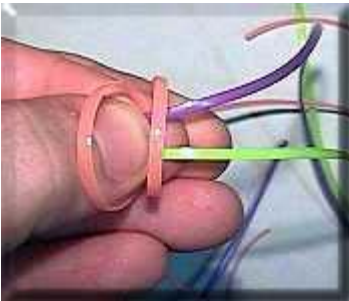
Take the end of the longer strand that faces you and bring it **UP** and **OVER** to create the first loop...



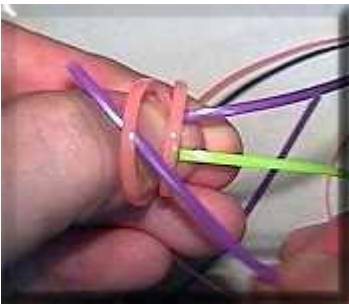
...which you can hold in place between your pointer finger and middle finger.



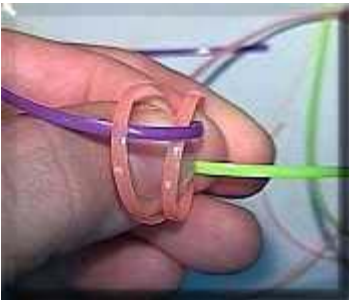
Now take the long strand that faces away from you and bring it UP and OVER towards you to create the second loop...



...which you can hold in place between your ring finger and middle finger. Always hold the strands with the longer strand facing towards and away from you, so that you create TWO loops, instead of FOUR loops.

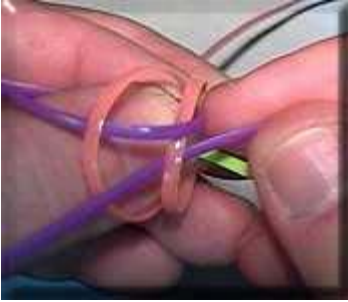


There are FOUR weaves, instead of TWO, as in Square and Circle. Take the short strand that is FARTHEST away from you and bring it UP and OVER the loop closest to it, then UNDER the loop farthest from it...

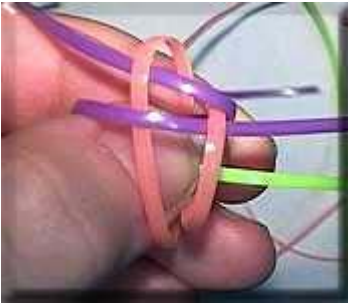


...and pull it through.

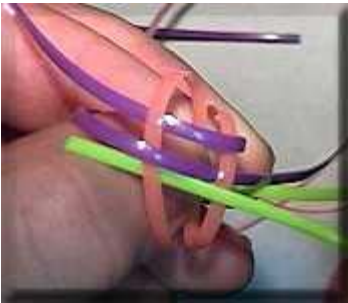




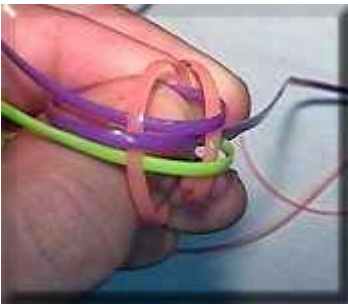
Now take the next farthest strand from you, which should be on the other side of the stitch, and bring it UP and OVER the loop nearest it, then UNDER the loop farthest from it...



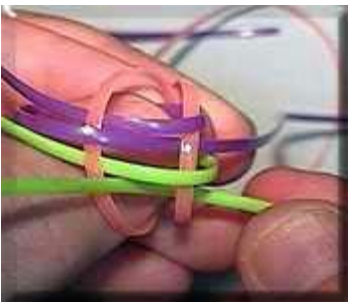
...and pull it through. You've just completed a Square Stitch; but onto the Brick!



Similar to the way you started the stitch, take the third strand, which should be on the same side you started the stitch on, and bring it UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second...

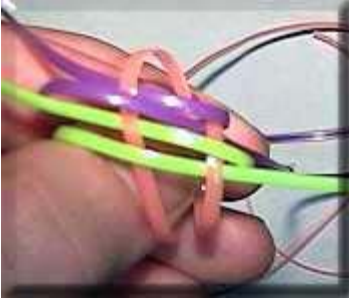


...you know what to do, right? Pull it on through!



Hey, we're almost done! Just one more strand! Bring it UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second loop...

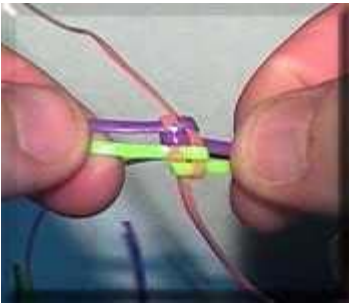




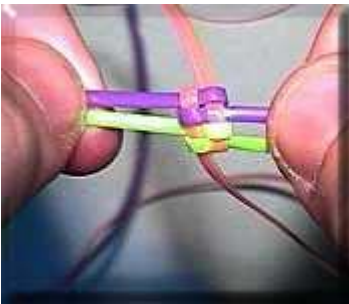
**...and pull it on home! Take a good look at this stitch, as it's nothing more than TWO Square stitches!**



**Now for the pulling! With some practice, you can train your hands to actually pull in FOUR DIRECTIONS at once...**



**...you can kind of see how I do it in this sequence...**

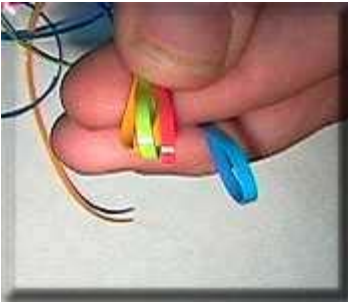


**...all tight! There's the basic Brick Starter stitch!**

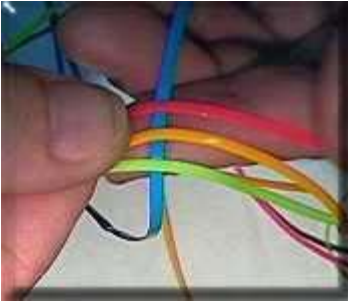
## Starter SuperBrick Stitch

The SuperBrick Stitch is simply the Brick Stitch with one additional strand thrown into the mix. This is the square version of the CorkScrew Stitch! You'll need 3 strands of scoubidou of one length, and a fourth strand approximately one and a half times the length of one of the shorter strands.

Before you begin, you'll need to FIND THE CENTERS of the four strands...



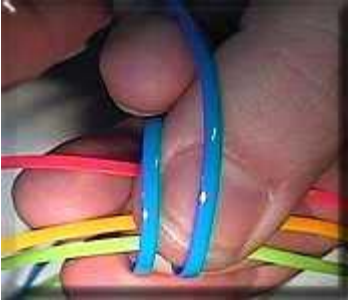
After finding the centers of our four starting strands...



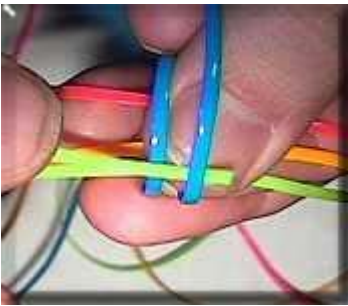
Start by laying the three shorter strands **ON TOP OF** and **ACROSS** the longer strand, which should be facing away from and towards you...



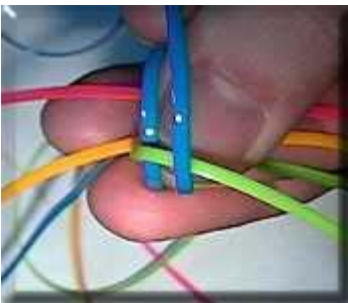
Take the end of the longer strand that faces you and bring it **UP** and **OVER** to create the first loop...



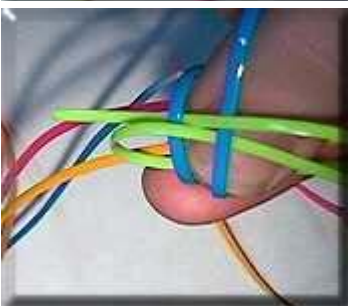
Now take the long strand that faces away from you and bring it UP and OVER towards you to create the second loop...



There are SIX weaves, instead of FOUR, as in standard Brick. Take the short strand that is FARTHEST away from you and bring it UP and OVER the loop closest to it, then UNDER the loop farthest from it...



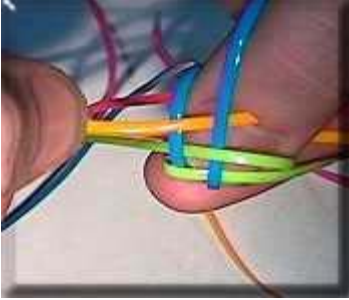
...and pull it through.



Now take the next farthest strand from you, which should be on the other side of the stitch, and bring it UP and OVER the loop nearest it, then UNDER the loop farthest from it...



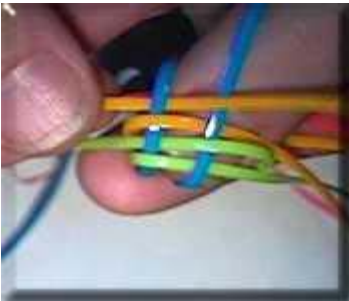
...and pull it through. You've just completed a Square Stitch; but let's continue...



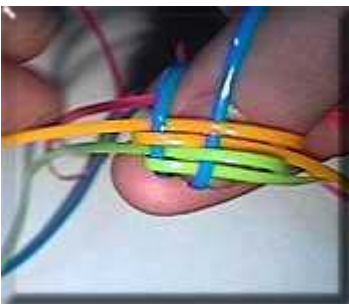
Similar to the way you started the stitch, take the third strand, which should be on the same side you started the stitch on, and bring it UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second...



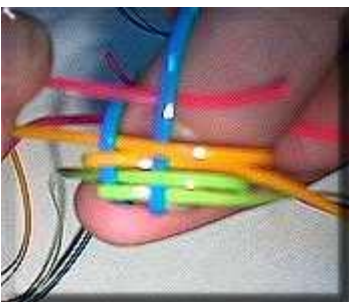
...you know what to do, right? Pull it on through!



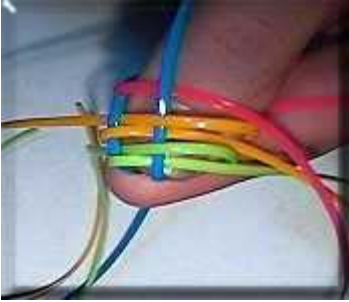
Take the fourth strand, and bring it UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second loop...



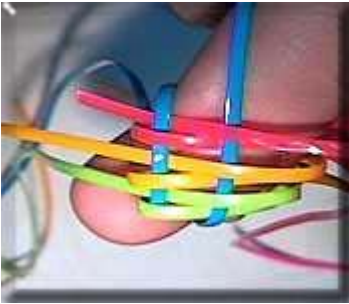
...and pull it through. You've just made a Brick stitch! Now for the SuperBrick...



Grab the fifth strand and do the same; over the nearest loop, then under the farthest loop...



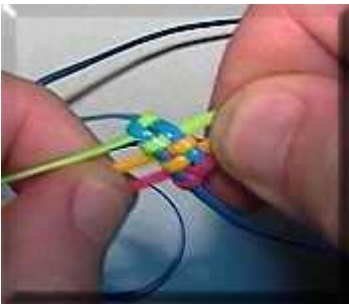
...to be pulled through, like this.



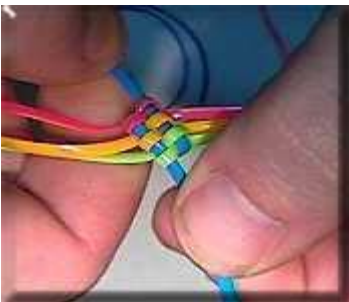
Almost done! Take the last strand, the sixth one, and put it over the near, under the far...



...and pull it on home! Take a good look at this stitch, as it's nothing more than THREE Square stitches!



Now begin to pull this stitch tight...



...all tight! There's the basic SuperBrick Starter stitch!

## ***Starter Fluted Columns Stitch***

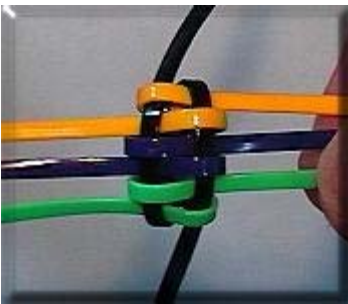
The Fluted Columns Stitch, and it's cousin Fluted Twist (or Spiral), are probably the most complex Scoubidou Stitches you can do. Although complex, they aren't that hard, if you take your time. These stitches are actually 3 stitches in one. Fluted Columns is a SuperBrick stitch, with two Square Stitches along for the ride.

To get started, you're going to need SIX (6) strands of scoubidou, 4 of which are at least 3 feet long, and 2 which are at least 5 feet long. The longer strands should ALWAYS be 2 feet longer than your shorter strands to insure you don't run out of these strands before you run out of the shorter strands.

Set aside two of the shorter strands, and use one of the longer strands as the center strand of three that will cross the first long strand when starting the SuperBrick Stitch. The first step to starting a Fluted Columns is to start a [SuperBrick Stitch](#).

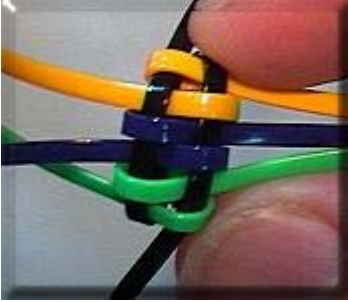


Here's the SuperBrick started. The purple strand, between the yellow and green, is the second long strand of scoubidou. The black one also shown here is the first long strand.

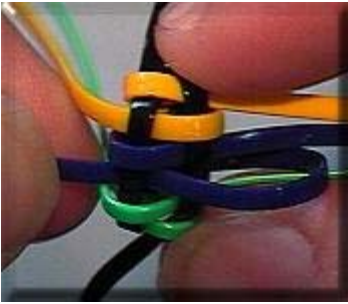


Now do another stitch of SuperBrick, but leave this stitch loose...

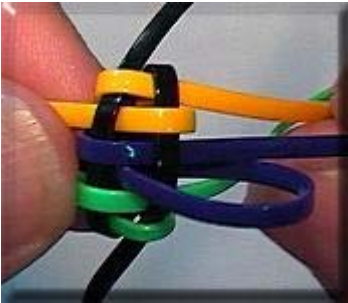




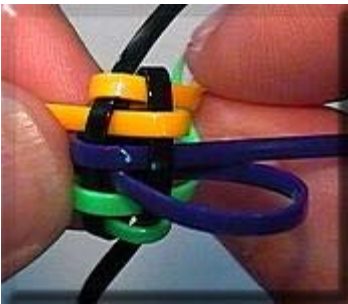
...hold the stitch on the outside and grab one of the loose purple strands, as shown (I'm holding the end on the left of the photo).



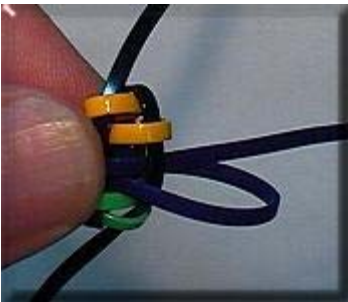
Now push the purple strand back through the stitch to create a loop on the right side of the stitch.



Move the other two strands on the right side of the stitch (the yellow and green strands) out of your way...

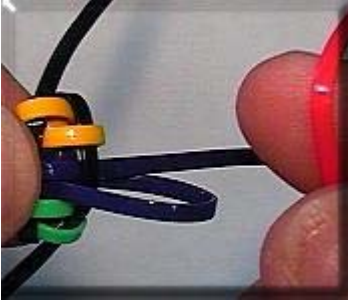


...by pushing them down towards the bottom of the stitch.

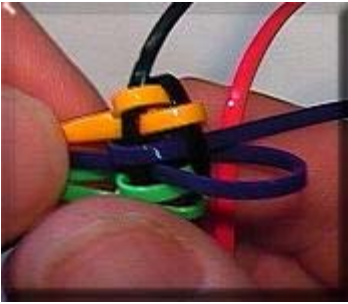


Hold them out of your way with your left hand, so all you'll see is the purple loop and purple strand on the right side of the stitch, as shown here.

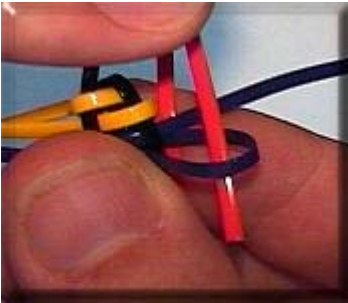




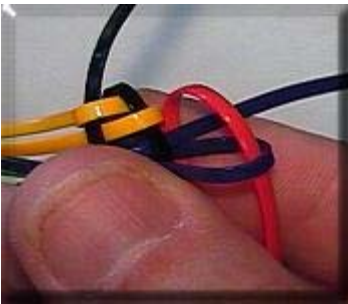
Hold one of the two remaining short strands at its center...



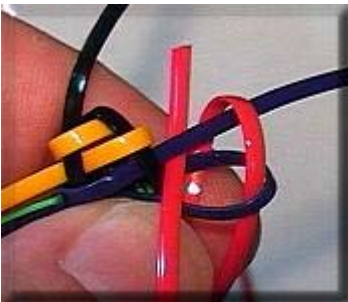
...and place the center of this strand (the red one in this photo) below the purple strands.



Take the red strand on the side with the single purple end (NOT the side with the purple loop) and go over the single purple end, then under (or through) the purple loop...



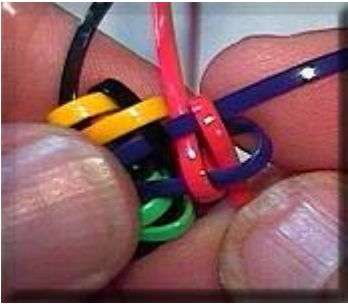
...like this.



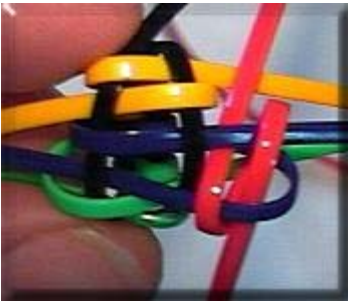
Now take the other end of the red strand, go over the purple loop, then under the single purple strand, just as you see here.



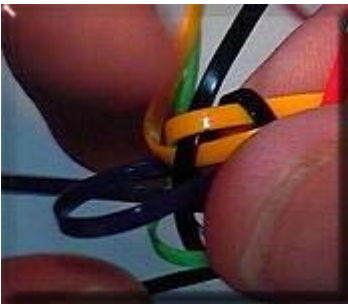
Which should end up like this...



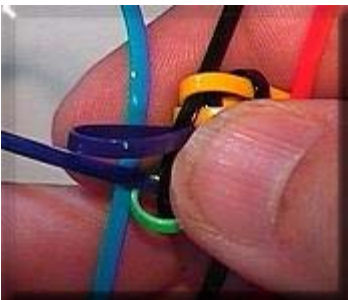
...and after you pull the purple loop a bit tighter, you can see that you've created a Square Stitch to the right of the SuperBrick Stitch!



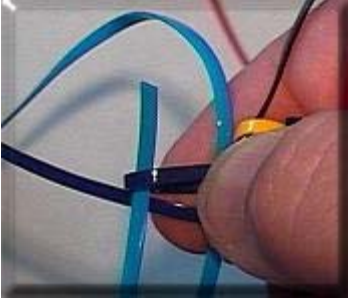
Now hold the other side of the stitch on the outside, so you can grab the other purple strand (the loose end on the side you just created the Square Stitch on)...



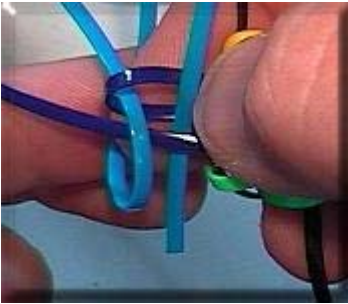
...push this purple end to the left to create a loop on the other side of the SuperBrick stitch, then move the green and yellow strands on this side out of your way.



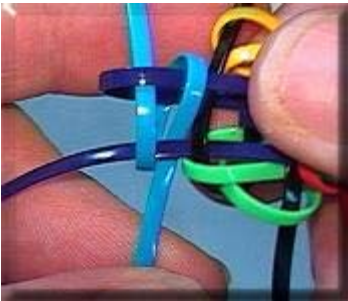
Place the center of your last short strand of scoubidou under the purple strands on the left of the SuperBrick.



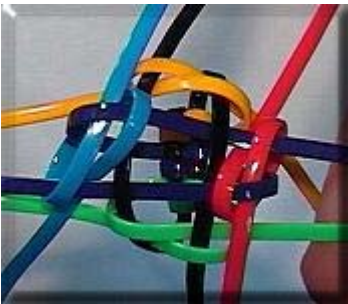
Once again, start by taking the end of this new strand (blue here) that's on the side of the single purple strand (NOT the side with the purple loop) and take it over the single purple strand, then under or through the purple loop...



...while the other end goes over the purple loop, then under the single purple strand. Can you see why we always start on the side with the single purple strand? If we didn't, the Square Stitch we are trying to make here would fall apart on us...



...and here's our 2nd Square Stitch.



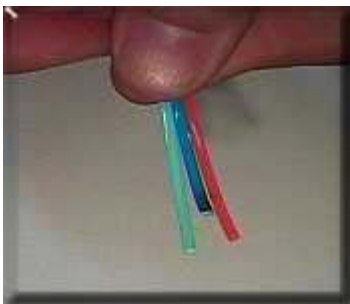
I like to call this "the mess", as it DOES look like a monstrous goo of strands, but if you look at it closely, you can see how each and every strand is in the right place, so that when we tighten the stitch up, no portions of the stitch will fall apart.



After we've pulled this first stitch tight, it looks somewhat like a plus sign. When pulling the stitch tight, start by pulling the yellow, purple, and green strands away from each other, then switch to pulling the blue, black, and red strands away from each other. Do this several times using short pulls to make sure your finished stitch looks similar to the one shown here!

## Starter Triangle Stitch

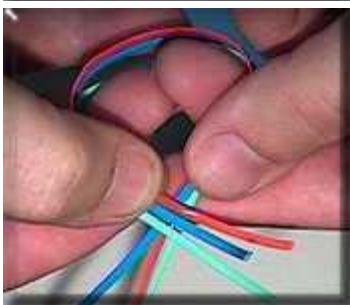
The Triangle Stitch is similar to the [Square](#) and [Circle](#) Stitches, except that you only need **THREE** strands of scoubidou to do this stitch. This comes in handy as a stand-alone stitch, as well as one you can use in Split Combination projects. For instance, you could start a [Brick Stitch](#), and then split it off into **TWO** Triangle Stitches, etc.



Triangle Stitch starts with 3 strands. In this example, green, blue, and red...



To start, we need to tie these 3 strands into a loose granny knot...



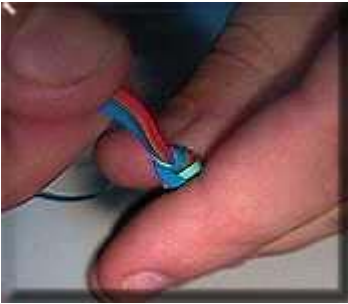
Fold the ends around to cross over themselves, then go under and through the loop you made...



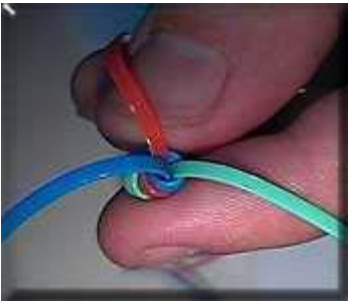
This Granny Knot might look familiar, as it's the same knot you start with when tying your shoes...



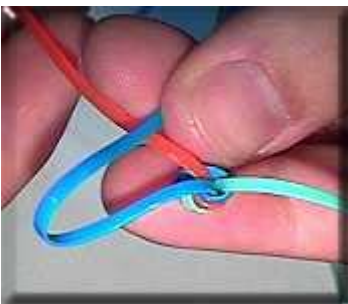
Again, leave the knot somewhat loose, and be sure to leave between 1 and 1½ inches of tassels.



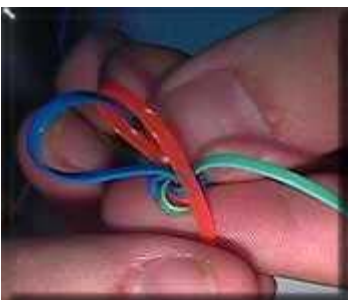
Now, hold the strands by this knot you just made, so that the longer ends come UP out of your hand...



...and separate them, so that they each fall in their own direction. Be careful here, as you may want to attempt to overlap them differently than they WANT to lie, which will make it tougher to get the stitch started.

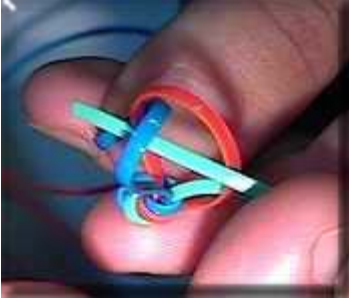


Now we're ready. Take one strand and place it OVER the strand next to it. Here, I'm placing the BLUE strand over the RED one next to it...

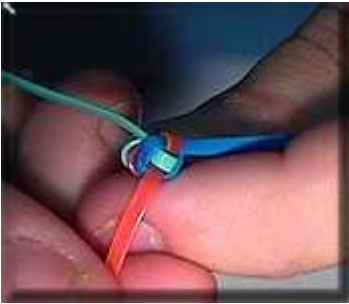


...now take the strand you overlapped above, the RED one in this example, and take it OVER the first strand, the BLUE one, and also over the third strand, the GREEN one...





...the third strand, the GREEN one, then goes OVER the second strand, the RED one, and then under the first strand, the BLUE one.



...after you pull them tight, you'll have completed the first Triangle Stitch. Take a good look at the completed stitch. Can you see how it looks like a triangle, instead of the checkerboard seen in Square and Circle stitches?

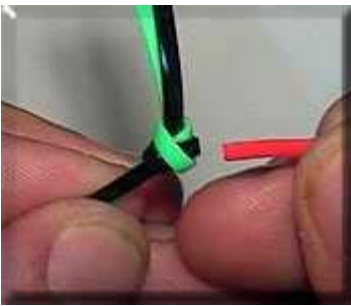
After you've completed 5-6 stitches, you can perform a [Completion Stitch](#) on the end you started with.

## Starter Cobra Stitch

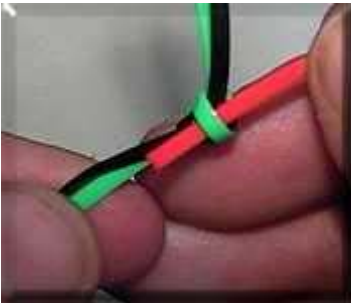
The Cobra Stitch can be done using 3 or more strands, with one or more strands used as your central strand. The instructions listed below are for creating the [Cobra Bracelet](#), which uses two central strands.



Start by tying a loose Granny Knot in one end of your two working strands...



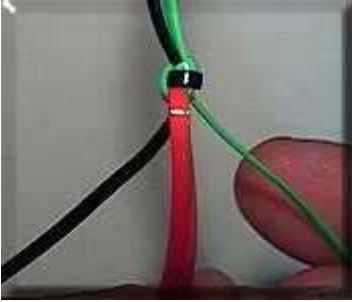
Now take one end of your central strand (your shortest piece of scoubidou) and stick it under one of the outer loops of the Granny Knot...



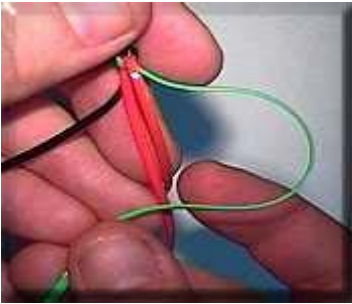
Like this...



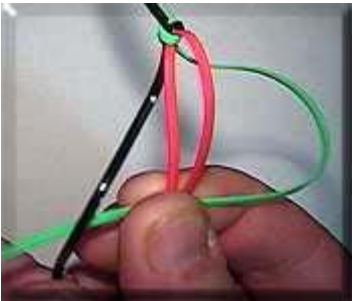
Pull your central strand through the Granny Loop until you've come to the center of the short strand, then pull the Granny Knot tight.



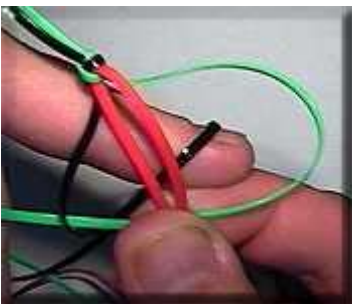
Lay your strands to match the picture, where your central strands are on top, with one color on the left, and the other color on the right.



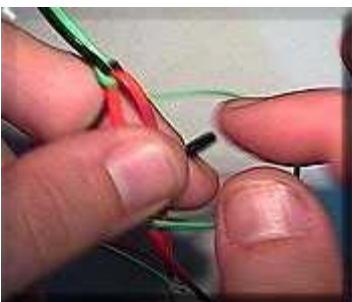
To start the stitch, choose a color you will ALWAYS start with (green in this example) and make a loop of this color OVER the central strands as shown.



Now take the other strand (the black in this example) and place it OVER the looped strand (green here).

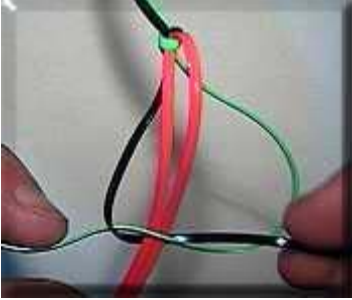


Continuing with this strand (the black), take it BEHIND the central strand (red)...

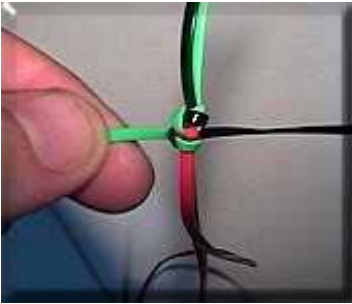


...and UP THROUGH the loop made with the first strand (the green loop).





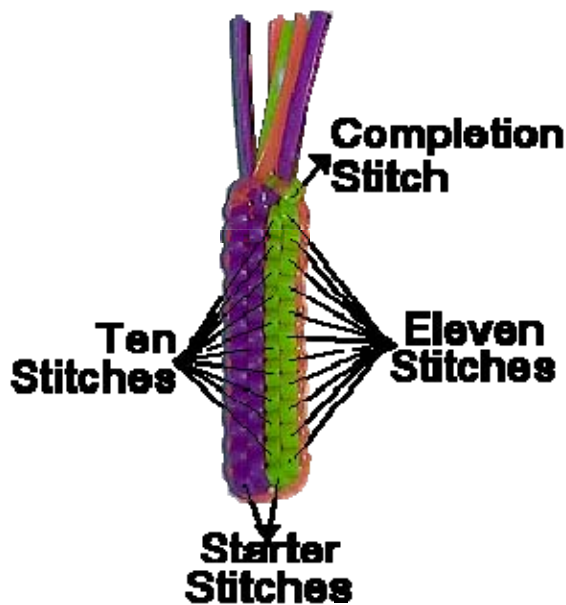
**While pulling the strand tight, it should look like this.**



**Pull this first stitch quite tight, making sure to also pull your central strand (the red) DOWN out of the stitch, as it will want to jump UP out of the stitch. You want to see as LITTLE of the central strand (red) as possible before continuing. You're now ready to continue...**

# Counting Stitches

Before you tackle an actual PROJECT, like Dragon Fly, Heart, Bracelet, Rocket, etc., you need to know how to count the number of stitches you've completed, as the project descriptions will tell you to "complete 20 square stitches, then complete 5 circle stitches", etc. Here's how you can do that:



Always start counting your stitches from the end you **BEGAN** the project at, **NOT** from where you last completed a stitch. Looking at the completed Brick project at left, we finished the project at the top of the photo, where the strands are located.

The stitches at the bottom are actually part of the "starter brick stitch" and are generally **NOT** counted as a completed stitch, while the stitch at top is part of the completion stitch, which is **ALSO** generally **NOT** counted.

This leaves the central stitches. You should count all loops seen on **ONE SIDE** of the project, and from **ONE COLOR** of the project. In this example, I'm counting just the Apple Green stitches, and **NOT** the Grape stitches. The stitches located on the **RIGHT** were created from **ONE END** of the Apple Green scoubidou strand, while the stitches on the left were created from the **OTHER END**.

To make it easier, I count the first stitch, the one made by the "starter brick stitch" up to the **LAST** real stitch, leaving out the one included as part of the "completion stitch", and then simply **SUBTRACT ONE** from the number. Counting this project reveals that it contains 21 actual Brick stitches!

Counting Twist is almost as easy. You count the stitches of the same color that twist around the center. This involves you slowly turning the Twist project, so that you can follow the stitches around, as you count them.

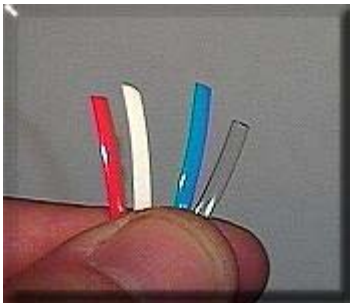
Remember, regardless of **WHICH** project stitch you're counting, only count the stitches from **ONE COLOR** you've used. Even though Brick is made up of **TWO** Square stitches side-by-side, you only **COUNT** the stitches from **ONE SIDE**. In fact, when I count Brick stitches, I turn the Brick project sideways, so I'm looking at it as if it looked like a simple Square project. This makes it **MUCH** easier to count!

# The Basic Stitches

## The Chinese Staircase Stitch



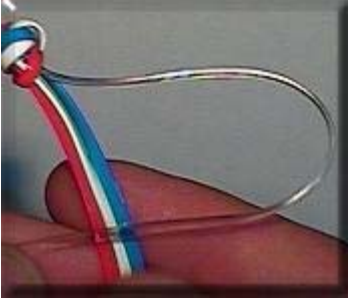
This is probably the EASIEST Scoubidou Stitch to learn. It is MUCH easier than doing the [Square](#) or [Circle](#) stitches, and in fact, is simply one-half of a [Cobra](#) Stitch. There are two ways you can do the Chinese Staircase. I'll show you one variation here, and will include a link to another way sometime soon. In this variation, you'll use one strand of scoubidou that is 4 to 5 times longer than from 1 to 10 other strands, each of which are the same length. The more strands you use in your center, the FATTER your completed Chinese Staircase will be. In the example given below, I am using four strands. Three of them, a red, white, and blue strand, are each 14 inches long, and a clear strand that is roughly 58 to 60 inches long.



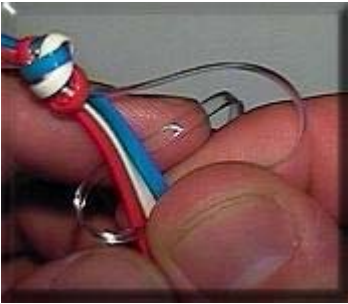
I'm starting this project using 4 strands. The red, white, and blue strands are roughly 14 inches long. This will hopefully insure a FINISHED project length of roughly 1 foot in length. The fourth strand, a clear strand, is roughly FOUR TIMES as long as the other three, which is about 58 to 60 inches long in this case.



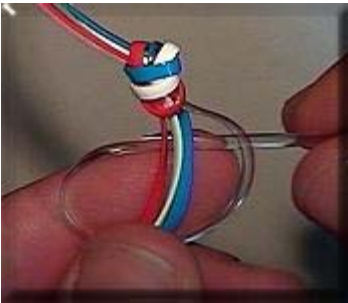
The first step is to tie these four strands together using a half-granny knot. (This is the knot you use when tying your shoes, right before you make the two loops with your shoelaces). Make sure to leave between 1 and 1½ inches of loose strand ABOVE the knot. You'll see why in a little bit...



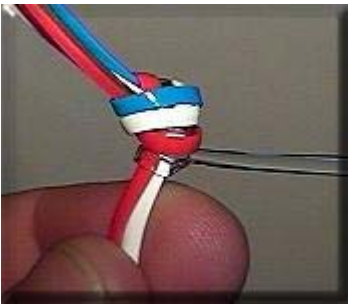
To start the first stitch, take your working strand, the clear one in this shot, and make a loop **OVER** the center strands...



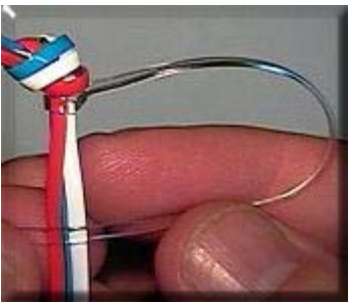
...and then go **DOWN** and **UNDER** the center strands, as shown here...



...and then complete the stitch by coming **UP** and **THROUGH** the loop you made initially.



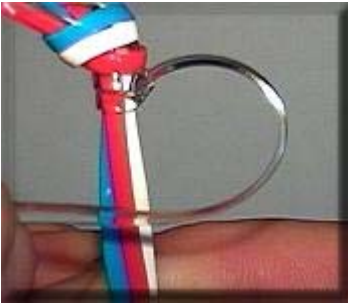
Pull the working strand tight and your first Chinese Staircase stitch is complete!



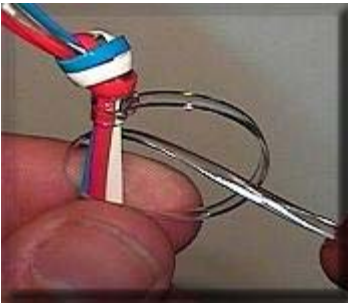
Let's try another one, alright? Start by making a loop on **TOP** of your central strands...



...and then come **AROUND BEHIND** the center strands and **UP THROUGH** the loop you made, like this.



One more stitch. Make a loop **ON TOP OF** your central strands...



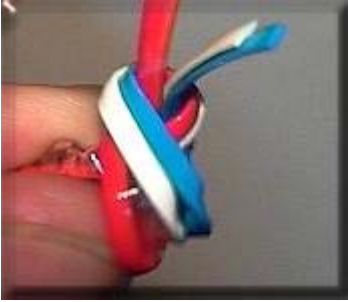
...and then go **AROUND BEHIND** the center strands as you come back **UP** and **THROUGH** the initial loop you made.



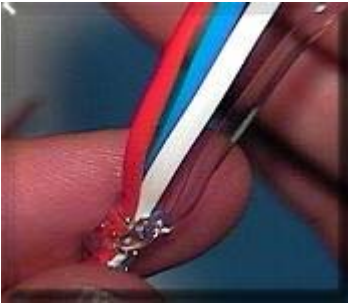
Here's what the stitch will look like after completing about an inch or so.



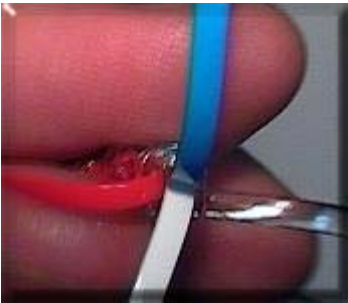
Take a break for a second and let's get rid of that **UGLY** granny knot we started with. We're going to convert the end of this project from using an **UGLY** knot to using a short piece of Square stitch.



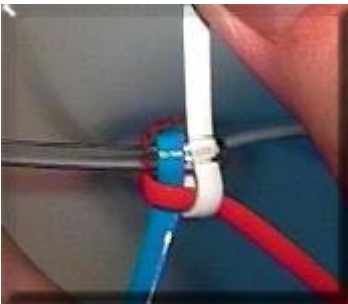
Push the loose strand ends back into the knot to **UNTIE** the knot.



Use your fingers to pull and stretch these strands back into a straight orientation.



If you wait a minute, you'll see how the four strands **WANT** to lie, which is good. When laid out this way, can you see what we have planned?



That's right, we're going to do a Square Stitch.

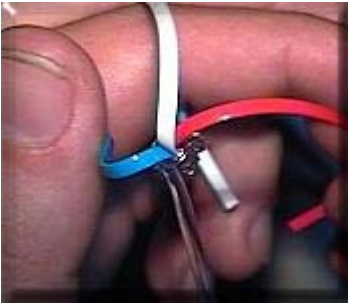


After doing 2 - 3 stitches of Square, do one more stitch, but leave it loose, so that you can do the Completion Stitch.

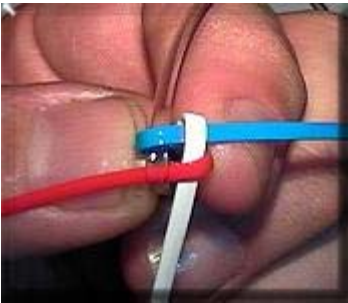




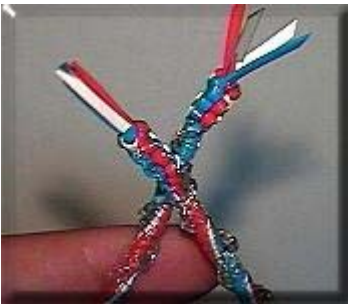
After returning to the other end of the project, continue doing stitches of Chinese Staircase until your center strands are between 3 and 4 inches long.



Let these strands lay where they may, no pun intended, and then orient them as shown to get ready for the Square stitch.



Which should look similar to this shot, once you've tightened it up a bit.



Again, do 2 - 3 stitches more of Square, followed by one loose stitch. Finish off by doing a [Completion Stitch](#) for Square.



# The Square Stitch



Sometimes referred to as the "Box Stitch", the Square Stitch is the cornerstone of all boondoggling stitches. To start this stitch, you'll need two strands of scoubidou the same length. With practice, you'll begin to figure out how much square you'll be able to do with any given length of scoubidou. For myself, I can get about an inch of square out of every 12 to 14 inches of strand.

First, FIND THE CENTERS of these two strands...

Create a STARTER SQUARE STITCH before continuing...



Hold a "starter square stitch" as shown. Bring the far strand up and over to form the first LOOP...



Now take the near strand up and over AWAY from you to form the second LOOP next to the first.



Start the WEAVE by taking the strand on your LEFT up and over the first LOOP, then under the second LOOP...



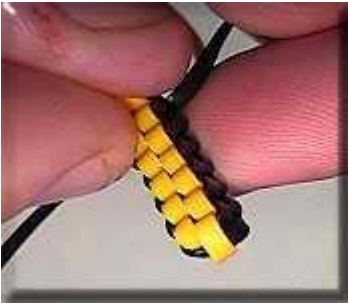
...continue by taking the strand on your RIGHT up and over the loop nearest it, then under the loop farthest from it, as shown.



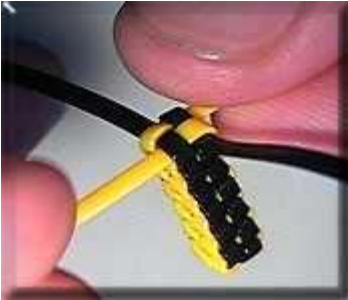
Slowly pull the strands away from each other...



...to finish the second square stitch!

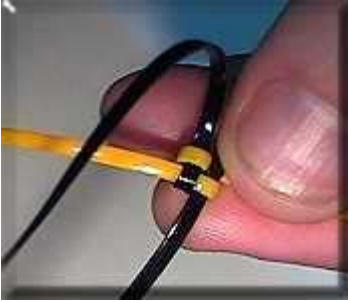


After we've completed numerous stitches...



...here's the bird's eye view, ready to start another stitch.

There is another way to do the Square Stitch, which can make it FASTER to do this stitch. A similar method can be used when doing the Circle Stitch, however these are the only stitches that this method works with:



Start by making a loop, similar to the way you would normally start this stitch...



...instead of making a second loop, take the strand NEXT TO the strand you were working with UP and OVER the loop you just made, so it sits next to the third strand...



...similarly, take the third strand UP and OVER the second strand, so it sits next to the last strand...



...complete this stitch by taking the last strand UP and OVER the third strand, then UNDER the loop you made with the first strand.

You would then pull the strands tight and complete the stitch!

Continue working the Square Stitch until the SHORTEST working strand you have is between 2½ and 3 inches long, then do a COMPLETION STITCH to finish off the project.



A Square Stitch Project, properly completed!

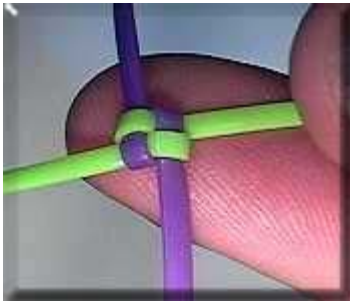
# The Circle Stitch



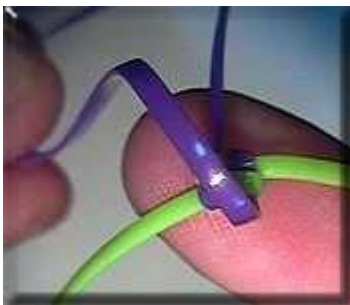
Sometimes referred to as the "Round Stitch", the Circle Stitch is similar to the Square Stitch. You should be familiar with doing the Square Stitch before tackling the Circle Stitch. To start this stitch, you'll need two strands of scoubidou the same length. Again, with practice, you'll be able to figure out how much Circle you can make with a given length of scoubidou. I get about an inch of Circle from every 12 to 14 inches of strand.

First, FIND THE CENTERS of these two strands...

Create a STARTER SQUARE STITCH before continuing. That's right, the Circle Stitch actually starts out as a SQUARE Stitch...



Start by holding a "starter square stitch", like this...



Take the strand NEAREST YOU and take it UP, OVER, and ACROSS the small checkerboard to create the first loop. Note how we CROSS the starter stitch, UNLIKE the Square Stitch!



Now take the strand farthest from you and bring it UP, OVER, and ACROSS the starter stitch, so that its loop sits NEXT TO the first loop you made. Again, note how it CROSSES the starter stitch.



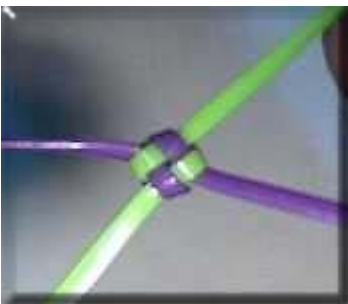
The first **WEAVE** does the same **CROSSING**. Take the strand on your left **UP** and **OVER** the nearest loop, then **CROSS** and **UNDER** the second loop. Be **VERY** careful here. **EVERY** strand needs to **CROSS** in this stitch, or else it will fall apart on you.



The strand on your right comes **UP** and **OVER** the loop nearest it, then **CROSSES** and goes **UNDER** the farther loop. It crosses the earlier stitch, **NOT** the strand you were last working with. It should sit **ASIDE** that strand...



...and should look similar to this before we pull the strands tight...



...and should look like this after we pull all strands tight.



Let's do one more stitch, so we're straight! Take the first strand **UP**, **OVER**, and **ACROSS** the previous stitch to form the first loop...





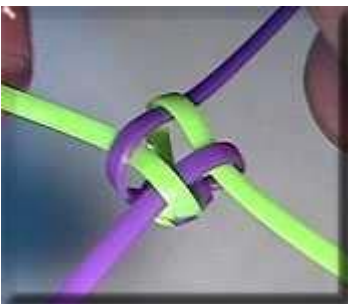
...then take the opposite strand **UP, OVER,** and **ACROSS** to form the second loop, which should be sitting right beside the first loop. Do **NOT** cross the loops!



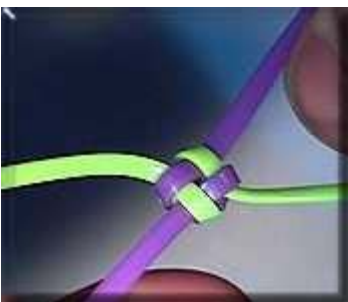
The strand on your left comes **UP** and **OVER** the loop nearest it, then **CROSSES** the center and goes **UNDER** the second loop...



...while the right strand comes **UP** and **OVER** its nearest loop, then **CROSSES** and goes **UNDER** the farthest loop, again sitting **ASIDE** the strand you were last working with!



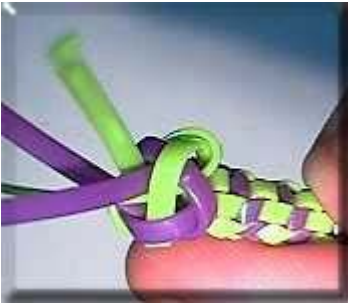
Check the placement of your strands while they're still loose...



...then pull them all tight to complete the stitch!



Here's what our Circle Stitch looks like after we've completed numerous stitches...



...and here's the [Completion Stitch](#), right before we pull all central strands tight!



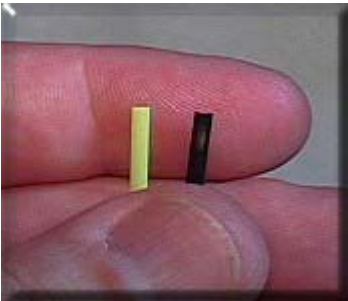
A Circle Stitch Project, properly completed!



# The Butterfly Stitch



Considered one of the easiest scoubidou stitches you can do, Butterfly is nothing more than placing one loop inside of another loop of scoubidou, similar to the way you do it when crocheting. Created using either one color folded in half, or by using two different colors, as shown here. Measurements are not that hard, as your strands should be ABOUT twice as long as the finished length you're looking for, so if you want a six-inch Butterfly, you'd start with strands a bit longer than one foot in length. If using only one color, remember that you need to DOUBLE this measurement, as you'll need to FOLD the strand in half before starting.



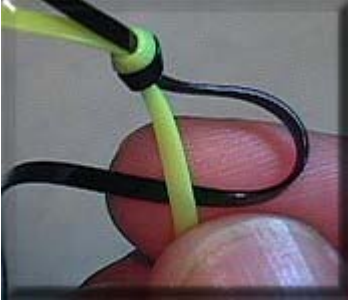
For this Butterfly, I'm going to use Neon Yellow and Black, so it will be easy to tell the two strands apart. I'm actually going to make a ring out of this butterfly, so I'm going to start with strands that are about 6-8 inches in length (to account for varied widths of fingers).



Start by tying the two strands together using a half-granny knot. We've done this before, while making the Cobra, Spiral Braid, and Diamond Braid. Leave about 3-4 inches above the knot, as we'll be using these strands again later.



Alright, now hold the project with the knot at the top and note the lay of your strands. For me, I note that my Black strand is UNDER my Neon Yellow strand, so I'll be starting with the Black strand.



Starting with the lower strand, Black in my case, create a loop UNDER the other strand. This is backwards of the way I taught you to start the Chinese Staircase, remember?



Now bend the upper strand (Neon Yellow) under the Black strand to form a second loop that will come up through the first loop we made with the Black strand.



After pulling the Black Strand tight around the Neon Yellow strand, take the Black strand and come up through the Neon Yellow loop to form another Black loop, like this...



Continue this process of making a loop of one color and putting it into the loop of the second color, and then pulling tight, and then repeating the process with the opposite color. After creating 5-6 stitches, we can begin to see how it looks. This shot was taken directly after pulling the Black strand tight around the Neon Yellow strand.



Let's do another. Take the Black strand, bend it down and through the Neon Yellow loop to form another loop, but this time out of Black...



Now pull the Neon Yellow strand tight around the Black strand. Don't worry about the looseness of the Black strand, as that will be taken care of shortly.



Done with the Black strand, so it's back to Neon Yellow. Bend it backwards and through the previous Black loop...



...and then pull the Black strand tight, which corrects the looseness we saw earlier!



After numerous additional stitches, I'm ready to end the Butterfly stitch, so I tighten up this last loop, but this time, instead of making a loop to stick through this last loop, I want to stick the loose strand through the loop instead...



...like this.



After pulling it taught, I'm ready to grab the Black end again...



...and after pulling the Black end taught, it's all but finished...



...just have to pull the Yellow strand one more time!



Remember, earlier, I stated I was making a RING out of this butterfly? To do this, I need to flip back to the end I started with, untie the half-granny knot I started the project with, then slowly start UNDOING stitches, until I get my strands situated properly, then I finish off this end the same way I did in the step above.



This looks good. My objective is to take the two strand ends at this end and COMBINE them with the two strand ends at the other end of the work and create some CIRCLE stitch. I needed to compare how the strands lined up with each other to determine how many of my initial stitches I was going to have to UNDO, but now I'm ready.



After combining the two ends into a Circle stitch, I do one more Circle stitch, then twist the ring inside out, so as to put the nice, smooth side inside, before finishing it off with 7-8 additional Circle stitches.



**A Butterfly Stitch Project, properly completed!**



**The Butterfly Ring, with jewel made of Circle!**



## ***The Spiral Braid Stitch***



Usually used when making lanyards, the Spiral Braid stitch is also created using 4 strands of scoubidou. It's cousin, the [Diamond Braid](#), is actually the EXACT SAME STITCH. Only the initial placement of the strands differs. While lanyards usually require yards of scoubidou, a couple feet of scoubidou can be used to create bracelets, key chains, and just about anything else you can imagine.

This was one of the toughest stitches to SHOW YOU ALL how to make, as it required me to think quite creatively when I was videoing the segments used to create the snapshots you see below. It is for this reason that the initial stitch may not look as good as you should be able to make it look, as I had to leave stitches loose, and move my hands out of the way, so you could see what I was doing. This page's photo snapshots look a bit nicer and hopefully are a bit easier to understand, but check out the [Diamond Braid](#) page as well for further guidance.

You'll need a couple additional items before making this stitch:

- Two strands of scoubidou:
  - 3-4 yards each, if making a lanyard.
  - 4-6 feet each, if making smaller projects.
- An 8-10 inch strand of scoubidou <OR> a safety-pin <OR> a push-pin.
- A lanyard hook <OR> a swivel hook.
- A paper-clip.

If you've ever made a friendship bracelet using needlepoint floss you'll be familiar with the first step in doing this stitch. The Spiral and [Diamond](#) Braids both need to be ANCHORED at one end, while you are doing the stitch. If you're near a desk, chair, tree root, or something else made of wood, use the Push-Pin to create your anchor. If you're without these, and are wearing a pair of

pants, sit Indian Style on the ground and pin a safety-pin to your pant cuff and use that as your anchor. If you're wearing shorts, then tie the 8-10 inch strand of scoubidou around your ankle and use that as your anchor. Whichever method you choose, you want to create a place where you can pull the strands tight to keep the Braid looking uniform from start to finish. This is a tough stitch to successfully make LOOK good from beginning to end, but if you take your time and PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE, you'll get the hang of it.

If this is your first time making this stitch, I'd suggest starting with strands that are about 4-feet long, which will fold in half to 2-feet. This way, you'll have enough to practice with and if you decide this one is too tough, or it isn't what you wanted to do, you won't have wasted all that scoubidou! All right, without further adieu, here's how to do the most requested stitch I've been asked for!



Note the TOP of this shot shows a lanyard hook, through which our two strands of scoubidou are placed. I pushed a push-pin into my computer desk, and then used the 8-10 inch loop of scoubidou to create a loop through the top of the lanyard hook and around the push-pin. By pulling the four strands of scoubidou, I was able to pull this loop taught against the push-pin and use that as the anchor while doing this stitch.



Note the initial placement of the strands in this shot. Notice how we start with one color, then alternate with the second color, back to the first color, and then finish with the second color. Also note how both LEFT strands come from UNDER the lanyard hook, while both RIGHT strands come from OVER the lanyard hook. This layout is VERY IMPORTANT to the successful completion of the Spiral Braid.



Alright, to start, we take the RIGHT-most strand, the pink one here, and place it UNDER the two central strands...

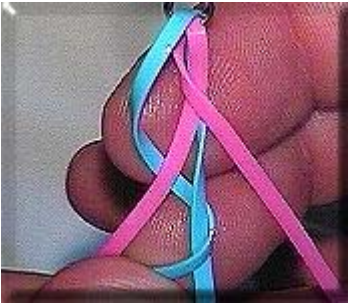




...and then come **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the **LEFT-most** central strand, which is also pink.



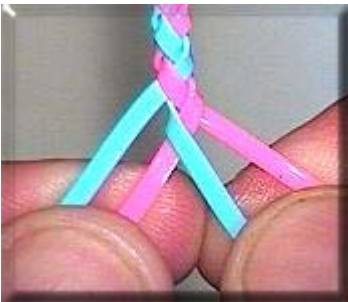
Now take the **LEFT-most** strand, a baby-blue one here, and place it **UNDER** the same two central strands...



...and bring it **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the **RIGHT-most** central strand, which is also baby-blue in color.



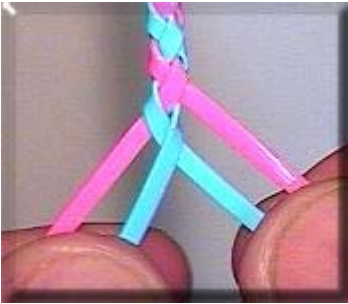
After repeating the above **FOUR** steps, we've completed another stitch, a **PINK** stitch. We've completed a stitch of Spiral Braid when **BOTH CENTRAL STRANDS** are the same color.



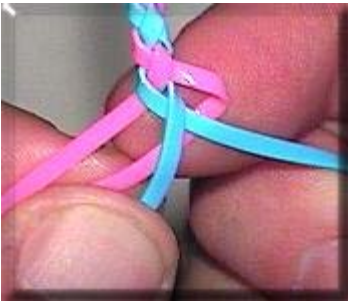
On our way to completing another stitch, but notice how the central strands are **NOT** both the same color. We're only half done with this stitch...



...so after completing the same **BEHIND CENTER 2, AROUND AND ON TOP OF** maneuver, we've completed another stitch, a **BLUE** stitch this time.



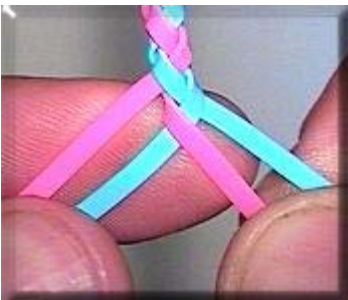
So, let's do this one more time **SLOWLY**. We're ready to do another **PINK** stitch. Can you tell **WHICH** of the pink strands we'll need to work with? It's the top most strand, the one on the right in this shot. Notice how it's also the one that is **NOT** currently surrounded by baby-blue strands.



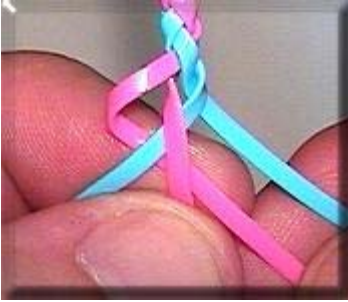
Start by taking this strand and bend it to go **BEHIND** the two central baby-blue strands...



...and then bend it to go **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the left-most baby-blue strand (the farthest central strand).



After pulling tight, we can see this **PINK** stitch is half completed, and we're ready to start working with the other pink strand, the one on the left.



This strand also gets bent to go **BEHIND** the two central strands...



...and bent again to go **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the right-most central strand (the pink one) which also happens to be the farthest central strand.



After pulling tight, we're done with another **PINK** stitch of Spiral Braid.



Here's about an inch of completed Spiral Braid. Notice how it differs from its cousin, [Diamond Braid](#)? All because of the initial placement of those four scoubidou strands! Continue until you've created as much as you need! For now, when you're done, tie a granny knot using the two **UPPERMOST** strands, which should **BOTH** be the **SAME** color, to complete the work. I'll show you a better way to end this stitch in a while. ;-)



**The Spiral Braid Stitch!**

## *The Diamond Braid Stitch*



Usually used when making lanyards, the Diamond Braid stitch is also created using 4 strands of scoubidou. It's cousin, the [Spiral Braid](#), is actually the EXACT SAME STITCH. Only the initial placement of the strands differs. While lanyards usually require yards of scoubidou, a couple feet of scoubidou can be used to create bracelets, key chains, and just about anything else you can imagine.

This was one of the toughest stitches to SHOW YOU ALL how to make, as it required me to think quite creatively when I was videoing the segments used to create the snapshots you see below. It is for this reason that the initial stitch may not look as good as you should be able to make it look, as I had to leave stitches loose, and move my hands out of the way, so you could see what I was doing. Please see the [Spiral Braid](#) page in addition to this page, so hopefully by using BOTH pages, you'll be able to figure this one out.

You'll need a couple additional items before making this stitch:

- Two strands of scoubidou:
  - 3-4 yards each, if making a lanyard.
  - 4-6 feet each, if making smaller projects.
- An 8-10 inch strand of scoubidou <OR> a safety-pin <OR> a push-pin.
- A lanyard hook <OR> a swivel hook.
- A paper-clip.

If you've ever made a friendship bracelet using needlepoint floss you'll be familiar with the first step in doing this stitch. The Diamond and [Spiral](#) Braids both need to be ANCHORED at one end, while you are doing the stitch. If you're near a desk, chair, tree root, or something else made of wood, use the Push-Pin to create your anchor. If you're without these, and are wearing a pair of

pants, sit Indian Style on the ground and pin a safety-pin to your pant cuff and use that as your anchor. If you're wearing shorts, then tie the 8-10 inch strand of scoubidou around your ankle and use that as your anchor. Whichever method you choose, you want to create a place where you can pull the strands tight to keep the Braid looking uniform from start to finish. This is a tough stitch to successfully make LOOK good from beginning to end, but if you take your time and PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE, you'll get the hang of it.

If this is your first time making this stitch, I'd suggest starting with strands that are about 4-feet long, which will fold in half to 2-feet. This way, you'll have enough to practice with and if you decide this one is too tough, or it isn't what you wanted to do, you won't have wasted all that scoubidou! All right, without further adieu, here's how to do the most requested stitch I've been asked for!



Note the TOP of this shot shows a lanyard hook, through which our two strands of scoubidou are placed. I pushed a push-pin into my computer desk, and then used the 8-10 inch loop of scoubidou to create a loop through the top of the lanyard hook and around the push-pin. By pulling the four strands of scoubidou, I was able to pull this loop taught against the push-pin and use that as the anchor while doing this stitch.

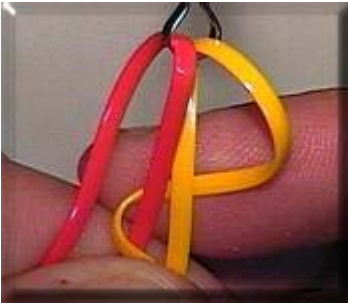


After finding the centers of both strands of scoubidou, I placed the lanyard hook at the center. For the Diamond Braid, you need to arrange the strands as seen in this and the above shot. Note how the LEFT-most red and yellow strands come from UNDER the hook, while the RIGHT-most strands come from OVER the hook. Also note that both RED strands are together and both YELLOW strands are together. This is VERY IMPORTANT. Do NOT continue unless your strands look this way as well!





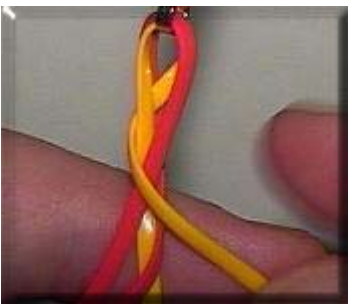
Starting with your **RIGHT-most** strand, a yellow one here, take it **AROUND BEHIND** the two center strands...



...and then **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the **LEFT-MOST** center strand, the red one in this shot.



Now work with the **LEFT-most** strand, a red one here. Take it **AROUND BEHIND** the two center strands...



...and then **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the **RIGHT-MOST** center strand, a yellow one in this shot.



After tightening, it should look similar to this shot. Can you see what we'll do next? Hint: you've already done it once. Take the **RIGHT-most** yellow strand...

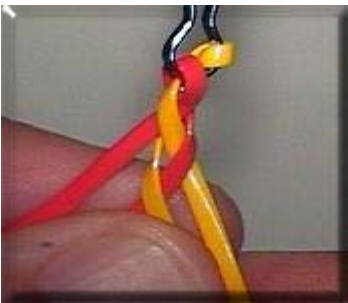




...and bend it **AROUND BEHIND** the two center strands...



...and then bend it **AROUND and ON TOP OF** the **LEFT-most** center strand, which is red in this shot.



That's the second time I used the word **BEND**. Do **NOT** twist the scoubidou, like the red strand in the shot two above this one. Keep your fingers close to the work area and use them to bend the strands **AROUND and ON TOP OF** the farthest center strand.



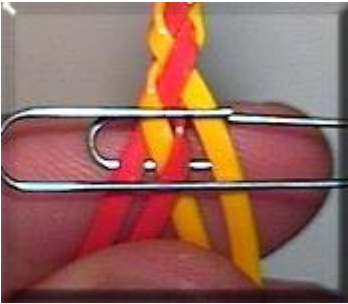
After taking the **LEFT-most** red strand, shown above, I've gone **BEHIND** the two center strands and **OVER and ON TOP OF** the **RIGHT-most**, or farthest central strand, which is yellow in this instance.



After completing about an inch of braid, take a second and check out your work. If you look at how the red portions lie above each other, you'll see why they call this the **Diamond Braid**, as it looks like a series of red diamonds stacked atop one another...



...and if you turn the work a bit, you'll see the yellow diamonds that have been created as well. Time for a break! This is where the paper-clip comes in...



Use a paper-clip to hold the positions of your strands, so they won't fall apart on you. Don't let the work sit TOO long, or else the paper-clip will alter the look of the strands and make them hard to work with.



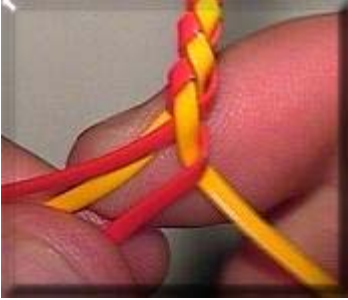
After my break, I'm ready to continue. Note how I flipped the work over, simply as a way of showing you I took a break! hehe! Look at the red and yellow strands a second. Can you see how the red strand on the LEFT is ABOVE the yellow strand on the RIGHT? This is how you can tell which strand you need to work with when you begin the braid after your break. Always start with the HIGHEST loose strand of scoubidou when you're looking at it like this.



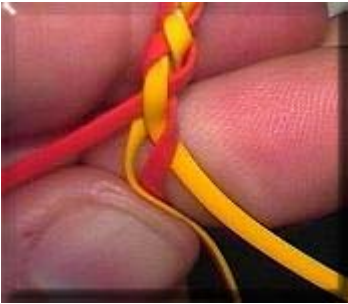
So, we take this red strand BEHIND the two center strands...



...and then AROUND and ON TOP OF the RIGHT-MOST center strand, which is yellow!



Finish the stitch by taking the strand on the other side, the **YELLOW** one, **BEHIND** the two in the center...



...and then **AROUND** and **ON TOP OF** the left-most center strand. Continue until you've created as much as you need! For now, when you're done, tie a granny knot using the two **UPPERMOST** strands, one red, and one yellow, to complete the work. I'll show you a better way to end this stitch in a while. Remember to also check out the [Spiral Braid](#) page as well! ;-)



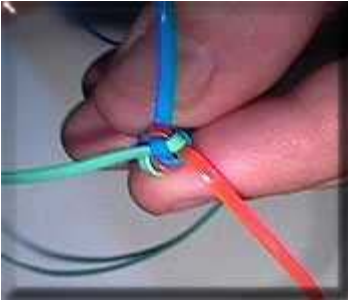
**The Diamond Braid Stitch!**

# The Triangle Stitch

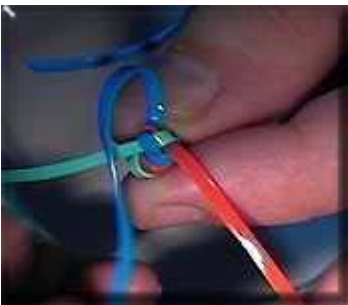


The Triangle Stitch, and it's close cousin, Twisted Triangle, are stitches you can do with only **THREE (3)** strands of scoubidou. They come in handy when you're creating combination stitches that use multiples of three stitches, like Brick, Twist, Fluted Columns, Fluted Spirals, etc. This stitch will usually yield almost the same amount of Triangle Stitch as the length you start with. Using 12 to 14-inch strands, I can usually create 8 to 10-inch projects, given the tassel length.

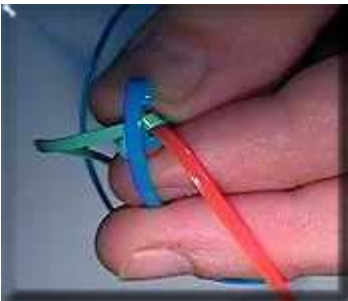
Create a [STARTER TRIANGLE STITCH](#) before continuing...



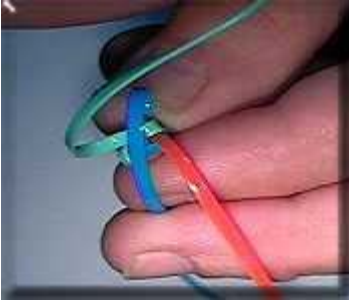
Hold a "Starter Triangle Stitch" as shown below...



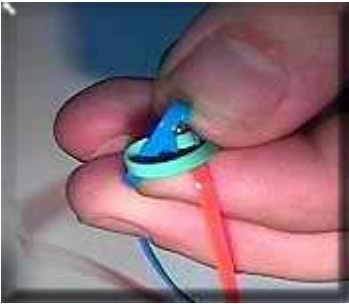
Take one strand and place it **OVER** the strand next to it. (As the **BLUE** goes over the **GREEN**).



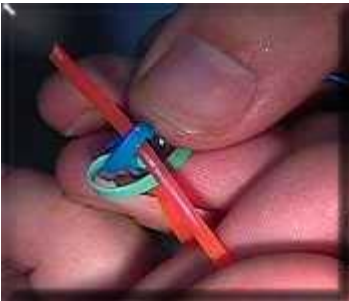
...like so...



Now take the strand that was just covered above over the first strand towards the third strand.



(The GREEN goes OVER the BLUE and lies atop the RED).



The third strand goes over the second strand, then under the first strand. (The RED goes OVER the GREEN, then UNDER the BLUE).



Take a look at this loose stitch, before you tighten it...

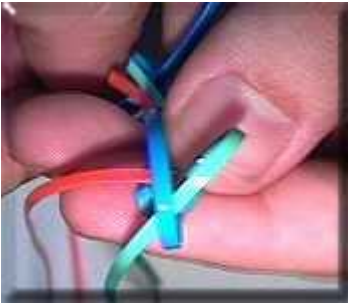


Pull them tight and note the proper triangle that is created. Let's do another stitch...

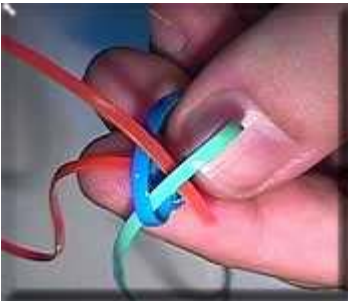




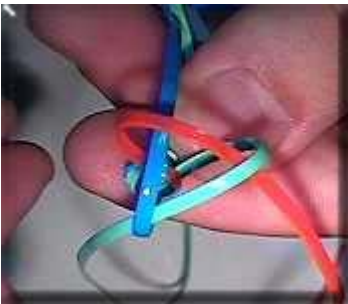
One strand **OVER** the strand next to it. (**GREEN** going **OVER** the **BLUE**).



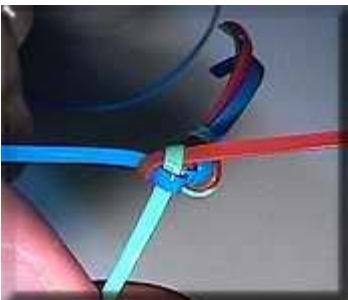
The covered strand goes **OVER** the first strand and sits atop the third strand. (The **BLUE** goes **OVER** the **GREEN** and sits **ATOP** the **RED**).



Finally, the last strand goes **OVER** the second strand... ..and then **UNDER** the first strand. (The **RED** goes **OVER** the **BLUE**, then **UNDER** the **GREEN**).



Before pulling them tight, here's a shot of a loose stitch...



...and pulled tight, we get yet another Triangle Stitch!

Continue working the Triangle Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and 3 inches long, then do a [COMPLETION STITCH](#)



to finish off the project.



**A Triangle Stitch Project, properly completed!**

# The Brick Stitch

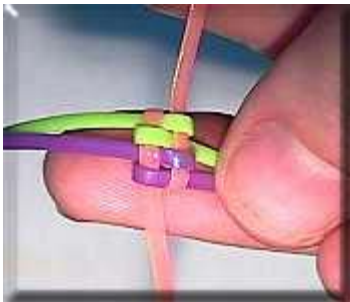


Also referred to as "Super Square", the Brick Stitch is nothing more than TWO Square Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need three strands of scoubidou, two of the same length, and a third that is approximately 1½ times as long as one of the first two. For me, I can get almost two inches of brick when my shorter strands are two feet long each.

First, FIND THE CENTERS of the two short strands...

Next, FIND THE CENTER of the longer strand...

Using the centers, create a STARTER BRICK STITCH before continuing...



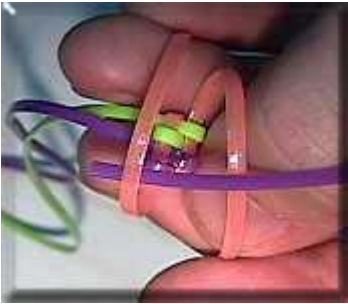
Hold a "starter brick stitch" as shown.



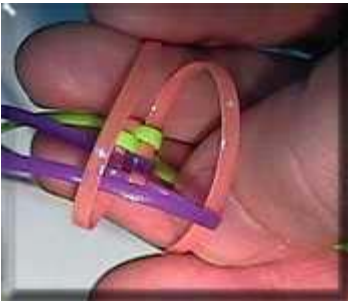
Bring the far strand UP and OVER towards you to form the first loop...



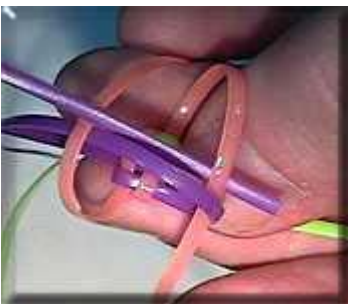
Now take the near strand **UP** and **OVER** away from you to form the second **LOOP**, next to the first.



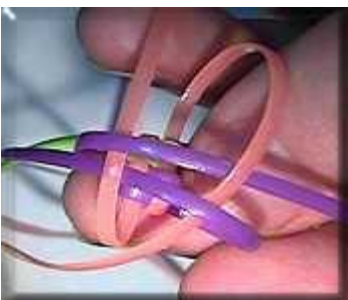
Start the **WEAVE** by taking the short strand farthest from you **UP** and **OVER** the nearest loop, then **UNDER** the farthest loop...



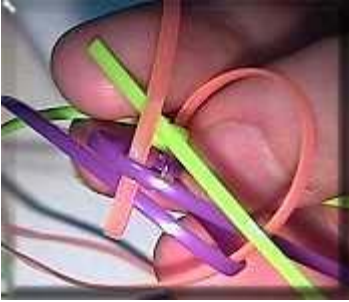
...and pull it all the way through.



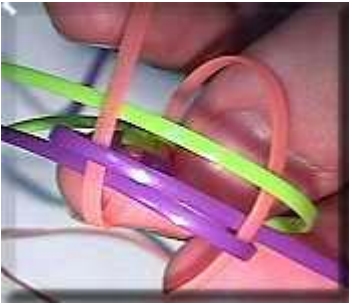
The second strand comes **UP** and **OVER** from the other side, then **UNDER** the far loop...



...and is pulled through as well.



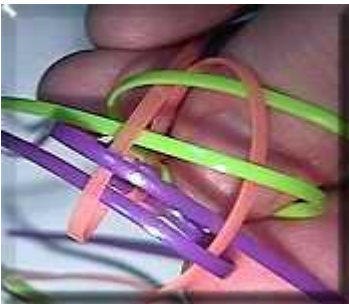
Here we go again, this time with the third strand, which should be of a different color this time. UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second loop...



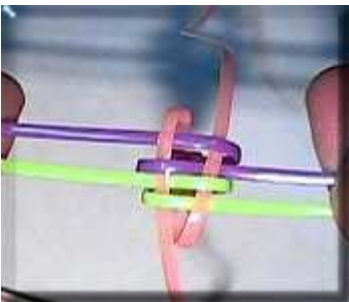
...and pull through, yet again!



Last strand, quiz time: It should go \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the nearest loop, then \_\_\_\_\_ the farthest loop...



...if you did it right, it should look something like this.



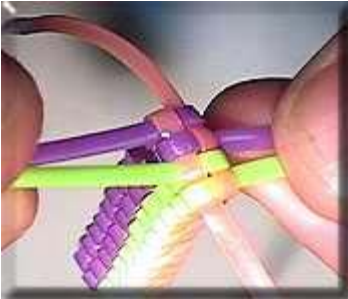
Slowly pull the strands away from each other...



...to finish another Brick stitch! Can you see the two Square Stitches?!?



After we've completed numerous stitches...



...here's the bird's eye view, ready to start another stitch.

Continue working the Brick Stitch until the SHORTEST working strand you have is between 3½ and 4 inches long, then do a [BRICK COMPLETION STITCH](#) to finish off the project.



A Brick Stitch Project, properly completed!

# The Twist Stitch



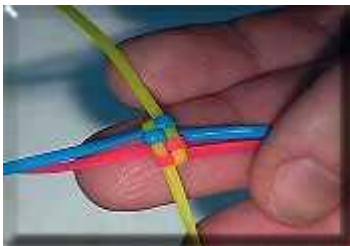
Also referred to as "Double Circle", the Twist Stitch is nothing more than TWO Circle Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need three strands of scoubidou, two of the same length, and a third that is approximately 1½ times as long as one of the first two. For me, I can get almost two inches of twist when my shorter strands are two feet long each.

First, FIND THE CENTERS of the two short strands...

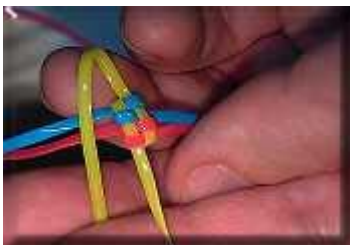
Next, FIND THE CENTER of the longer strand...

Using the centers, create a STARTER BRICK STITCH before continuing. That's right, just like Circle, this stitch actually starts off as it's "square" cousin, Brick!

The following shots were taken from a bit farther back, so that I can show you the placement of my fingers. Also, for reference, I'm sitting at the TOP of these shots. What looks like my RIGHT hand is actually my LEFT hand, so the BOTTOM finger shown is my Pointer Finger, while the TOP finger is my Ring Finger.

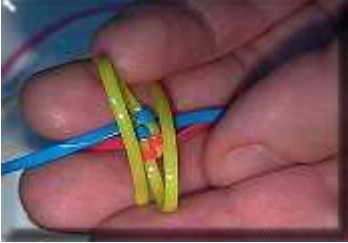


Start by placing the "starter brick stitch" on your middle finger.

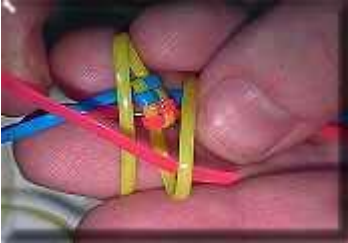


Take the longer strand that points towards you and bring it UP, OVER and ACROSS the starter stitch to form the first loop. Use your pointer finger to hold this loop between it and your middle finger, as shown...

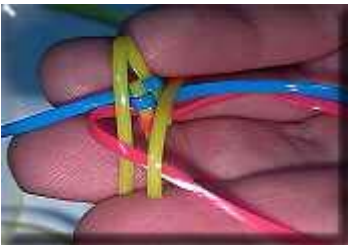




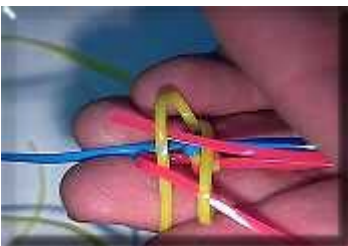
The other long end, the one facing away from you, should then be brought UP, OVER and ACROSS the starter stitch to sit next to the first loop to form your second loop. Use your pinky finger to hold this loop against your finger...



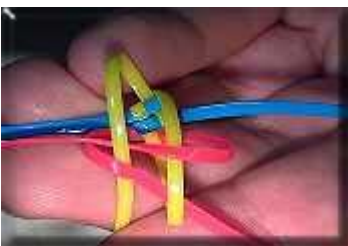
Take one of the inner strands UP and OVER its nearest loop, then ACROSS and UNDER the second loop...



...and let that short strand hang off your hand. Note how the second yellow loop, the one on the right, holds the pink strand in place. If you had started with the other pink strand, you'd note that it would fall out of the loops, which is NOT what you want to do! :-)



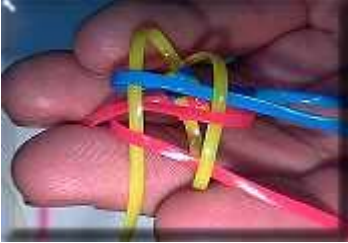
Alright, now grab the other short strand of the same color and bring it UP and OVER the nearest loop, then ACROSS and UNDER the far loop...



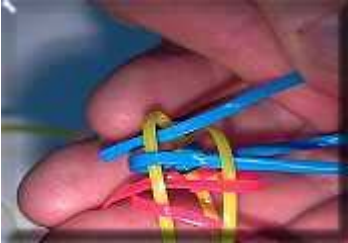
...and let this strand flop off your hand as well. In this shot, note the possible problem we might have if we're not careful. Can you see it? Look closely at the last pink strand we were working with...



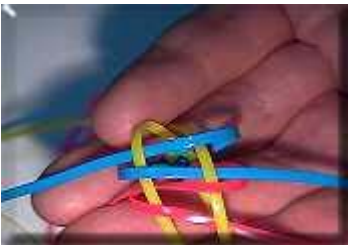
Continuing, grab the next short strand, on the opposite side, and bring it UP and OVER the first, then ACROSS and UNDER the second loop. (Are you still looking at the second pink strand? The problem is still there...)



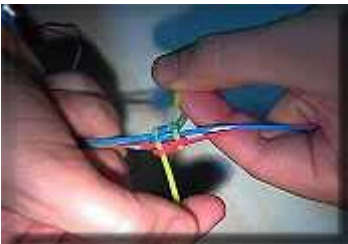
Pull this strand through fully. Note how I corrected the problem with the pink strand from earlier? Did you catch what the problem WAS? That strand was TWISTED and would have caused the finished stitch to have an odd appearance when you compared it to all the other stitches.



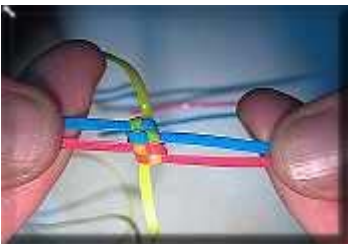
Finish your last short strand now: UP and OVER the first loop, then ACROSS and UNDER the second loop...



...and pull it through. We're ready to start pulling this stitch together!



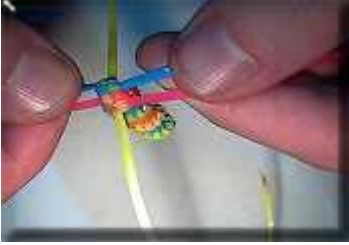
I zoomed out quite a bit for this shot. Note, specifically, the placement of my fingers. This is that 4-way pulling I was talking about earlier. I use my thumbs and pointer fingers to pull away from each other in one direction, while at the same time using the remaining fingers and the cup of my palms to pull away from each other in the opposite direction.



Zoomed in a bit more and you can see how a finished twist stitch looks almost identical to a brick stitch.



Here's what the stitching looks like after a bit of work...



...and here's the ever popular "bullseye" view, ready for one last stitch.

Continue working the Twist Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between 3½ and 4 inches long, then do a [BRICK COMPLETION STITCH](#) to finish off this project.



A Twist Stitch Project, properly completed!

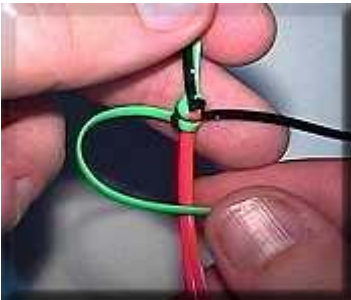
# The Cobra Stitch



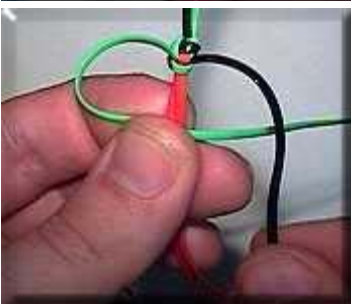
The Cobra Stitch, and its cousin Twisted Cobra, can be created using 3 or more strands of scoubidou, although only two of the strands are actually worked with. The remaining strands make up the central strand. The more strands in the center, the wider your completed Cobra Stitch will be. It should also be noted that if you do this stitch correctly, you will NOT SEE the central strands at all, so you may want to use a color you don't care for, or one you have too much of.

As a general rule of thumb, your finished cobra will usually be about 1-2 inches SHORTER than the length of your central strand. You should make the two working strands at LEAST four times the length of your central strand, so with a 12-inch central strand, you'd need 4-foot working strands...

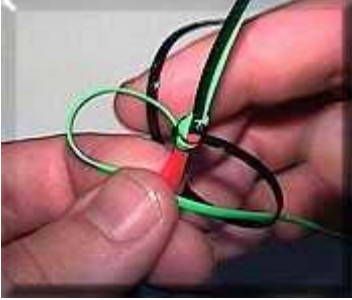
Create a [STARTER COBRA STITCH](#) before continuing...



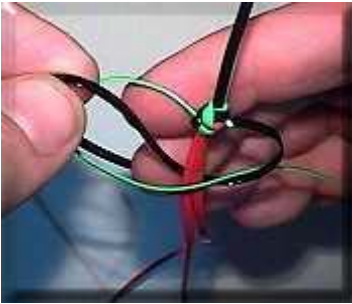
After your "Starter Cobra Stitch", notice the strands have switched sides. Take the SAME strand you chose as your starting strand (the green here), and make a loop OVER the central strand (the red strand).



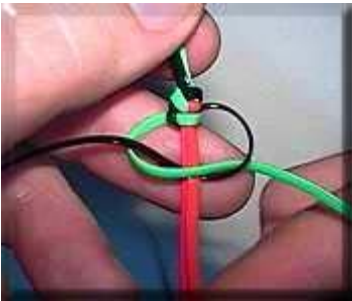
The other strand (the black one) should be placed ON TOP OF the first strand (the green one)...



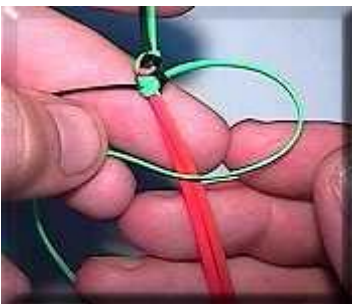
...and then taken **BEHIND** the central strand (red)...



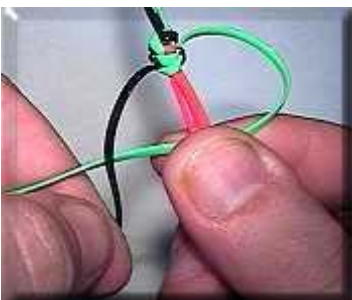
...and then **UP THROUGH** the loop made with the first strand (the green loop).



Before the stitch is pulled tight...



Now our starting strand is back on the right. Use it to make a loop **OVER** the center strand...

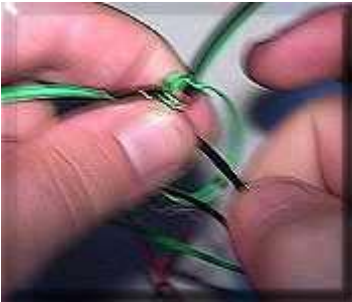


...then take the other strand (black) over the first (green)...

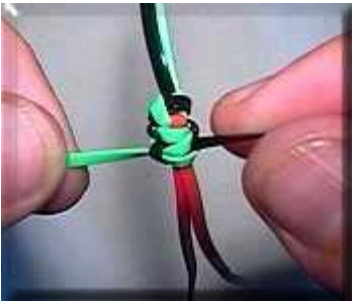




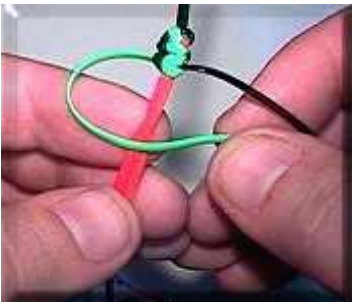
...behind the central strand (red)...



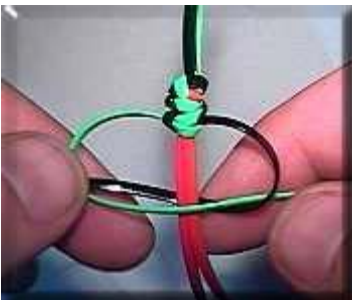
...to be **PULLED THROUGH** the start strand's loop (again, the green loop).



You can begin to see the Cobra's Scales after only 2-3 stitches!



One last time: Make a loop **OVER** the central strand...



Take the **OTHER** strand **OVER** the loose end, **BEHIND** the central strand, then **UP THROUGH** the loop made with the first strand.

Remember to **ALWAYS** make the loop with the **SAME** strand. It doesn't have to be the green, but if you decided to **START** with the black, then



**ALWAYS** create your loops with the black. Why? Because if you don't, you'll create a different stitch; one I haven't presented yet, hint... hint...



**After numerous Cobra Stitches are completed!**

# The SuperBrick Stitch

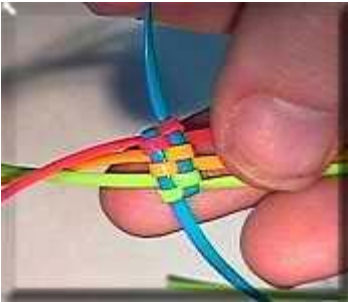


Also referred to as "Wall", the SuperBrick Stitch is nothing more than **THREE** Square Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need four strands of scoubidou, three of the same length, and a fourth that is approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as one of the first three. For me, I can get almost two inches of superbrick when my shorter strands are three feet long each.

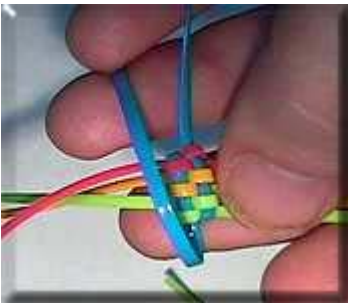
First, [FIND THE CENTERS](#) of the three short strands...

Next, [FIND THE CENTER](#) of the longer strand...

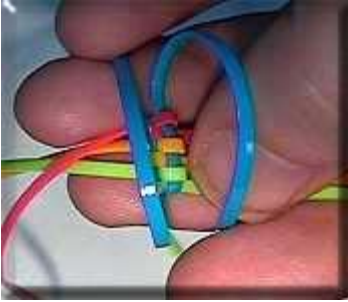
Using the centers, create a [STARTER SUPERBRICK STITCH](#) before continuing...



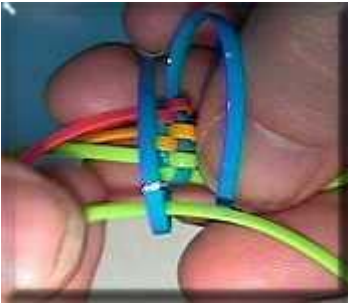
Hold a "starter superbrick stitch" as shown.



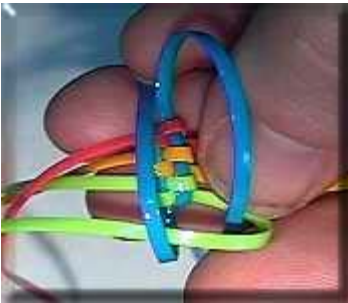
Bring the far strand **UP** and **OVER** towards you to form the first loop...



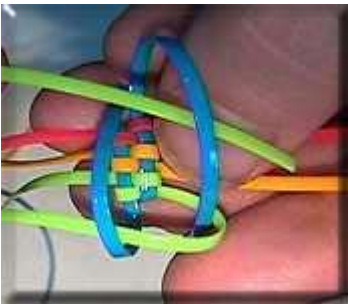
Now take the near strand **UP** and **OVER** away from you to form the second **LOOP**, next to the first.



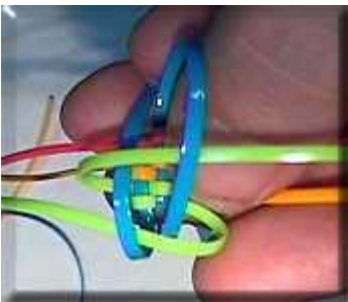
Start the **WEAVE** by taking the short strand farthest from you **UP** and **OVER** the nearest loop, then **UNDER** the farthest loop...



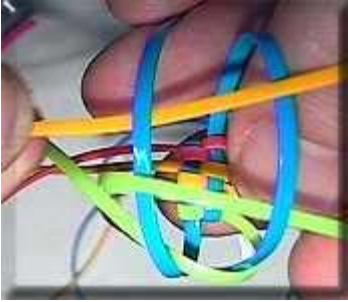
...and pull it all the way through.



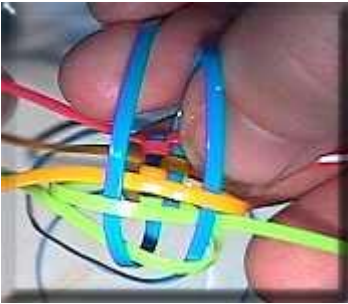
The second strand comes **UP** and **OVER** from the other side, then **UNDER** the far loop...



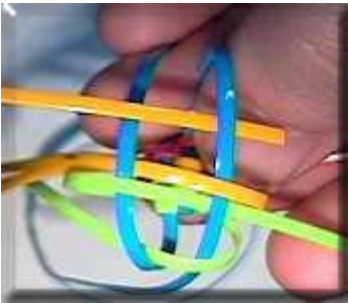
...and is pulled through as well.



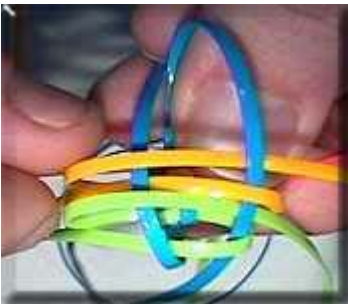
Here we go again, this time with the third strand, which should be of a different color this time. UP and OVER the first loop, then UNDER the second loop...



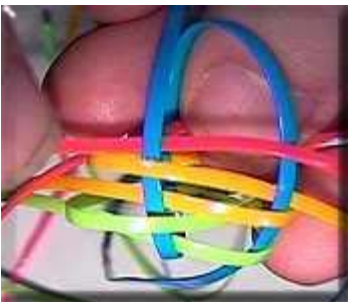
...and pull through, yet again!



Fourth strand goes up and over the near, then under the far loop...



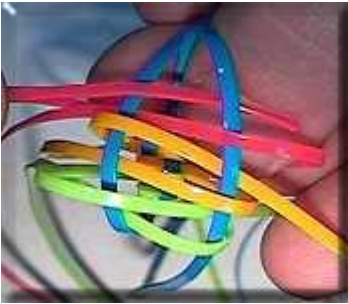
...if you did it right, it should look something like this.



Almost done! Take the fifth strand, of the 3rd color, up and over the first, then under the second loop...



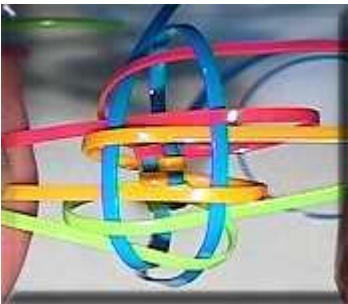
This **SHOULD** be getting easy for you now! Pull it on through!



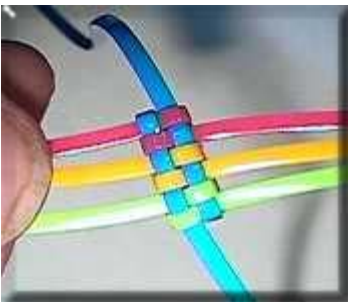
Last strand... You know what to do, right?!?



...and after we've pulled it through!



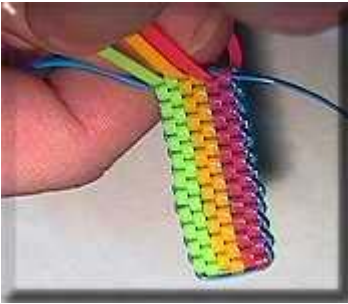
Double check all your weaves before you start pulling! See how we have nothing but **THREE SQUARE** stitches here...



Pull all the strands tight...



...repeat the above, and it should begin to look like this...



...and here it is from the side!

Continue working the SuperBrick Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 4 inches long, then do a **SUPERBRICK COMPLETION STITCH** to finish off the project.



**A SuperBrick Stitch Project, properly completed!**



# The CorkScrew Stitch

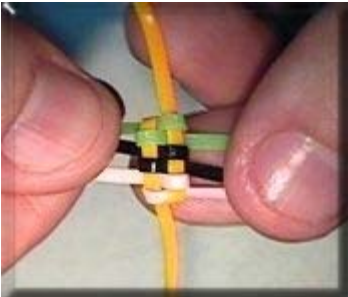


Also referred to as "SuperTwist", the CorkScrew Stitch is nothing more than THREE Circle Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need four strands of scoubidou, three of the same length, and a fourth that is approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as one of the first three. For me, I can get almost two inches of corkscrew when my shorter strands are three feet long each.

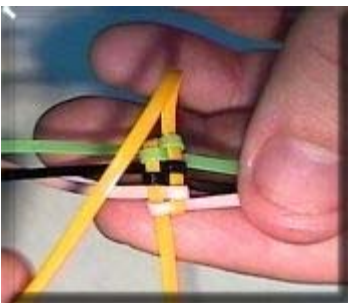
First, FIND THE CENTERS of the three short strands...

Next, FIND THE CENTER of the longer strand...

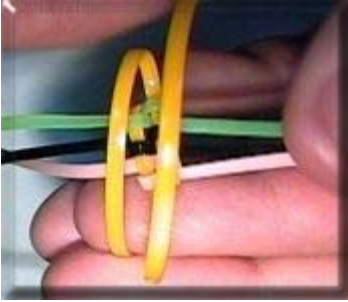
Using the centers, create a STARTER SUPERBRICK STITCH before continuing... That's right, just like Twist, this stitch actually starts off as it's "square" cousin, SuperBrick!



Hold a "starter superbrick stitch" as shown.



Bring the far strand UP, ACROSS, and OVER towards you to form the first loop...



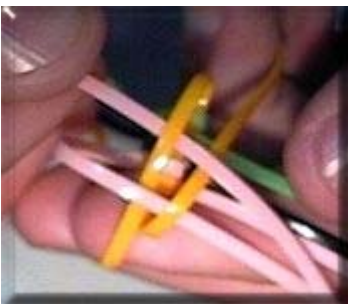
Now take the near strand **UP, ACROSS, and OVER** away from you to form the second **LOOP**, next to the first.



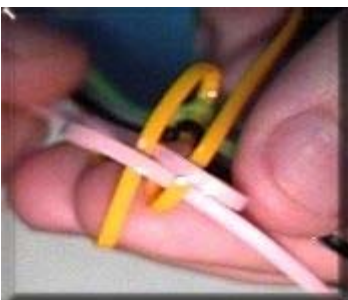
Start the **WEAVE** by taking the short strand farthest from you **UP and OVER** the nearest loop, then **ACROSS** the center and **UNDER** the farthest loop...



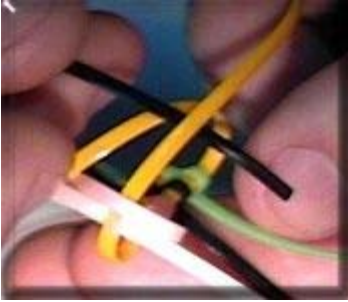
...and pull it all the way through.



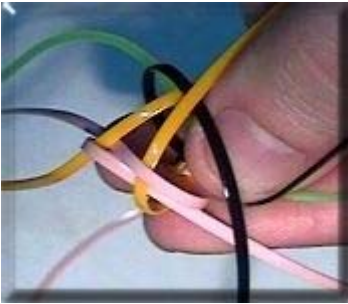
The second strand comes **UP and OVER** from the other side, then **ACROSS** and **UNDER** the far loop...



...and is pulled through as well.



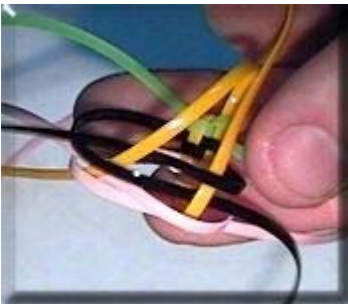
Here we go again, this time with the third strand, which should be of a different color this time. UP and OVER the first loop, then ACROSS the center, and UNDER the second loop...



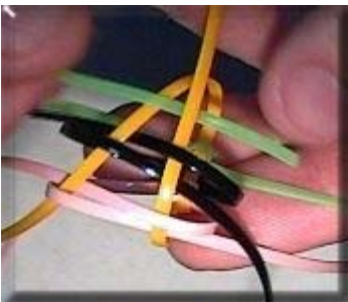
...and pull through, yet again!



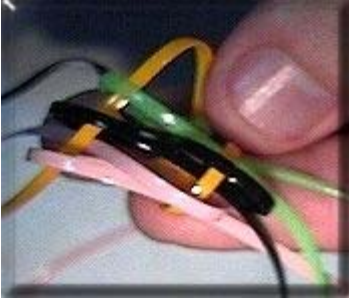
Fourth strand goes up and over the near, then across and under the far loop...



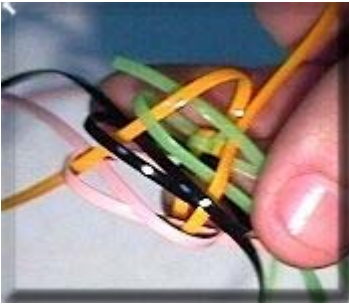
...if you did it right, it should look something like this.



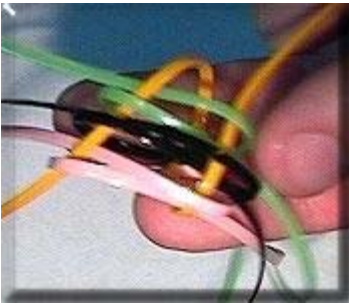
Almost done! Take the fifth strand, of the 3rd color, up and over the first, then across the center, and under the second loop...



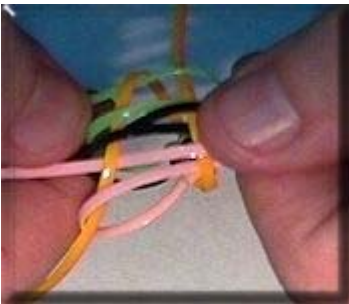
This SHOULD be getting easy for you now! Pull it on through!



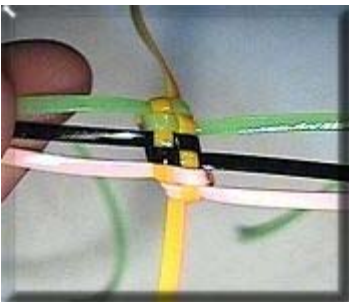
Last strand... You know what to do, right?!?



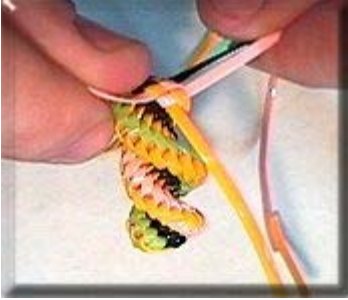
...and after we've pulled it through!



Double check all your weaves before you start pulling! See how we have nothing but THREE CIRCLE stitches here...



Pull all the strands tight...



...repeat the above, and it should begin to look like this.



Look at the top of this stitch. See how the completed stitch wraps around the sides of the stitch? This peculiar action seems to only occur when doing circle/round type stitches, like Twist and CorkScrew! It makes completing future stitches a bit tougher than other stitches you may have done.

Continue working the CorkScrew Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 4 inches long, then do a **SUPERBRICK COMPLETION STITCH** to finish off the project.



A CorkScrew Stitch Project, properly completed!

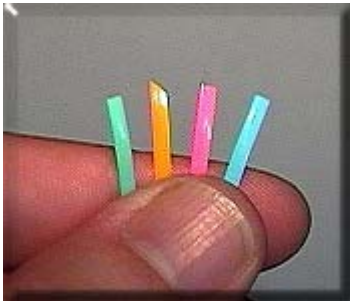
Note the Fancy Tassels!

# The Quad Stitch

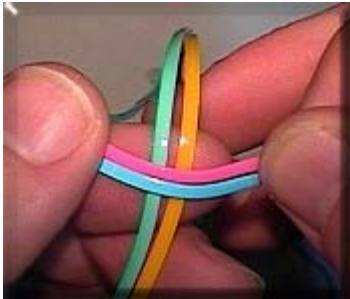


The Quad Stitch is another slightly more complex stitch, but if you take your time, is fairly easy to do. Think of this stitch as four Square Stitches, arranged in a square, versus a rectangle, as in Brick or SuperBrick. You'll need four strands of scoubidou for this stitch, each being the SAME length. There are NO long strands used in this stitch. With strands 4-feet long, I can make between 4 and 6-inches of Quad, depending on how tightly I pull the stitches.

**RECOMMENDATION:** You should know how to do the [Square Stitch](#) and [Brick Stitch](#) before attempting this stitch. If you have additionally done a [SuperBrick Stitch](#), this is even better, as you'll have more experience working with this many strands.

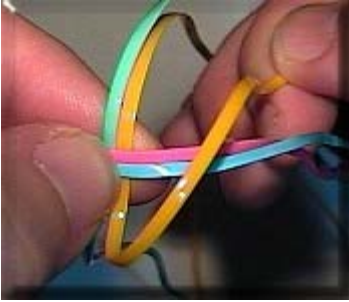


Start with four strands of scoubidou, each cut to the SAME length. I'll use lime, goldenrod, pink, and baby blue in this example.

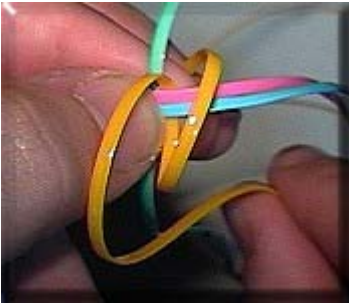


After [finding the centers](#), place the centers of two of the strands across the centers of the other two, like this...

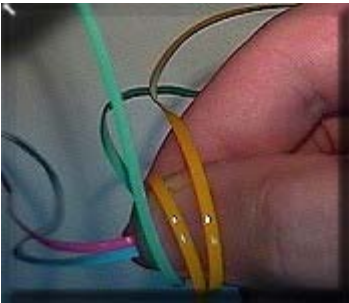




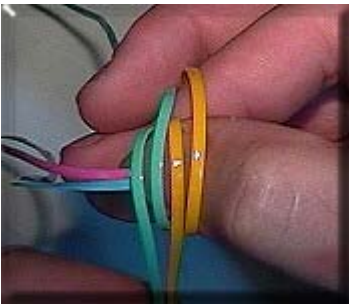
Now, just as you would do for a Square stitch, make a loop with one of the colors...



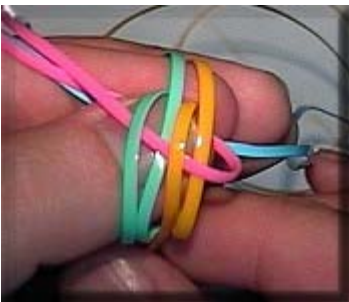
...then make the other loop. This is the start of our first and third Square stitches.



Now continue with the next color and make a third loop...



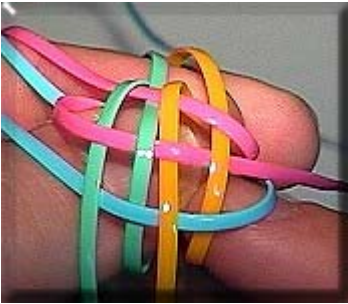
...and then a fourth loop. This is the start of our second and fourth Square stitches.



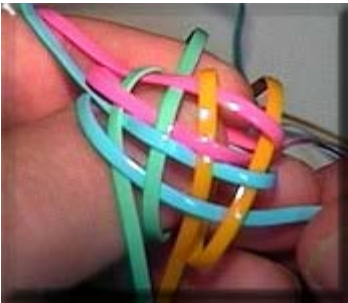
Now for the weaving. Take the top strand on your right, and go OVER the first loop, UNDER the second, OVER the third, and UNDER the fourth, like this...



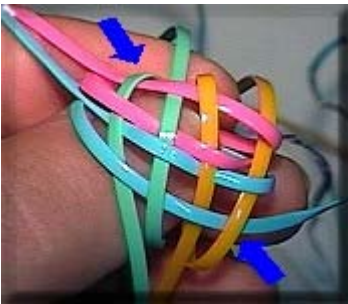
Do the same thing with the other end of the same color. **OVER** the first loop, **UNDER** the second, **OVER** the third, and **UNDER** the fourth, just like this. We've just completed the first and third Square Stitches!



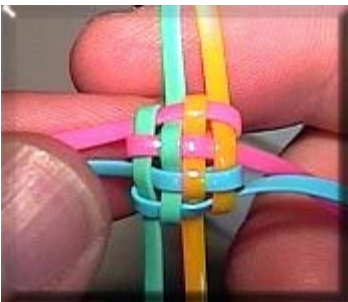
Now do the same thing with your remaining color. Take the strand on your **RIGHT**, and go **OVER** the first loop, **UNDER** the second, **OVER** the third, and **UNDER** the last loop, as shown...



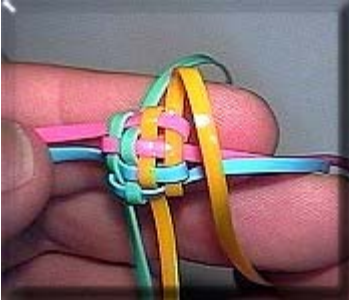
Complete the first Quad Stitch by taking your last strand **OVER** the first loop, **UNDER** the second, **OVER** the third, and **UNDER** the fourth and final loop. We've now just completed the second and fourth Square Stitches!



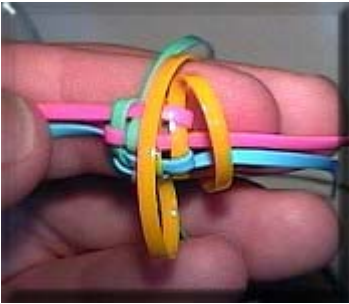
Now take a look at this stitch before you tighten it up. You'll be able to see how the strands are locked together, preventing them from falling apart on you, as shown by the blue arrows. You should now tighten this first stitch by first pulling one set of strands, like the pink and baby blue, and then pull the other set, the lime and goldenrod.



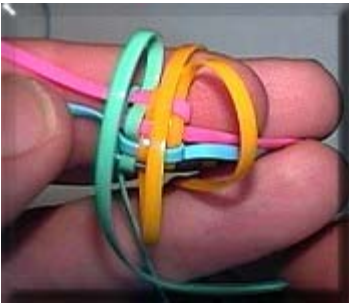
After pulling the strands tight, our first Quad Stitch is complete! Can you see the **FOUR** Square Stitches that make up the Quad Stitch? (lime/pink, goldenrod/pink, lime/baby blue, and goldenrod/baby blue)



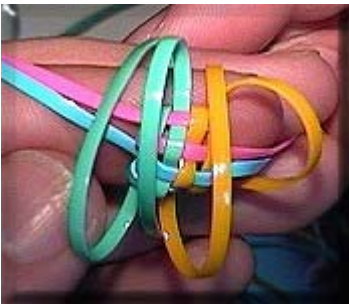
Let's do one more Quad Stitch. Start by making one loop...



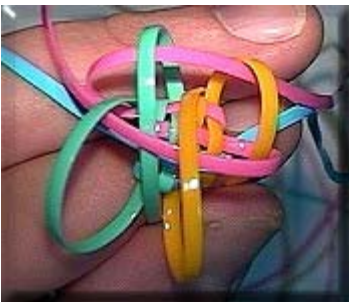
...and then a second...



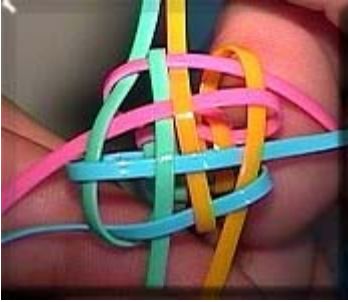
...and a third...



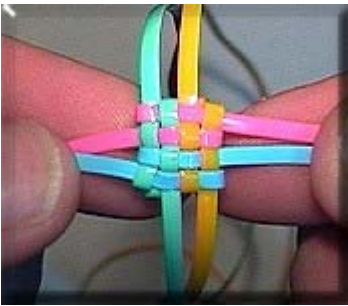
...and finish by making a fourth loop. Note how each loop strand lies directly on top of the same color from the previous stitch. No crossing of strands is done with this stitch, like in the Circle family.



Now start with the top LEFT-RIGHT strand and weave it through the four loops, ALWAYS STARTING by going OVER the loop. The opposite end of the same colored strand does the same thing, again ALWAYS STARTING by going OVER the nearest loop.



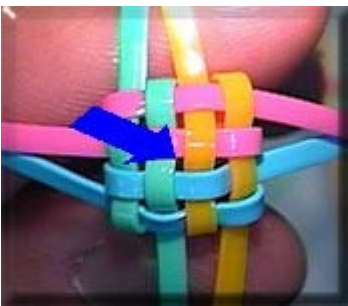
After finishing the weaves needed for the baby-blue strands. Remember that rule of thumb: **ALWAYS** go **OVER** the **NEAREST** loop, then **UNDER, OVER, UNDER**, etc.



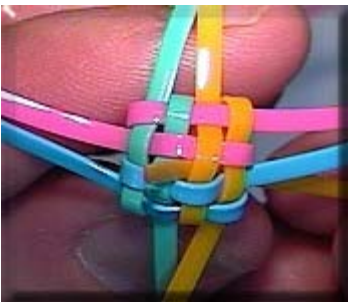
now that the second Quad Stitch is pulled tight, we're ready to repeat for as long as needed. This stitch gets **MUCH, MUCH** easier to do after completing 5 or 6 stitches, as you'll then have some of the Quad Stitch completed, which you can hold onto, while making the four loops.



The camera doesn't quite do this shot justice, as you lose the 3D look of this stitch, but you can get the general idea of what the stitch looks like after completing 3 inches or so.

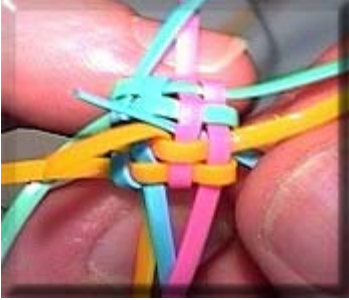


Now to complete this one, I'm going to do something a little different. I want to pass each of the eight strands around the loop next to it, then under and up through the **CENTER** hole in the stitch. The blue arrow shows you the center hole.



After passing the first of eight strands through this center hole. (The yellow strand I'm passing is the one that exits the stitch at the **BOTTOM** of this shot. It goes **AROUND** the baby blue stitch next to it, then **UNDER** the baby blue and **UP THROUGH** the center hole.)

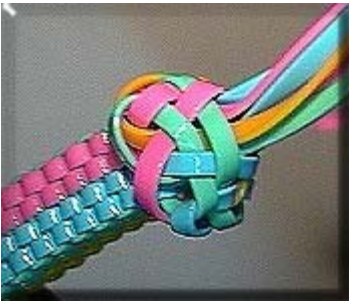




The next strand, the baby blue one, goes **AROUND** the pink strand next to it, then **UNDER** the pink and **UP** through the center hole. Repeat for the remaining six strands.



After all eight have been passed through, and just before pulling them all tight. When pulling, do **NOT** pull all eight strands at the same time, but instead do **EACH** strand **SEPARATELY**, starting with the first strand you pushed through...



...pulling each strand in sequence, until you have a uniformly tightened the end all the way around.



**The Quad Stitch, properly completed!**

# The SuperBrick Stitch

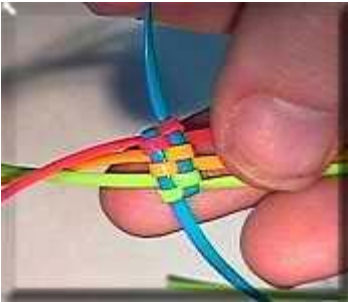


Also referred to as "Wall", the SuperBrick Stitch is nothing more than **THREE** Square Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need four strands of scoubidou, three of the same length, and a fourth that is approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as one of the first three. For me, I can get almost two inches of superbrick when my shorter strands are three feet long each.

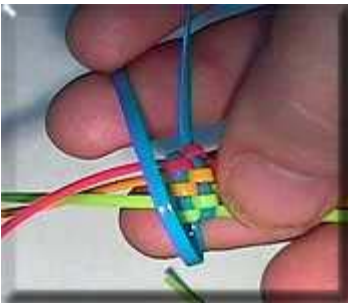
First, [FIND THE CENTERS](#) of the three short strands...

Next, [FIND THE CENTER](#) of the longer strand...

Using the centers, create a [STARTER SUPERBRICK STITCH](#) before continuing...

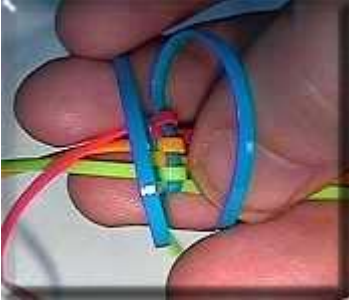


Hold a "starter superbrick stitch" as shown.

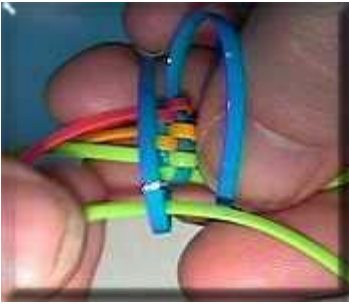


Bring the far strand **UP** and **OVER** towards you to form the first loop...

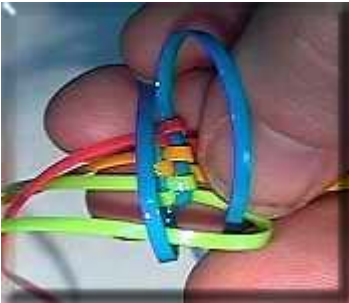




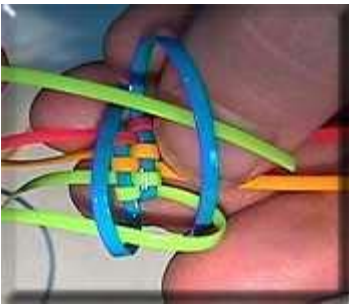
Now take the near strand **UP** and **OVER** away from you to form the second **LOOP**, next to the first.



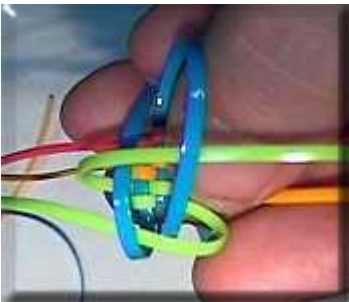
Start the **WEAVE** by taking the short strand farthest from you **UP** and **OVER** the nearest loop, then **UNDER** the farthest loop...



...and pull it all the way through.



The second strand comes **UP** and **OVER** from the other side, then **UNDER** the far loop...



...and is pulled through as well.

# The SuperBrick Stitch

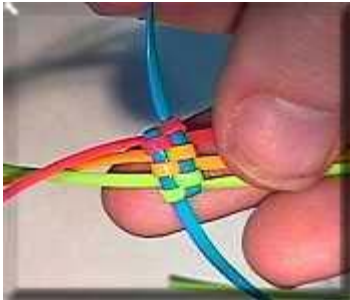


Also referred to as "Wall", the SuperBrick Stitch is nothing more than **THREE** Square Stitches side by side. To start this stitch, you'll need four strands of scoubidou, three of the same length, and a fourth that is approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as one of the first three. For me, I can get almost two inches of superbrick when my shorter strands are three feet long each.

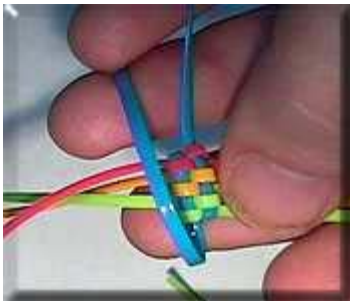
First, [FIND THE CENTERS](#) of the three short strands...

Next, [FIND THE CENTER](#) of the longer strand...

Using the centers, create a [STARTER SUPERBRICK STITCH](#) before continuing...



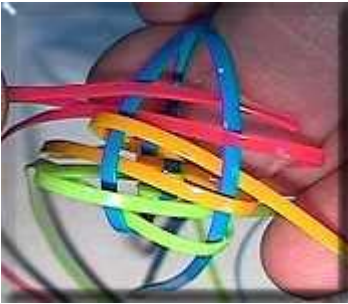
Hold a "starter superbrick stitch" as shown.



Bring the far strand **UP** and **OVER** towards you to form the first loop...



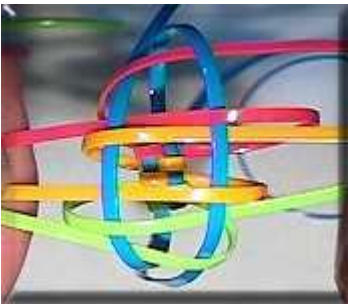
This **SHOULD** be getting easy for you now! Pull it on through!



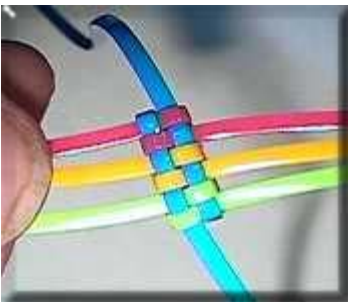
Last strand... You know what to do, right?!?



...and after we've pulled it through!



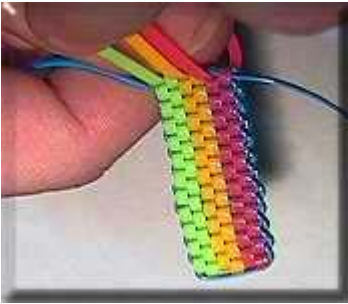
Double check all your weaves before you start pulling! See how we have nothing but **THREE SQUARE** stitches here...



Pull all the strands tight...



...repeat the above, and it should begin to look like this...



...and here it is from the side!

Continue working the SuperBrick Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 4 inches long, then do a **SUPERBRICK COMPLETION STITCH** to finish off the project.



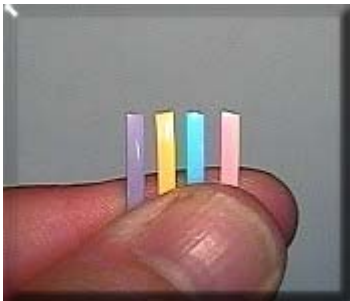
**A SuperBrick Stitch Project, properly completed!**

# The Tornado Stitch

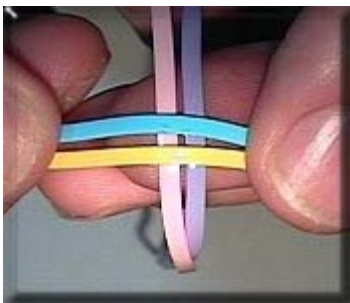


The Tornado Stitch is another slightly more complex stitch; the cousin of the Quad Stitch. Think of this stitch as four Circle Stitches, arranged in a square, versus a rectangle, as in Twist or CorkScrew. You'll need four strands of scoubidou for this stitch, each being the SAME length. There are NO long strands used in this stitch. With strands 4-feet long, I can make between 4 and 6-inches of Twist, depending on how tightly I pull the stitches.

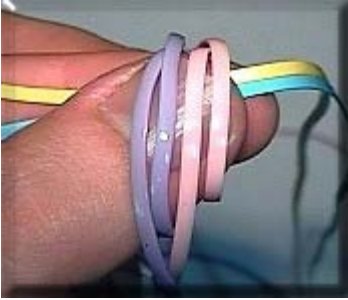
RECOMMENDATION: You should know how to do the [Circle Stitch](#) and [Twist Stitch](#) before attempting this stitch. If you have additionally done a [CorkScrew Stitch](#), this is even better, as you'll have more experience working with this many strands. I might also suggest that you either complete, or refer to, the [Quad Stitch](#) page before attempting this stitch.



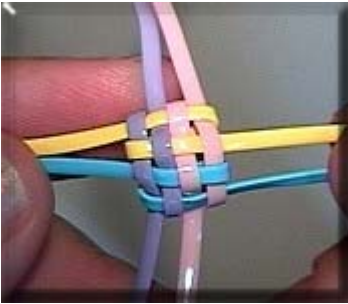
Start with four strands of scoubidou, each cut to the SAME length. I'll use lilac, pastel yellow, baby blue, and pink in this example.



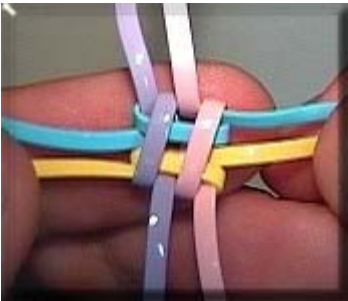
After [finding the centers](#), place the centers of two of the strands across the centers of the other two, like this...



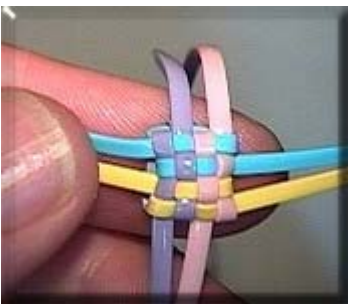
Make four loops and proceed to make one [Quad Stitch](#)...



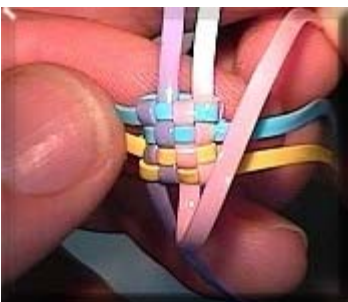
...after tightening the Quad Stitch, we're ready to continue.



I want to hide the large loops at the top of this stitch, simply for looks sake, so I'll turn the stitch UPSIDE DOWN, so I'm looking at the large loops.

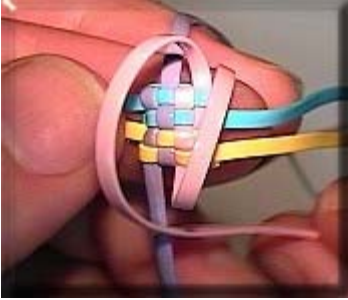


Create one additional Quad Stitch and pull this one VERY tightly, so as to shrink the end as much as possible. (You could simply do one Tornado Stitch here, but as this is your first time, stick to something you know.)

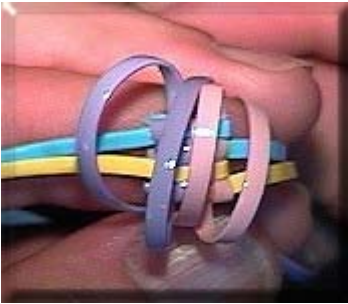


Remember that the Tornado is four Circle Stitches. When you create your initial four loops, START with one of the central strands and make your loop CROSS OVER to the other side of the same colored strand, as I am doing here with one of the pink strands.

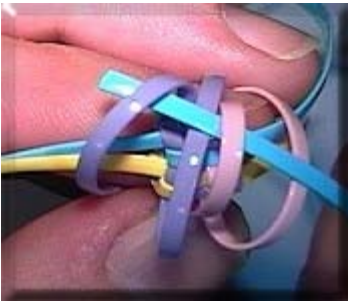




The other end of this strand (the other pink one) also needs to **CROSS OVER** the pink strands in the earlier stitch to form its loop. Note the loops sit **SIDE BY SIDE**. You do **NOT** cross the pink loops, just the underlying stitch.



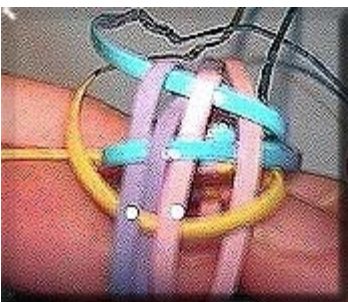
The second strand forms its loops the same way. Starting with the one in the center, **CROSS OVER** the earlier stitch, so that this strand now becomes an **OUTSIDE** strand. Your remaining strand also **CROSSES OVER** the earlier stitch, now becoming the second central strand.



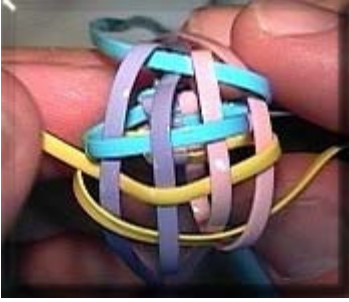
Here's where people goof up doing the "circle" stitches. The first stitch you weave with should **ALWAYS** be one of the **CENTRAL** strands. In this case, I'm starting with the baby blue strand on the right side of the stitch, which if you look closely, is on the **INSIDE** of the earlier stitch.



Now I can do the outside baby blue stitch, following the same rule of thumb used in Quad: **ALWAYS** go **OVER** the **NEAREST** loop, then **UNDER**, **OVER**, and **UNDER**. If you **ALWAYS** start with an **OVER**, and your stitch falls apart, you made an error in the placement of your first four loops.



Now for the last strand. Remember, start with the **INNER** strand, then go **OVER**, **UNDER**, **OVER**, and **UNDER**. This shot was quite fuzzy, but you can see that its placed correctly.



After completing the last strand, notice how this stitch is also locked in place in the same two locations that the Quad Stitch was. If your stitch falls apart on you, it means you forgot to **CROSS OVER** something, either in the initial placement of your four loops, or in one or more of your weaves.



Zoomed in a bit, so as to show the detail of this stitch, here's what an inch or two of Tornado looks like.



**The Tornado Stitch, properly completed!**

## The Fluted Columns Stitch

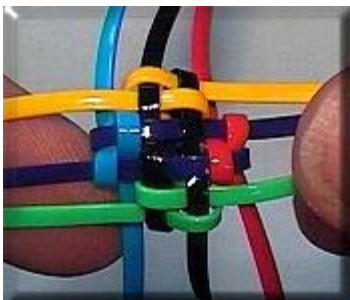


The Fluted Columns Stitch looks really complicated, and although complex, it's not really that hard to do, provided you take your time. This stitch is nothing more than a SuperBrick stitch, with a Square Stitch on each side. You'll need SIX strands of scoubidou for this stitch, 2 long and 4 short, where the long strands are ALWAYS 2-feet longer than the short. With short strands 3-feet long, I was able to create a project 3-inches long.

Create a [STARTER FLUTED COLUMNS STITCH](#) before continuing...



Here's the "Starter Fluted Columns" stitch completed. Note the positions of the blue and red strands, as these were the last two strands we were working with.



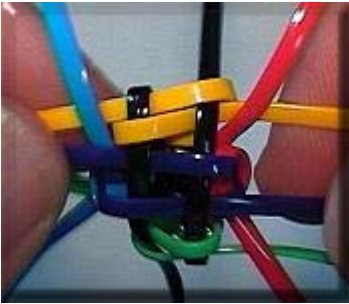
To start the next Fluted Columns Stitch, you need to swap the strands around, so the yellow and green strands lie on TOP of the blue and red strands. BOTH yellow and BOTH green strands should be on TOP of the blue and red strands before continuing.



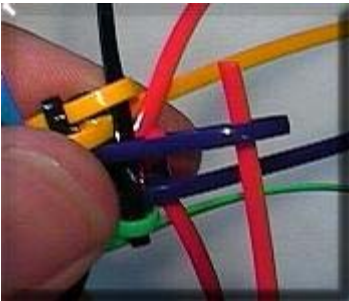
Now, forgetting about the blue and red strands for the moment, do another SuperBrick stitch by making two loops out of your black strands, then weaving the yellow, purple, and green strands through the loops...



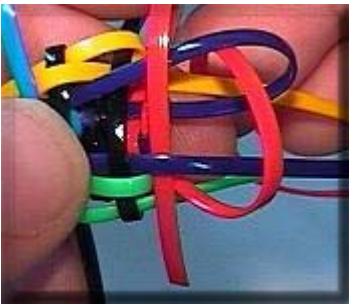
...like this. Leave the stitch loose for the next step...



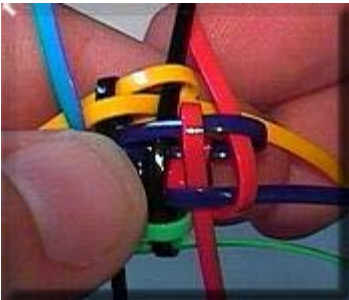
...which you'll need to get ready for by placing the blue and red strands **ON TOP** of the yellow and green strands (just as they were when we started the stitch).



Push one purple strand end back through the stitch to form a loop on one side, then take the end of the red strand on the side of the single purple strand **OVER** the single strand and **THROUGH** the purple loop...

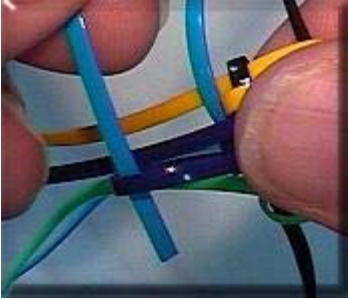


...and then take the other end of the red strand **OVER** the purple loop and **UNDER** the single purple strand...

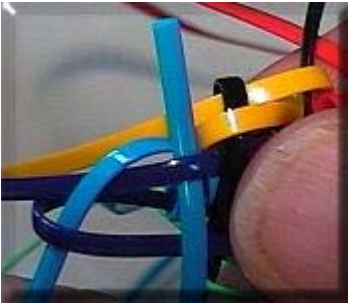


...to complete the first Square Stitch!





Push the other end of the purple strand back through the stitch to make a loop on the other side, then take the blue end on the side of the single purple strand **OVER** the single purple strand and **THROUGH** the purple loop as shown.



While the other end of the blue strand goes **OVER** the purple loop, then **UNDER** the single purple strand...



...to complete the second Square Stitch!



Take turns pulling **SLOWLY**, first three strands on one side, then three strands on the other side, to complete your next stitch. Repeat the above as often as needed.

Continue working the Fluted Columns Stitch until the **SHORTEST** working strand you have is between 5½ and 6 inches long, then do a **FLUTED COLUMNS COMPLETION STITCH** to finish off the project.



A Fluted Columns Stitch Project, properly completed!

## Finishing Stitches

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## Triangle Completion Stitch

This is a slightly longer page, as I'm covering TWO completion stitches. If you started your Triangle Stitch by knotting together three strands of scoubidou, then continue reading to see how to clean up the knotted end, but if you've just completed a bunch of Triangle and have some short tassel ends left, click [HERE](#) to jump to where you need to start...



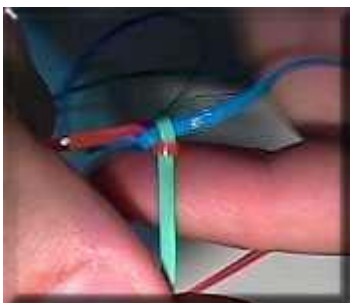
After you've completed 5 or 6 Triangle Stitches, turn the project around, so you're looking at the Granny Knot you started with...



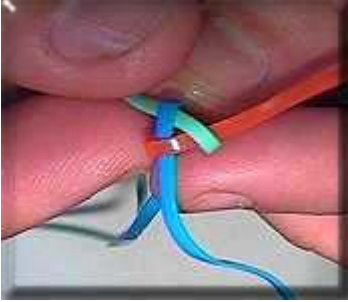
...untie the knot by pushing the loose ends into the knot...



...and then pull the strands straight, as they'll have begun taking on the shape of the knot.



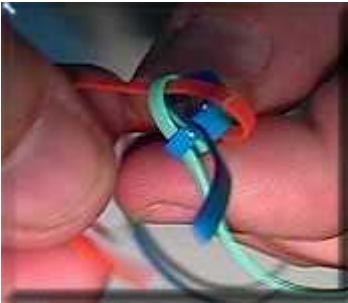
Notice that this end looks the same as our working end. Working from this end, do TWO additional Triangle Stitches to hide the bends and twists created from the Granny Knot...



...then do one more stitch, but leave it loose.



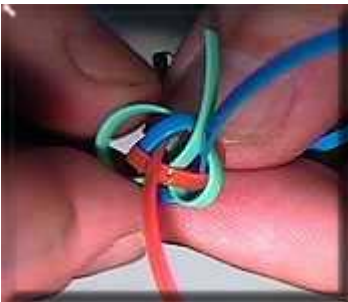
Take one strand and go UNDER the strand next to it. (Here, I'm taking the BLUE strand UNDER the RED one).



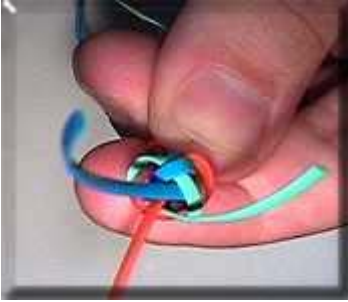
Go up into the stitch and exit through the small hole in the center of the stitch. (The BLUE went UNDER and AROUND the RED, then UP, UNDER the GREEN to exit through the center hole). Now start with the next strand...



(Here I've taken the RED strand AROUND and UNDER the BLUE to exit through the center.)



Complete the process with the third strand. (Taking the GREEN strand AROUND the BLUE and UNDER the RED to exit through the center).



When complete, all three strands should be exiting the center hole. Pull them all tight...



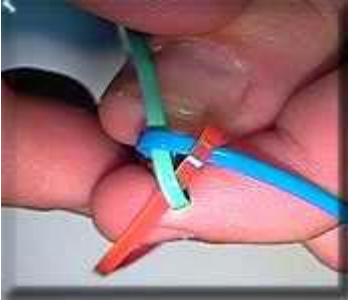
...and you're ready to snip off the excess.



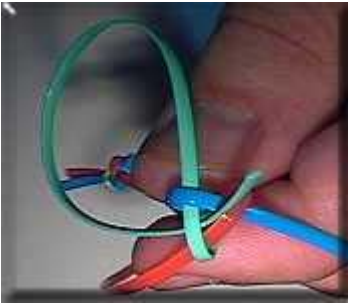
Now doesn't this look much better than the ugly Granny knot?!?



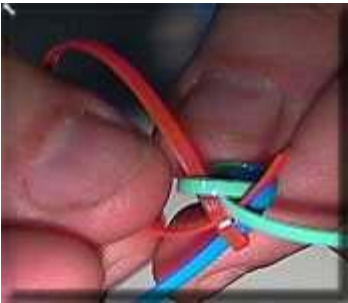
There's the completed BEGINNING... Continue reading for another run through the Completion Stitch used when you've finished doing numerous Triangle Stitches. It's the same stitch, but different photographic shots, which may prove useful in figuring out how to complete the stitch.



After you've completed as much Triangle Stitch as you'd like, it's time to give it a Proper Completion. To start, do one more Triangle Stitch, but leave it loose...



Take one working strand around the strand next to it, so that you can come UP through the center hole. (In this instance, I'm taking the GREEN strand AROUND the BLUE strand, then UP, UNDER the GREEN strand to exit through the center hole).



Go on to the second strand and do the same maneuver. (I'm taking the RED strand AROUND the GREEN strand, then UP, UNDER the RED strand to exit through the center hole).



After completing the third strand... (Where the BLUE strand went AROUND the RED, then UP and UNDER the BLUE strand to exit through the same center hole). Note that ALL THREE strands exit from this central hole.



Now, grab this loose knot close to the base of the completed stitches...



...and pull the strands with your other hand, using your first hand to push the completion knot as close as possible to the completed stitches. You may need to pull strands individually as well.



Once we're all tight, it's looking good.



Snip off your ends. If the other end of the project also ends in a Completion Stitch, try and make sure you snip the ends to about the same length as those on your starting end.



And there you have it. The Triangle Stitch!

With smaller projects, try to not make the length of these strands **LONGER** than the project itself. Remember, it's the finished scoubidou project you want people to see, not a bunch of strands!

## ***The Completion Stitch***

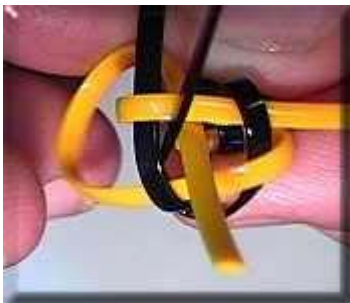
When you near completion of a project, you want to finish it off properly. This is where the Completion Stitch comes in. This stitch, or a variation OF this stitch can be performed on almost any scoubidou project you may be doing:



Start the Completion Stitch by doing one more project stitch, but leave it LOOSE. In this case, we're doing a loose Square Stitch...



Take any one strand and take it AROUND the strand to its left, then UP through the MIDDLE of the stitch. This is why you left the stitch LOOSE in the step above.



Now take the strand the first strand went around and take IT around the strand to its left, then UP through the MIDDLE as well.



Continue for the third...

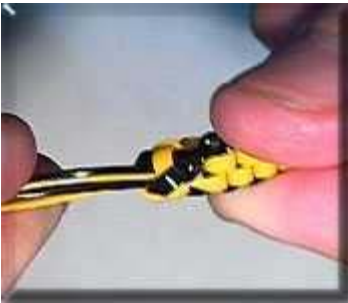




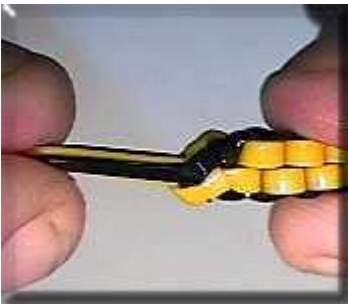
...and the last strand. Be careful with this one, as it can be hard to tell which strand you need to go around.



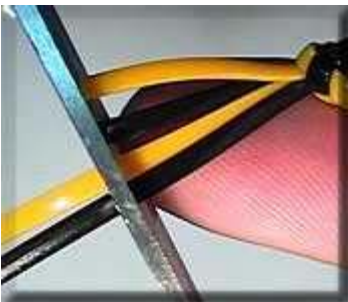
At this point, if you did everything correctly, you should note that **ALL STRANDS** come up out of the **CENTER** of the loose stitch you started with...



Slowly pull on these strands to close the gaps left in this Completion Stitch. Sometimes it helps to use one hand to push down on the stitch, while pulling the strands with the other hand.



When completed, you'll notice it has a kind of rounded effect to the end of the stitch. What remains are leftover strands of various lengths...

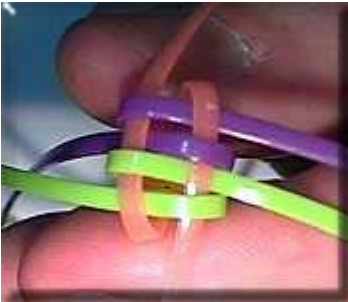


...which is where your scissors come in. Snip off the strands to a suitable length.

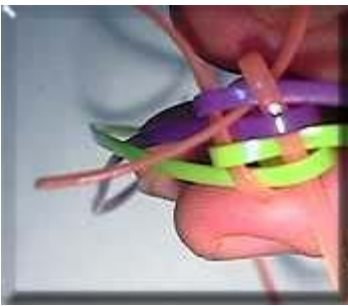
With smaller projects, try to not make the length of these strands **LONGER** than the project itself. Remember, it's the finished scoubidou project you want people to see, not a bunch of strands!

## ***The Brick Completion Stitch***

This completion stitch is used when you have six working strands, as in Brick and Twist. This is a slight variation of the Square Completion Stitch, in that we want to balance where the strands exit the project:



Start this Completion Stitch by doing one more project stitch, but leave it **LOOSE**. In this case, we're doing a loose Brick Stitch. Notice how we have **TWO** holes, one inside the **GRAPE** strands, and one inside the **APPLE GREEN** strands.



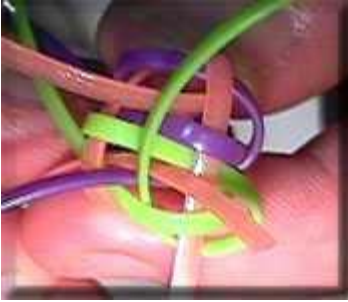
There are **SIX** strands to feed through holes in this variation. Feed **THREE** of them through one hole and **THREE** through the other. I like to start with one of the longer strands. Bring it **AROUND** the other long strand, then **UP** and **THROUGH** the hole nearest where it exited the stitch.



Moving in a clockwise direction, take the second strand **AROUND** the base of the strand next in line, then **UP** and **THROUGH** the **OTHER** hole. You should now have **ONE** strand exiting each hole.



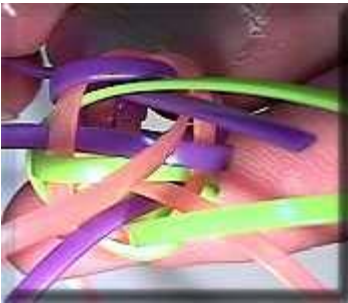
Onward to the third strand, which goes **AROUND** its neighbor, then **UP** and **THROUGH** the **SECOND** hole, just as the previous strand did.



The fourth strand should be the other end of the long strand that you started this completion stitch with. It goes **AROUND, UP, and THROUGH** the **SECOND** hole as well, making it the **THIRD** and **LAST** strand which should exit this hole.



The fifth strand does the same **AROUND, UP, and THROUGH** maneuver, however it comes up through the **FIRST** hole we created. Things are beginning to look pretty messy now! hehe



Here's the last strand. Do the same 3-step maneuver and be sure it comes **THROUGH** the **FIRST** hole as well. There should now be **THREE** strands coming out of this hole, just as there are **THREE** coming from the other...



As we start to pull them tight, we can easily see the **THREE** strands exiting **TWO** holes...



...and when we finish, we have a nice, balanced, professional looking finish...

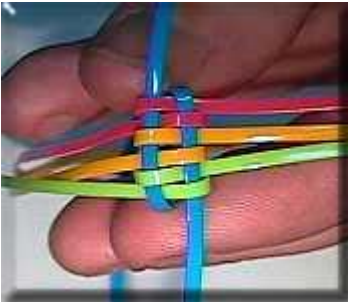


**Oh, and don't forget to snip off the tails!**

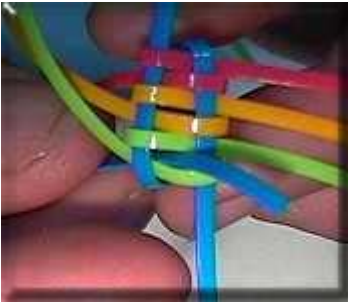
**With smaller projects, try to not make the length of these strands LONGER than the project itself. Remember, it's the finished scoubidou project you want people to see, not a bunch of strands!**

# The SuperBrick Completion Stitch

This completion stitch is used when you have eight working strands, as in SuperBrick and CorkScrew. This is a slight variation of the Brick Completion Stitch, in that we want to balance where the strands exit the project:



Start this Completion Stitch by doing one more project stitch, but leave it LOOSE. In this case, we're doing a loose SuperBrick Stitch. Notice we have THREE holes, one inside the NEON RED strands, another inside the NEON TANGERINE strands, and a third inside the APPLE GREEN strands.



We have EIGHT strands to feed through this time. Feed THREE strands through the two outside holes, and TWO strands through the center hole. Start with one of the long strands. Bring it AROUND the other long strand, then UP and THROUGH the hole nearest where it exited the stitch.



Moving in a clockwise direction, take the second strand AROUND the base of the strand next in line, then UP and THROUGH the CENTER hole; the NEON TANGERINE hole in this example.



I'm going to SKIP the next strand, so as to purposely make an error, so I'll move on to the fourth strand, which goes AROUND its neighbor, then UP and THROUGH the THIRD hole.





The next strand should be the other end of the long strand that you started this completion stitch with. It goes **AROUND, UP, and THROUGH** the **THIRD** hole as well, which would have made it the **THIRD and LAST** strand to exit the **NEON RED** hole...



The sixth strand does the same **AROUND, UP, and THROUGH** maneuver, however it comes up through the **SECOND, or MIDDLE** hole we created. This makes it the last strand this hole needs!



The seventh strand comes up through the **APPLE GREEN** hole, making it the second strand to exit from here.



The eighth and last strand also comes up through the **APPLE GREEN** hole. This is the **LAST** strand to come through the **APPLE GREEN** hole.



Now back to that strand we missed earlier. Turning the work up, so we can see the side of the stitch, remember we need to work in a clockwise direction. Can you see the curved **NEON RED** stitch that we need to bring the **NEON TANGERINE** strand up through...





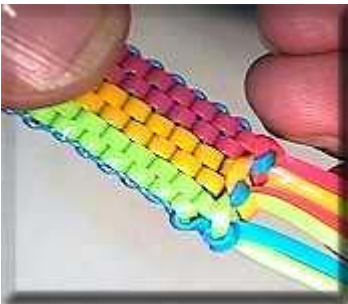
Feed the **NEON TANGERINE** strand under the **NEON RED** strand, so that it comes up inside the **NEON RED** hole...



...sorta like this. (I know it's kind of hard to see, but trust me! hehe)



Before we start to pull this completion stitch tight, check to make sure you have **THREE** strands exiting the **OUTER** holes, and **TWO** strands exiting the **INNER** hole...



...and start to pull them tight. Just a little more pulling...



and there you have it!



Only one thing is missing...



...snip off the tails!

With smaller projects, try to not make the length of these strands **LONGER** than the project itself. Remember, it's the finished scoubidou project you want people to see, not a bunch of strands!

## ***The Fluted Columns Completion Stitch***

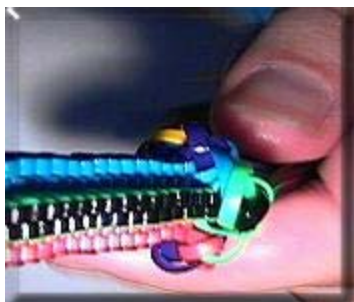
This completion stitch is used when you have twelve working strands, as in Fluted Columns and Fluted Twist. This is a slight variation of the Quad Completion Stitch, in that we want to balance where the strands exit the project:



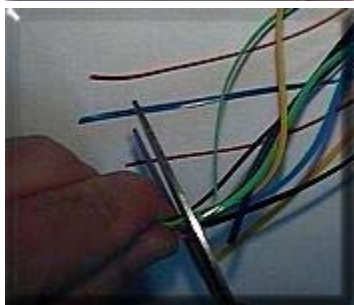
Do one more Fluted Columns Stitch, but leave the entire stitch a bit loose, like this...



Where you place the strands will really be up to you, but try and have them come up through a hole that is NEAR where the strand exits the stitch. Here, I'm about half done with the completion stitch.



After all strands have come up through a hole, but BEFORE I've pulled them tight, we can see how the Completion Stitch somewhat crowns the project work.



Snip off the excess to complete the project. For this project, I snipped half the strands at one angle, then turned the project around and snipped the other half, giving the entire project a somewhat pointed look.



I just had to get a closeup shot of this stitch, as it's this 90-degree turn that makes this stitch so neat. This is definately the eye-catcher of this stitch, as it makes people say, "How'd You Do That?", and now you know! :-)

## ***Fancy Finished Tassels***



With most of the scoubidou projects you create, you'll have a series of loose ends, or tassels, hanging from the bottom of your project, similar to those shown above...

As I mentioned earlier, in the completion stitch pages, you don't want these tassels to be very long, as it's the scoubidou stitches themselves you want to show off, not the loose ends. However, for a lot of projects, you *will* have these ends on your projects. We can do a bit of additional work to make these ends truly become tassels by sprucing up what they look like, as shown in the following examples. You may also be able to come up with some ideas of your own for making the tassels come alive...



The easiest end is, in my opinion, also the most boring. You can carefully cut the tassel end directly across its width creating a straight edge to the tassel.



Here's one of my favorites, and it's pretty easy to do also. Simply cut each edge at a slight diagonal angle. Try cutting the angles all in the same direction, or cut one color in one direction, and the other end of the same color in the opposite direction.



This one is similar to the above, but takes a little more time, as you're having to cut along a longer section of the edge, and if you're not careful, you'll end up creating the short diagonal shown above.



This one also takes a bit of work, but looks really nice when completed. You cut this one similar to the short diagonal shown two above, however you make the diagonal cut end at the middle of the width, instead of all the way across. You then turn the strand over and create the other diagonal half-cut.



This is probably the hardest one to cut. It's the opposite of the above, where you start the cut at one corner of the end, cutting up into the center of the strand. Turn the strand over and cut from the other corner up into the center again to meet the first cut. This cut comes in handy when creating the Cobra Bracelet and/or Necklace, as it makes the loose end look like the cobra's tongue.



This last example is one where I went a bit overboard. Try not to overdo your fancy tassels, again for the reason that you want people to first notice the work you put into the actual scoubidou stitches. These fancy ends are just the whipped cream on top of the dessert! Hehe!

Finally, you can use a combination of one or more of the above in one project. Some of the ends look better when used in tandem with their buddy. For instance, try using the pointed end with the fluted end, especially when you use one cut on one end and the opposite cut on the other strand of the same color. This gives the illusion that the two ends go together.



# Scoubidou Projects

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## Simple Zipper Pulls



Square Stitch, 2 Colors, 2 Feet Long, 1 Lanyard Hook

### Things You Will Need:

- At least **TWO** strands of boondoggle:
  - Zipper Pull strands are 2 - 3 feet long.
  - Key Chain strands are 5 - 6 feet long.
- 1 Lanyard Hook <OR> 1 Split Ring.
- Scissors



Circle Stitch, 2 Colors, 2½ Feet Long, 1 Lanyard Hook

### For a Zipper Pull, do the following:

- Choose any ONE boondoggle stitch. I recommend using one of these: [square](#), [circle](#), [brick](#), [twist](#), [superbrick](#), [corkscrew](#), or one of the complex stitches: quad, cross, fluted column, or fluted spiral.



Brick Stitch, 3 Colors, 2, 2 & 3 Feet Long, 1 Lanyard Hook

- Choose your colors, then start your chosen stitch. (Again, click the name of the stitch you chose from the step above to find out how to DO the stitch, then continue).



Twist Stitch, 3 Colors, 2, 2 & 3 Feet Long, 1 Lanyard Hook

- Continue doing stitches until you've completed between 1 and 1½ inches, which is about 20 to 30 stitches, then do the appropriate [completion](#) stitch.



SuperBrick Stitch, 4 Colors, 2½, 2½ & 3½ Feet Long, 1 Split Ring

- Trim your tassel ends to between ½ and ¾ of an inch long, and make them [fancy](#)!



CorkScrew Stitch, 4 Colors, 2½, 2½ & 3½ Feet Long, 1 Split Ring

- Choose a lanyard hook if the stitch you chose used four working strands, a split ring if your stitch used eight or more strands, and your choice of either if you chose a five or six strand stitch.



A Lanyard Hook



A Split Ring

## Simple Key Chains

Identical to the above, except you continue doing stitches until you have between 3 and 4 inches, which is about 50 to 60 stitches. Your completed tassels should be about an inch long. The greatest and most loved key chains are usually made using a stitch with 6 or more strands.



Combination Fluted Column & Fluted Spiral, 6 Colors,  
5, 5, 5, 5, 6½, and 6½ Feet Long, 1 Split Ring

The above is a 4-inch combination fluted column/fluted spiral key chain that uses a split ring. Here's a closeup showing the detail of this stitch. It's one of the tougher stitches, but I'll show you how to do one of these soon! :-)



The above was **NOT SIMPLE!** It used 4 black strands of 5, 5, 6½,  
and 6½ feet long, and 5 foot long apple green and neon tangerine strands.

# Combination Zipper Pulls

## Reverse Square



Reverse Square: 2 Colors (Apple Green & Grape Shown)

### To Create Reverse Square, You Need:

- Two Strands of Boondoggle, each:
  - 3 feet long, if making a Zipper Pull.
  - 6 feet long, if making a Key Chain.
- 1 Lanyard Hook.
- Scissors

### Do the following:

1. Start a [Square Stitch](#).
2. Do TEN (10) [Square Stitches](#).
3. Do TWO (2) [Circle Stitches](#).
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 TWO times.
5. Do a [Completion Stitch](#).
6. Create [Fancy Tassels](#).
7. Add the Lanyard Hook.

## Twisted Brick



Twisted Brick: 3 Colors (Holo Silver, Green, & Purple Shown)

### To Create Twisted Brick, You Need:

- Three Strands of Boondoggle:
  - 2 strands 3 feet, 1 strand 4½ feet (Zipper Pull).
  - 2 strands 4½ feet, 1 strand 6 feet (Key Chain).
- 1 Lanyard Hook.
- Scissors

### Do the following:

1. Start a [Brick Stitch](#).
  - I crossed the green and purple strands BEFORE creating the Starter Stitch. In this way, you get the colored effect shown (where the two central loops are one color, while the two outside loops are the other color).
2. Do TEN (10) [Brick Stitches](#).
3. Do ELEVEN (11) [Twist Stitches](#).
  - I did eleven stitches so that when you resume the Brick Stitch, the colors will be reversed. The color that was on the outside is now on the inside and vice-versa. A slight physical twist of the completed project will properly line up the two Brick ends.
4. Do TEN (10) [Brick Stitches](#).
5. Do a [Completion Stitch](#).
6. Create [Fancy Tassels](#).
7. Add the Lanyard Hook.



## Twisted SuperBrick



Twisted SuperBrick: 4 Colors (Key Chain Shown)  
(Purple, Neon Green, White, & Goldenrod Shown)

### To Create Twisted SuperBrick, You Need:

- Four Strands of Boondoggle:
  - 3 strands 3 feet, 1 strand 5 feet (Zipper Pull).
  - 3 strands 5 feet, 1 strand 6½ feet (Key Chain).
- Scissors

### Do the following:

1. Start a [SuperBrick Stitch](#).
2. Do TWELVE (12) [SuperBrick Stitches](#).
3. Do TEN (10) [CorkScrew Stitches](#).
4. If a Zipper Pull, do TEN (10) additional [CorkScrew Stitches](#), then proceed to step 6.
5. If a Key Chain, repeat steps 2 and 3 ONCE, and step 2 ONCE MORE.
6. Do a [Completion Stitch](#).
7. Pull ends TIGHT, then set aside 24 hours.
8. Snip ends off right at the last stitch.

## Twisted SuperBrick



Split Brick: 4 Colors (Zipper Pull Shown)  
(2 Purple, 1 White, 1 Goldenrod Shown)

### To Create Split Brick, You Need:

- Four Strands of Boondoggle:
  - each 3½ feet long, for a Zipper Pull.
  - each 6 feet long, for a Key Chain.
- Two Pony Beads (Use 4 for a Key Chain).
- For a Zipper Pull, 1 Lanyard Hook.
- For a Key Chain, 1 Split Ring.
- Scissors

### Do the following:

1. Start a [SuperBrick Stitch](#).
2. Do TWO (2) [SuperBrick Stitches](#).
3. Separate the eight working strands into 2 groups of four:
  - Each group contains one end strand, the two matching colored strands closest to the end strand, and the nearest strand from the central colored pair to the two matching colored strands.
4. Start a [Square Stitch](#) from each group:
  - Use the central working strand as the opposite for the end strand.
5. Do EIGHT (8) [Square Stitches](#) on each side.
6. Do ONE (1) LOOSE [Square Stitch](#) on each side.
7. Insert a PONY BEAD inside the loose stitch.
  - NONE of the strands go through the Pony Bead.
8. Do ONE (1) [Square Stitch](#) on each side and pull tight.
  - This will lock the Pony Bead in place.
9. Do SEVEN (7) additional [Square Stitches](#) on each side.
10. Placing both Square Stitch ends side by side, orient the working strands and create a [SuperBrick Stitch](#).
11. Do TWO (2) additional [SuperBrick Stitches](#).

12. If a Zipper Pull, do a [Completion Stitch](#), create [Fancy Tassels](#), and add the Lanyard Hook.
13. If a Key Chain, repeat steps 3 thru 11 ONCE, then do a [Completion Stitch](#), create [Fancy Tassels](#), and add a Split Ring.

# Fishy Zipper Pulls

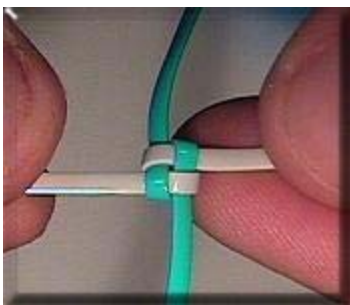


Fishy Pull, 2 Colors (Grey & Turquoise Shown)

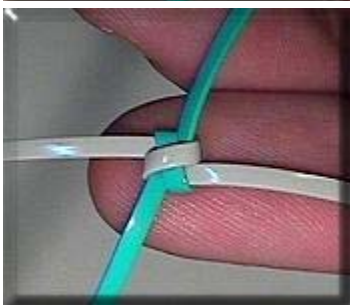
## Things You Will Need:

- Two strands of boondoggle, each 4 feet long.
- 1 Lanyard Hook.
- Scissors

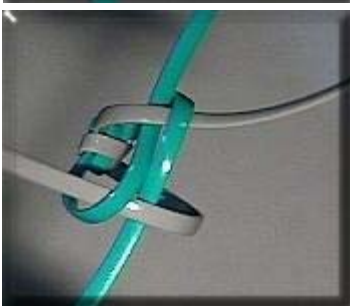
## How to Create Above Fishy Pull:



Create a Starter [Square Stitch](#)...



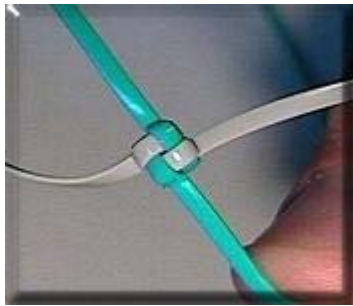
Turn the Starter Square Stitch over, so you're looking at the "cross" side...



Do a [Square Stitch](#) to cover the "cross" side...



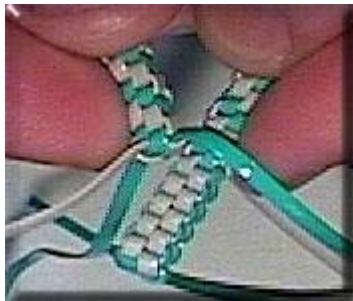
When tightened, you won't be able to tell the difference from this side...



And the bottom, but when the entire project is completed, BOTH tail ends of the fishy will have the checkerboard showing...



Do 7 additional Square Stitches, followed by 70 Circle Stitches, which will look like this when you finish.



Now comes the tough part. Bend the Circle Stitch end around, so it meets where your original Square Stitch turns into Circle Stitch and create a Square Stitch OVER the completed Square/Circle junction...



Which will look sort of like this when done...



Continue the Square Stitch another 7 times, so you have 8 Square Stitches in all. Pull the last Square Stitch really tight, then set the Fishy aside for at least 12 hours. Trim the strands as close as possible to the finished work.



Using something thin and blunt, like a push pin, stretch out one of your stitches about where the mouth of the fish would be, then insert a Lanyard Hook.



You may need to twist and/or pull the tail pieces a bit to get them in the right orientation, but when you're done, you'll have a completed Fishy Pull. Cool, huh?!?

## Other Fishy Ideas:

- Try the opposite of the above, where you use Circle Stitch for the tail, and Square Stitch for the body.
- Try using the SAME stitch for the entire Fishy!
- Try using FOUR COLORS for your Fishy. To do this, tie the ends of four different colored boondoggle into a half-granny knot (the knot you start with when tying your shoes). Be sure to leave between 1 and 1½ inches of strand coming out of the knot. After you complete 5 stitches, untie the knot, and do an additional 3 stitches from the knotted end. Trim the excess ends at the same time you trim the final ends, AFTER you let it sit at least 12 hours.
- Try attaching the Lanyard Hook to the TOP of the Fishy, where it's top fin would normally be found.



## Creating a Rocket Ship

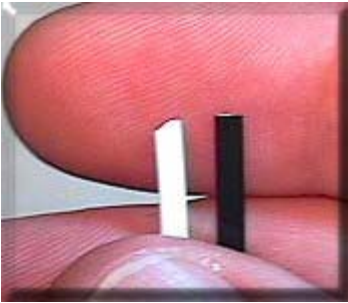


The Rocket Ship can be made in many different ways. I'll show you one way here, while there's a picture of a slightly different looking Rocket Ship below.

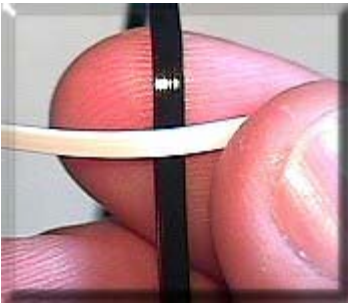


Instructions for this alternate Rocket are located [HERE](#). This project makes use of many different stitches. You should know how to do ALL of the following BEFORE starting this project: [Square](#), [Brick](#), [SuperBrick](#), Wall (which is created just like SuperBrick), and [Twist](#). To create the smaller version Rocket that will be shown here, you'll need six strands of boondoggle: one that is 4 feet long, and five that are 2 feet long. Add a foot to both measurements if you'd like to make a slightly larger version, like the alternate Rocket located [HERE](#). The Rocket shown here measures two and a half inches long, from tip to lowest end of

engines; three and a half inches long if you include the tassels that make the fire.



As stated above, this project **USES** six strands of boondoggle; however, you **START** the project with only two strands. Start with your long strand (4-5 feet long) and one of your short strands (2-3 feet long). I'll start with a white strand (my long one) and a black strand (one of my five short ones).



After [Finding the Centers](#), we need to start a [Square Stitch](#)...



...which should look similar to this. The Square will become the top of our rocket; it's tip...



Continue to do **FOUR** more Square Stitches, so you have **FIVE** stitches total, as shown here.



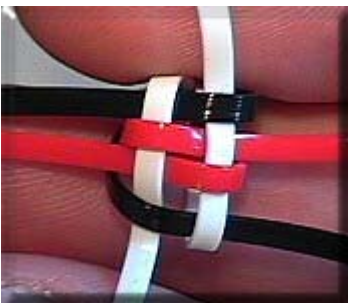
Now we're ready to insert another strand. Take another of your short (2-3 foot long) strands and find the center of this strand. I'll be using a Red strand here.



I want to **INSERT** this new (Red) strand **IN BETWEEN** the two Black strands, so I lie the red strand's center right over the finished Square Stitch. I show it on an angle, but only for visual clarity. It will actually be used **BETWEEN** the two Black strands.



We'll now expand the Square stitch into a [Brick stitch](#). Create two loops with your White strands right over the Black and Red strands...



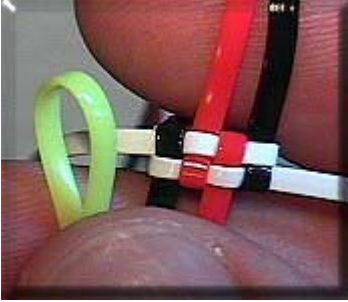
After weaving the four loose strands, first starting with one of the Black strands, then a Red strand, the other Red strand, and completing with the remaining Black strand. You should now note the Red strands are sitting **IN BETWEEN** the two Black strands...



You should now pull this new Brick stitch tight. Don't worry if it looks like the stitch wants to bend it's way around the Square stitch you created earlier. The following steps will straighten it out. In fact, if you **DON'T** pull the stitch tight, when you complete the next step, you'll see some fat White loops on the side of your Rocket that don't look quite right, so **PULL IT TIGHT!** ;-)



Continue doing **FOUR** additional Brick stitches, so your project looks like this. Count the number of Red loops you see on **ONE** side of your Rocket to determine how many stitches you've done. You should have **FIVE** small loop bumps in between the two Black columns.



We're now ready to insert our 4th strand (the 3rd short strand). Find it's center before continuing. I'm using Neon Yellow for this strand. We'll now expand the Brick stitch into the [SuperBrick](#) stitch.



Take the CENTER of the new strand (Neon Yellow shown here) and place it ON TOP OF your completed Brick stitch, so it lies BETWEEN your two Red strands (the third strand you used), as shown here. Make your two loops out of the White strands and weave the strands through.



Weave Black, Red, Neon Yellow, Neon Yellow, Red, and then Black to complete the first SuperBrick stitch. Remember to pull this first stitch TIGHT. It will also look a bit odd from the top view as well, as it won't seem to be as straight a rectangle as other SuperBrick stitches you may have done. Don't worry; be happy!



Now that you've got a SuperBrick stitch started, continue on and do FOUR MORE SuperBrick stitches. When you complete it, your Rocket should begin to really take shape, as shown here.



This should be getting somewhat easy by now. ;-)  
Ready your 4th short strand now by finding it's center. I'll be using a Glow-in-the-Dark Blue strand in my design. (Also, note how clean our SuperBrick stitch looks right now. See, I told you to be happy!)





Just as before, take this new strand's **CENTER** and lie it right on top of your existing SuperBrick stitch **BETWEEN** the last color you were using (the Neon Yellow in my example). You'll now expand the SuperBrick into a 4-Color Wall stitch. Any SuperBrick stitch created using **MORE THAN THREE** colors we like to call **WALL**. You start Wall the same way you do SuperBrick, only with some additional strands...



Make your loops out of the White strands and then weave your short strands through it. Remember to pull this new Wall stitch **TIGHT**, which will really look ugly! ;-)



**QUIZ TIME!** hehe. How many 4-Color Wall stitches do you think I'm going to ask you to do right now?!? Not sure? Count the Glow-Blue bumps you see in this shot. That's right, **FOUR MORE**, so you'll have **FIVE** stitches total!



Wow, we're moving right along, aren't we?!? There's only **ONE STRAND LEFT!** Mine is a Kelly Green strand. After finding it's center...



...I'll lie it right on top of the 4-Color Wall, **BETWEEN** the two Glow-Blue strands, and get ready to further expand this 4-Color Wall into a 5-Color Wall.



After making my loops and weaving all the short strands, I tighten the stitch to create a real monster!



Just to keep this easy, let's stick with a number you already know: FOUR! After starting the 5-Color Wall, do FOUR MORE stitches of 5-Color Wall, so you have FIVE stitches total, as shown here.



I want to give the Rocket a bit more base, before working on the engines, so once you've completed the FIVE 5-Color Walls in the previous step, do FIVE MORE 5-Color Wall stitches, so you'll have TEN when you're done! You can see that our rocket is all but complete. All it needs now are some engines!

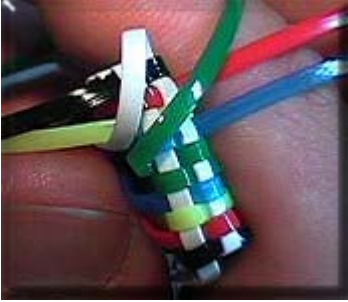


If I hold the project this way, you can see how I'm splitting the strands into TWO groups of SIX strands. Each engine will be created using the [Twist stitch](#), which needs SIX strands.

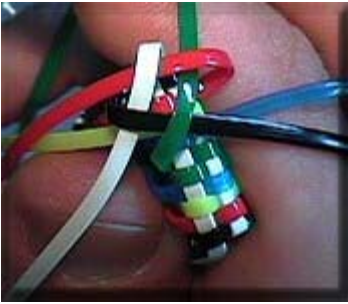


By holding the LOWER set of six strands under my fingers, they won't get in the way of starting the first Twist stitch. I'm going to use the lowermost strand of this TOP group (the Kelly Green strand) as the opposite strand to the White strand. In other words, I'm going to treat this strand as if it was one of the LONG strands, just as the White strand is.

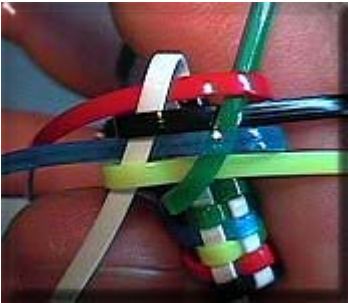




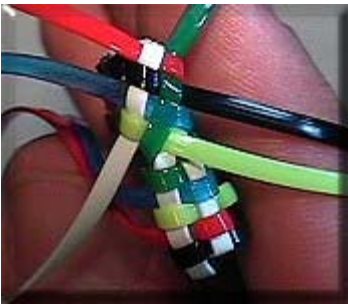
Since the [Twist stitch](#) is the cousin to the Circle stitch, we'll need to make our two loops **CROSS OVER** the center of the underlying stitch (the 5-Color Wall). Note I'm using the White and Kelly Green strands to create two diagonal loops.



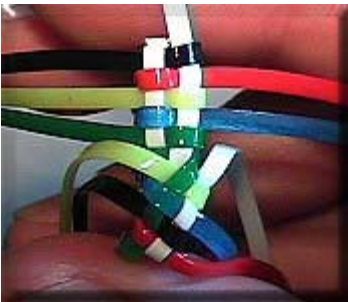
The four remaining strands must also **CROSS DIAGONALLY** while we weave them. Here, I've completed weaving the first two strands, starting with the Red strand which crosses over to the Black side, and then weave the Black strand, which crosses over to the Red side.



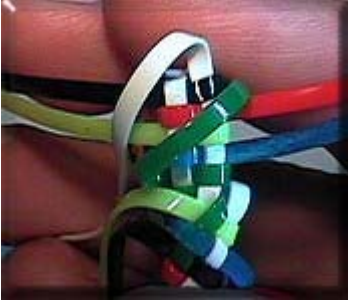
After weaving the remaining two strands; starting with the Glow-Blue, which crosses over to the Neon Yellow side, then the Neon Yellow strand, which crosses over to the Glow-Blue side. Remember, if the stitch falls apart on you, then you forgot to cross over somewhere.



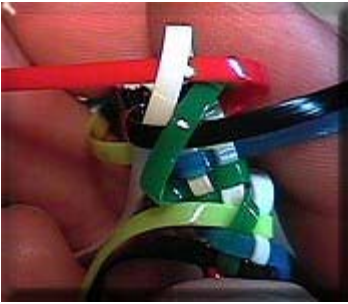
After we pull the strands tight, we can see our first completed Twist stitch.



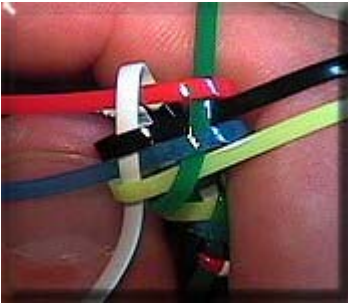
Turning the project around gets it ready to start the second engine (or the second Twist stitch). Notice that I'm holding the stitches from the first Twist stitch out of the way, so I can more easily work with the 2nd set of six strands. Just as before, I'll be using the Kelly Green strand as one of the long strands, along with the other White strand.



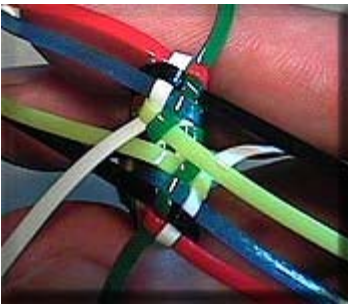
**Start by creating two diagonal loops out of the White and Kelly Green strands. This is identical to what we just did above...**



**...Start weaving the four remaining strands. I start with the Red strand, which crosses over to the Black side, and then take the Black and cross over to the Red side. (This wording reminds me of Star Wars! hehe)**



**Finish off the stitch by taking the Glow-Blue and crossing over to the Neon Yellow side, then the Neon Yellow crossing over to the Glow-Blue side.**



**Double check that all your strands are interlocked with each other and then pull the stitch tight! We now have TWO Twist stitches, created out of ONE 5-Color Wall! Wow! Cool, huh?!?**



**Now, pick your weapon! Errr, pick your side. Choose one engine to work on and do TEN MORE Twist stitches. Here's mine after engine one is down.**



Switch to the other side and do TEN MORE stitches to this side as well. Here's mine when both engines are done. You may find it easier to do ONE STITCH ON EACH SIDE, versus doing it my way, as doing the second side after the first side makes for some tight working quarters.



You now need to do a [Completion Stitch](#) on each side to finish the engines. I snipped off my tassels at about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch. The tassels act as the flames coming out of the engines, so you want them a bit longer than usual.



A Rocket Ship, properly completed!

## Another Rocketship



This alternate Rocket was created using one 5-foot strand and five  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -foot strands.

The number of stitches also differs: 5 Squares, 5 Bricks, and then one additional stitch for each new stitch, so 6 SuperBricks, then 7 of the 4-Color Walls, and then 8 of the 5-Color Walls.

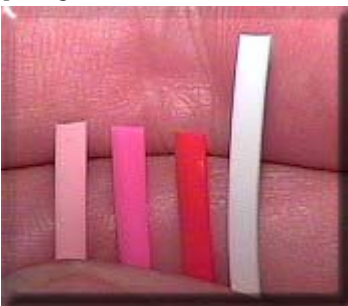
The engines are also a bit longer, using 15 additional stitches, instead of 10 as used above. This allows for a bit of reveal of the initial band of color at the bottom of each engine.

The tassels were still cut to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch, just as above.

## ***Creating one kind of Heart***



**Making a Heart out of boondoggle isn't that hard, if you know how to do [SuperBrick](#) and [Square](#) (or [Circle](#)). You can also make a heart using [Brick](#) and [Triangle](#). To create what I'll show you here, you'll need four strands of boondoggle, each 3 feet in length. You won't need one of your strands to be longer than the others for this project, as we won't be doing much SuperBrick for this one.**



**I'll be using four colors for this one: Rose, Neon Pink, Red, and White. I'll use white as the longest strand, even though it's identical in length to the other strands for this project.**

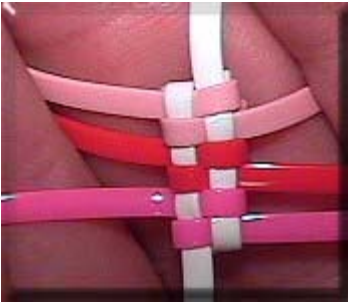


**After [Finding the Centers](#), lay the strands as shown in this shot...**

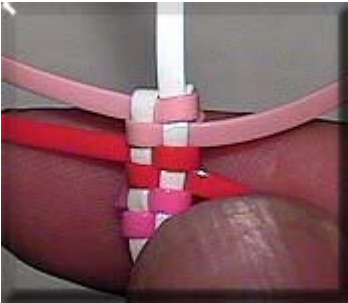




You should now start a [SuperBrick](#) stitch, and pull it snug...



Do **ONE MORE** SuperBrick stitch and pull it tight. We now need to split this SuperBrick into two Square stitches. Note how I'm holding the strands in this shot, showing you the two groups of 4 strands we'll use to make the Square stitches: White, both Roses, and the uppermost Red in one group, and the lowermost Red, both Neon Pinks, and the other White in the second group.



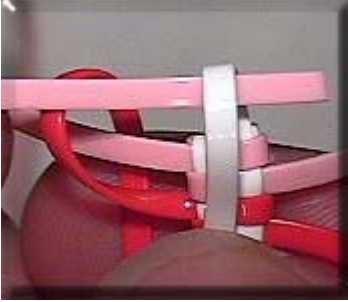
Bend the strands of the lower group out of your way, so that we can concentrate on the upper group.



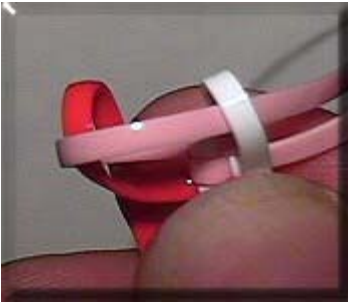
We'll use the Red strand as the opposite to the White strand when we start the Square stitch, so bend it around and next to the White strand to create the first loop.



Now take the White strand and bend it up and over next to the Red strand to create the second loop.



**Take the strand on the left (Pink here) and go OVER the Red and UNDER the White strand, as seen here...**



**...and pull it through.**



**Now take the strand on the right (the other Pink one) and go OVER the White and UNDER the Red strand...**



**...and pull it through.**



**Check the placement of the strands to insure they're all locked in place, then pull it tight. You've now completed one of the two Square stitches we'll need for this project.**





Now turn the work around, so you can work with the other group of four strands. Note how one of the strands from the first Square stitch is sitting atop the section we need to work with (the White strand in this shot).



Bend this strand out of your way, so we can repeat the above steps with this group.



Again, start with the lowest strand (Red here) and bend it up and next to your long strand (the White one shown here). This becomes the first loop.



Make your second loop out of the White strand, making sure you place it NEXT TO the first loop, NOT crossing the first loop.



Now weave your Neon Pink strands, starting with the one on your left. Go OVER the Red loop, then UNDER the white loop...



**...and pull it through!**



**Do the same for the other Neon Pink strand. OVER the White, then UNDER the Red...**



**...and pull it through!**



**After pulling it tight, we have our second Square stitch complete! Need to take a break? Now would be a good time. Ready to continue? All right, you need to do forty-nine (49) Square stitches on EACH side of the work.**



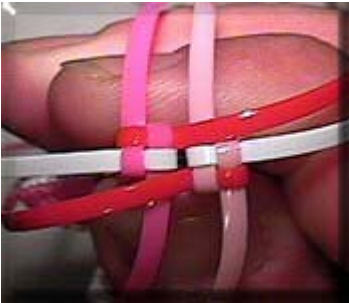
**Zoomed out a bit, here's mine after doing NINETY-EIGHT (98) Square stitches (49 on each side)!**



Before we continue, you need to make sure you've got the right number of stitches on each side. Hold the two Square ends together and look at where your long strand ends exit each stitch. (Remember that the long strands are the WHITE ones in this project). You need to make sure that BOTH White strands exit in the CENTER of the work, and that ONE exits from the TOP of it's stitch, as my left one is doing, and one exits the BOTTOM of it's stitch, as my right one is doing. If they aren't, then you'll need to add or remove stithes from the side that's wrong until they DO look like this.



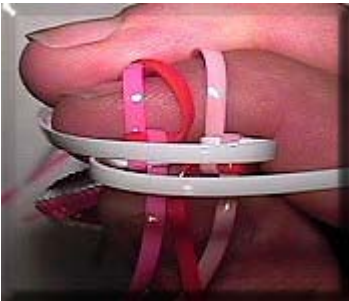
Now comes the HARD part. We need to BEND EACH SQUARE STRIP down to form the heart shape. This project ENDS at the pointed BOTTOM of the Heart shape. This shot shows you what I'm talking about by BENDING the strips away from each other, then down to meet each other again at the bottom.



Remember earlier when we held the two Square ends together, I had you insure that the long ends (the White ones in these shots) exited the CENTER of the work? This is because when you turn the Heart upside down and look where the two Square ends meet AFTER you've bent it into the heart, the long strands are once again on the OUTSIDE of the work, as my White ones are in this shot.



The HARD part is in rejoining the two Square stitches back into a SuperBrick stitch. The two central strands (the Red ones in my project) need to become side strands again, so we bend them sideways to join the Rose and Neon Pink strands.



Using your White strands, make your two loops...



...and then weave the eight side strands through. When weaving the Red strands, don't twist them into the work, simply bend them and let them go where they want to go naturally.



Pull this SuperBrick stitch snug; **NOT TIGHT**. Do **TWO MORE** SuperBrick stitches and pull them tight!



Now comes some more strangeness! ;- ) We want to make the bottom of the heart **POINTED**, so we need to slowly start to **STOP** using strands in our stitches. This is a neat little trick. Lets start by removing the Red Strands (the center set) from the stitch. Do a Brick stitch on top of the SuperBrick. Weave all but the Red strands through, as shown here...



To hide the Red strands, take the uppermost strand, the one farthest from you, and feed it up through the center of your two Neon Pink strands. Take the other Red strand and feed it up through the center of your two Rose colored strands, as shown here. (Does this look somewhat familiar? Perhaps from one of the Completion stitches?)

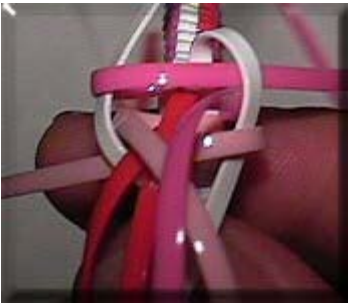


As you pull the Brick Stitch tight, also pull the Red Strands **STRAIGHT UP** out of the stitch, so that the Red stitches below do not become loose. With the Red strands sticking straight out of the Brick stitch, do **ONE MORE** Brick stitch **AROUND** the Red strands, insuring that each Red strand is in the same center space as it was in the first Brick stitch. Pull this stitch tight as well, and remember to pull your Red strands **UP OUT OF** the stitch.





Now it's time to get rid of two more strands; this time one of the Rose strands and one of the Neon Pink strands. Create a Square stitch on top of your Brick stitch that surrounds the two Red strands. Weave the top-most (farthest) Neon Pink strand and the bottom-most (closest) Rose strand into your Square. Leave the other Neon Pink and Red strand hanging loose, just as you did with the Red strands earlier.



Now take the Neon Pink and Rose strands you haven't yet used and feed them up through the center to join the two Red strands. Pull your Square stitch as tight as you can get it and then do another Square stitch. After pulling this second Square tight, pull UP on all your center strands to tighten them, then retighten your second Square. Do one more Square stitch, leave it loose, then do a [Completion](#) stitch on this Square stitch. Pull all strands tight and then snip off to the length of your choosing. (I chose to cut half of them at one angle and the other half at the opposite angle)



Here's a close up shot of the pointed bottom of the Heart, showing us going from SuperBrick to Brick to Square. It really has a neat effect, doesn't it? This Heart needs a bit of training itself. Work the Heart with your fingers, so that it comes into shape and can lie FLAT on a smooth surface, like a tabletop. Place numerous HEAVY books (hard-covers are more preferable than soft-covers) on TOP of the Heart, and let it sit OVER NIGHT at least! This should hopefully allow the Heart to maintain it's shape.



**One version of the Heart, properly completed!**



# Cobra Bracelet – Part 1



Cobra Bracelet, 3 Colors (Neon Green, Black, & Red Shown)

## Things You Will Need:

- Three strands of scoubidou (sizing described below).
- 2 Push Pins (or other pointed tool).
- Scissors

To determine the length of the central strand needed for the Cobra Bracelet, wrap the needed color snugly around your wrist **TWICE**. You need a piece that is **TWICE** as long as this measurement, as you'll be folding it in half shortly. The two longer strands should each be **TWICE** as long as the full length of your short strand. For me, a grown man, my shortest strand was about 2 feet, 10 inches long.

## How to Create a Cobra Bracelet:

First, using 3 strands of scoubidou, create a [STARTER COBRA stitch](#)...

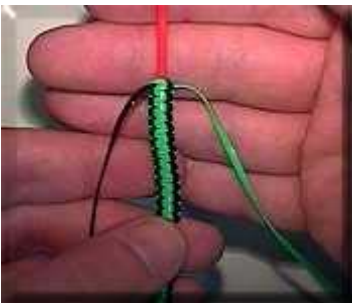


Now, using the [COBRA STITCH](#), create the body, until you can size it around your wrist with between 1 and 1½ inches of overlap, as shown in this photo.

## Making the Head using the King Cobra Stitch



When you hold the stitch to make the Cobra longer, it looks like this...



You need to turn the project around, so that the finished cobra stitch is now facing you, like this.



King Cobra is simply Cobra stitch that you do **OVER THE TOP OF** existing Cobra stitches, so we start by making a loop with our starter strand. (Remember to continue using the **SAME** strand you started with when doing the regular Cobra stitch earlier)



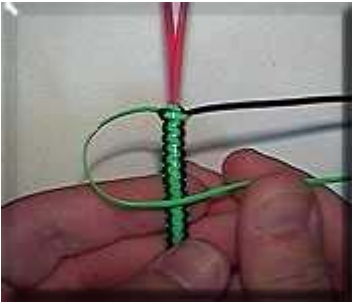
The second strand goes **OVER** the first strand...



**BEHIND** the central strand (which in this case is the completed Cobra stitch)...



and THROUGH the loop made with the first strand.



Do the next King Cobra stitch from the opposite side... Make a loop with the starter strand...



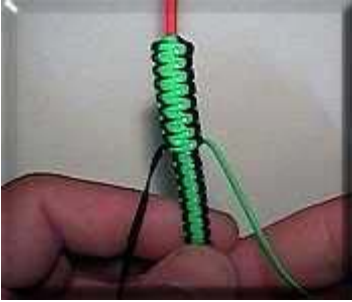
Bring the second strand over the top of the first strand...



Behind the completed Cobra stitch...



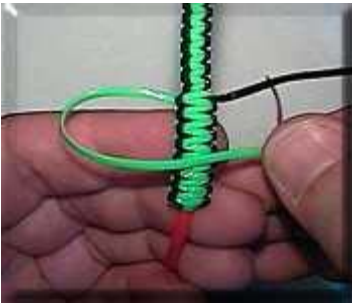
and through the loop made out of the first strand!



Continue doing the King Cobra stitch until you have a bit more than 1-inch completed, as shown here. If you'd like to create the smaller head, [click here](#) to continue...



We could stop here, but lets make the head even bigger. Turn the project around again, so the tongue (the red strands) are facing you once again...



Do another round of King Cobra atop the first King Cobra by making a loop...



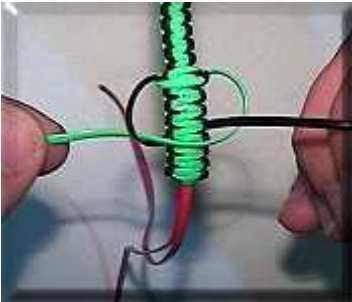
Bringing the second strand over the first...



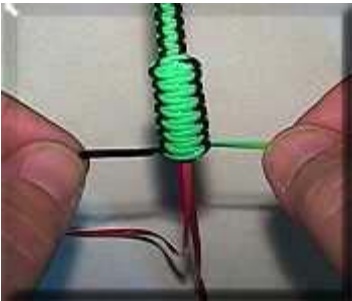
...behind the existing King Cobra, and through the loop.



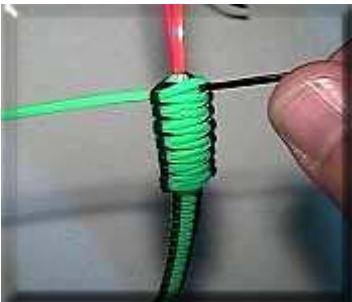
Continue from the other side...



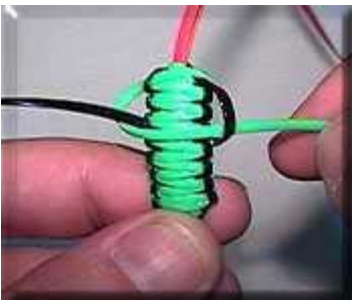
...to complete the second stitch.



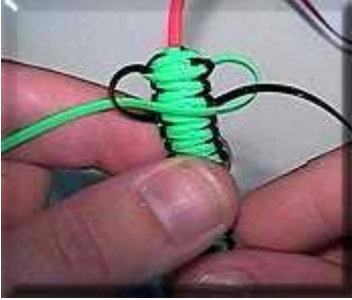
Continue King Cobra again, until you come to the nose of the Cobra.



We can't stop here, as we need the working strands to be at the BACK of the head, so turn the stitch around one last time (the finished Cobra stitch should once again be facing you).



You guessed it, make a THIRD round of King Cobra stitches working your way towards the BACK of the head...



...continue this third round of King Cobra, until you come to the back of the head...

[Click Here When Ready To Continue...](#)

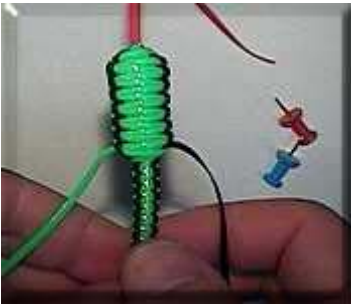


## Cobra Bracelet – Part 2



Cobra Bracelet, 3 Colors (Neon Green, Black, & Red Shown)

This is **PART 2** of How to Create a Cobra Bracelet.  
Click [HERE](#) for Part 1...



After you've completed the King Cobra stitches, the base of the head is complete. Now for the detail...

### Making the Clasp for the Tail



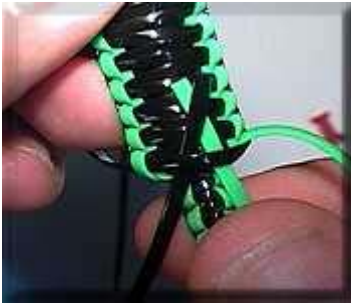
Turn the project **OVER**, so you're looking at the **BOTTOM** of the work...



Use one of the Push Pins, or some other long, skinny object, to pry loose the last black band of the head.



Insert the end of your starting strand under this band...



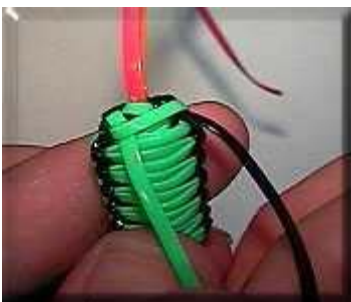
Do the same with the second strand...



Now use BOTH Push Pins to open up the front most stitches at the nose end of the head.



Insert the loose ends through the openings created by your Push Pins.



If needed, insert a strand under another band of the head, so the eyes will be aligned, as I've done with the green strand in this shot.

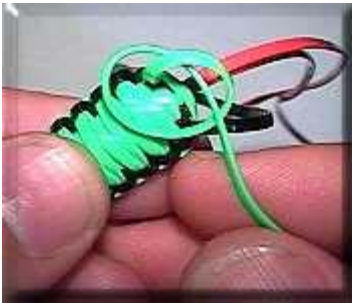


When completed, turn the head over to see how the strands have crossed to form an X on the bottom of the head. We'll be able to slip the tail under these strands to keep the bracelet in place later.

## Making the Eyes of the Head



Now we're ready to make the eyes. Reposition the strands, so they appear where you want the eyes to be positioned, similar to this shot.



Starting with your starter strand, create a Granny Knot (the knot you start with when tying your shoes) in this strand...



Use your fingers to push this knot down to the head as you tighten the knot. You want this knot to be tied right at the base of the head, as shown here.



Now do the same with the second strand...

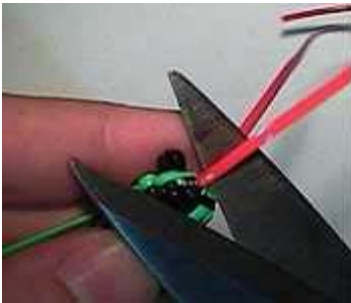


...tightening the knot as close as possible to the base of the head.

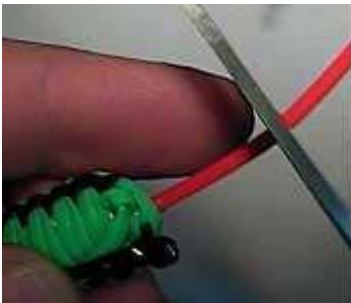


Trim the two long strands about 1½ inches from the Granny Knot. (Remember to wait at least 12 hours for the scoubidou to train itself to stay in the shape of the knot, before you trim these ends closer).

## Making the Tongue



For the tongue, only ONE of the central strands is needed. Turn the head over, so you're looking at the bottom, then snip off the LOWER central strand as close to the head as possible.



Trim the remaining central strand, allowing about an inch to exit the mouth.



Note the lower central strand is barely visible after being cut.



Using a diagonal cut, create a V cut in the center of the strand to complete the tongue.



After waiting at least 12 hours, the eyes can be trimmed closer to the head and the head is complete!

## Making the Tail



Remember the end we started the project at? This becomes the tail of the Cobra. All that's needed here is to snip the loose ends.



Like this, leaving about an eighth of an inch. Nothing else is needed here.



The tail end can now be passed UNDER the two crossed strands that made the clasp on the underside of the head, as shown here.



Finally, it's ready to be worn! Awesome!



Completed Cobra Bracelet Project



# Seamless Square Bracelet

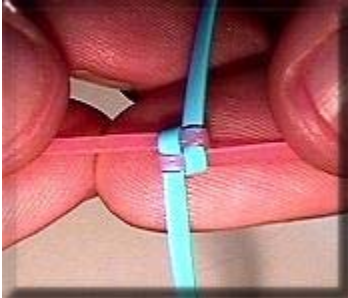


Seamless Square Bracelet, 2 Colors (Baby Blue & Glow-Pink)

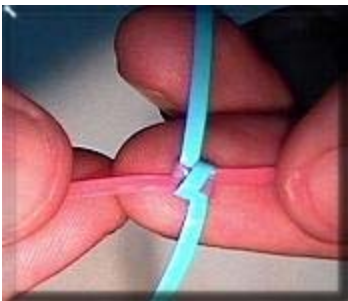
## Things You Will Need:

- Two strands of boondoggle, each:
  - 3½ feet long for smaller wrists
  - 4½ feet long for larger wrists
- 1 Push-Pin, Toothpick, etc.
- Scissors

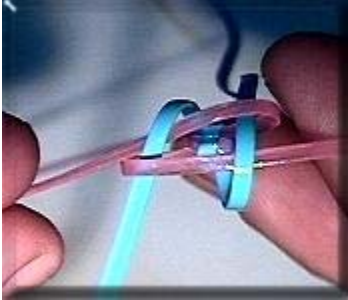
## How to create a Seamless Square Bracelet:



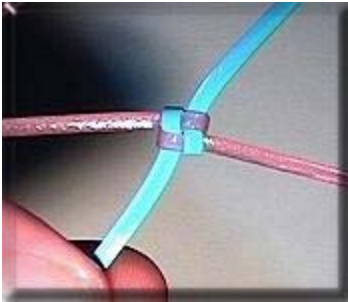
Create a Starter Square Stitch...



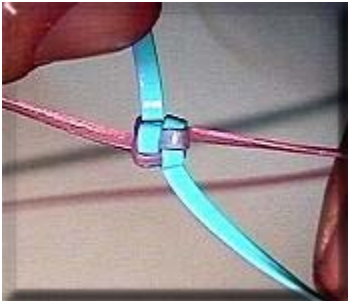
Turn the Starter Square Stitch over, so you're looking at the "cross" side...



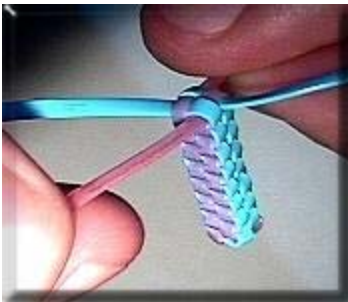
Do another Square Stitch ON TOP OF the "cross" side...



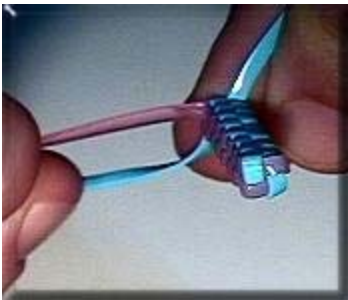
Notice now that it looks like regular Square. We did this same start when we created the Fishy, remember?



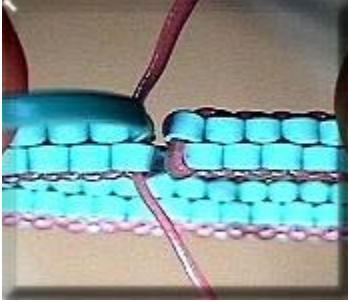
If you look at the bottom, you should be able to see the *checkerboard* pattern.



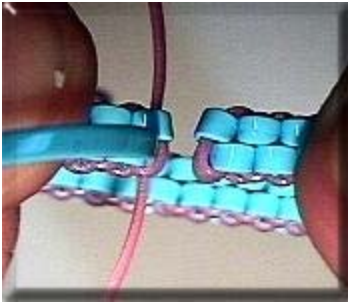
After completing about an inch of Square...



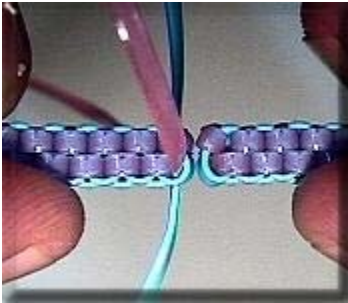
note, again, the *checkerboard* pattern. If you don't see this, then you goofed! Continue doing the Square Stitch until you've done enough to go all the way around your wrist PLUS the width of your thumb-nail. This bracelet cannot be loosened or tightened, so the size has to be just right.



Now bend the end you started at over to meet the end you're working with and look at where the loose strands are. In this picture, we have a problem. Can you see it? The blue strand is on the wrong side if we wanted to combine both ends into a seamless pattern. Check out the next picture...



...and you'll see that NOW the strands are placed correctly. Can you see what I'm talking about? You want this blue strand to cover the two pink loops, which was impossible to do above. If your project looks like the above picture, do ONE MORE Square Stitch and you should now look like this picture.



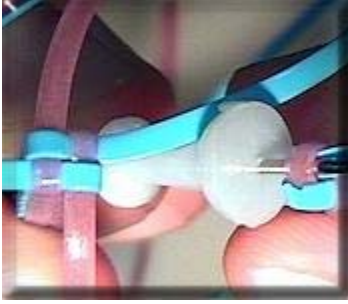
To double check your strand placement, turn the project sideways, so you can see how the pink side lines up. Notice how the pink strand will overlap the two blue loops? This is exactly what we want to do, so we are ready to continue.



Before we do the *magic*, lets get our strands ready for feeding. Use your scissors to cut a pointed end on each of your four strands. Do not cut away a large portion of the strand, but cut the strands CLOSE TO THEIR ENDS. These pointed ends will prove QUITE helpful in a minute!



Now bend both ends of your project, so you can see the *checkerboard* patterns. Lets start with the loose strand which comes out the center of the project (the blue strand on the right). Can you see how we'll need to feed this strand UNDER the little red loop that it's nearest on the other *checkerboard*?



Use a push-pin, toothpick, or other small, sharp object to pry open or loosen this red loop, as shown here...



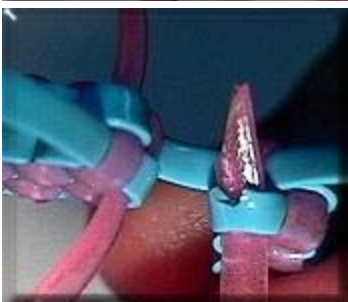
Once you've loosened the red loop a bit, the pointed end we cut at the end of that blue strand will make it easy for us to feed through that loop, like this...



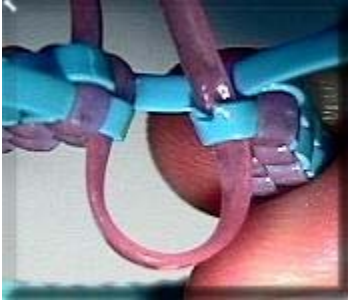
...and you should pull that strand to within  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch of completing the pull. Take a GOOD look at this picture, so you'll know you fed the right strand through.



Now lets do the next closest strand to the center, the red strand shown at the bottom. It will need to be fed through the blue loop at the bottom of the other *checkerboard*, which is the loop I'm loosening here with a push-pin in this picture.



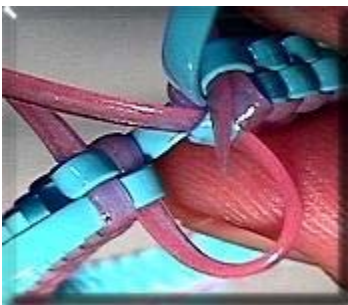
We can feed the red strand through once it's loosened. You might have noted how the blue loop in this picture is damaged. I did this mistakenly using the push-pin a bit too fast. Be VERY CAREFUL when using push-pins! They are EXTREMELY sharp. It actually cut through HALF the width of this strand.



You can pull this strand through to within ½ an inch as well. Note how our strands are not **TWISTED** in this shot. You need to be careful when initially feeding your strands to be sure they are **NOT** twisted. It is very tough to correct this problem later, so catch the error **NOW** if you can.



I'm getting ready to work with the other red strand in this shot. The blue loop it needs to be fed through is lying underneath the blue strand we fed through earlier. Can you see it?



Here's the red strand being fed through. These pointed ends are a real blessing right about now!



Again, pulled almost, but not quite tight. Notice **TWO** things in this shot: first, that none of the strands are **TWISTED**, and second, that I made sure the end of the first red strand goes **UNDER** the second red strand. Take a good look at this picture, imagining what it will look like when pulled together, and you'll see why we did this.

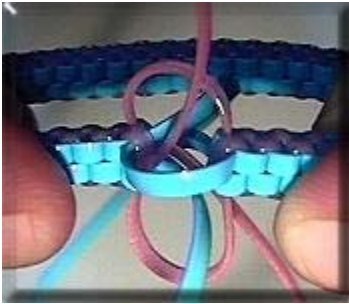


And now for the last strand, the other blue one. It gets fed under a red loop which is covered by the red strand we were just working with above. Also notice the placement of the blue strand we're working with. See how it comes **UP** and **OVER** the **TOP** of the whole shebang?

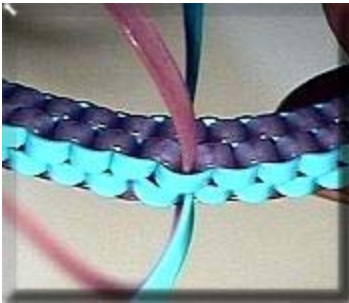




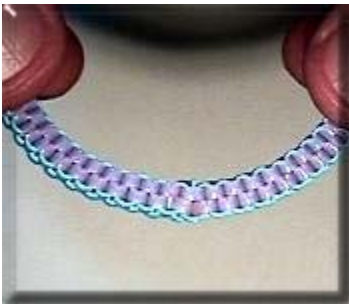
Feed it through the loop. The other end of this blue strand is the one the pointed end is pointing to. The lower blue strand on the left is the OTHER blue strand, which is lying out of the way right now.



After pulling the last strand almost tight, you should see a jumbled mess that looks like this. Now, slowly start pulling the project tight. Start by pulling ONE blue strand a bit, then pull the OTHER blue strand, then a RED strand, followed by the OTHER red strand, and repeat...



...until you have completely tightened the project, which should look similar to this! Remember "training the boondoggle"? You'll need to put this bracelet aside for AT LEAST EIGHT HOURS before you trim off these loose ends. If you don't wait, the bracelet may come apart on you, as the strands will have loosened up a bit and popped out on you.



After snipping the ends. This one looks a bit odder than usual, because of that damaged loop I made. You'll also notice that the loops made to COMBINE the two ends together are LONGER than the other loops in the project. This is because these loops have to cover TWO strands of the opposite color, instead of just ONE.

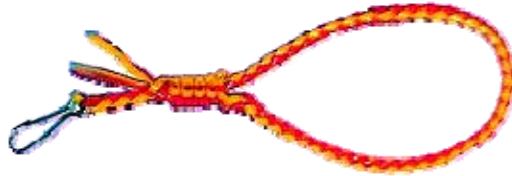


## Other Seamless Ideas:



- You can use this same technique with other stitches, including Circle, Brick, Super-Brick, and Quad. Stitches like Twist and CorkScrew do not lend themselves to this technique very easily, because of the way their finished stitches like to lie on a curve, versus laying flat, so I'd NOT suggest trying this with one of these two.
- You can incorporate BEADS into your seamless bracelets as well. The one previously shown use the Square Stitch and beads of two different sizes. I showed you one way of inserting BEADS into your project when making a Split Brick combination pull.

# Lanyard Keychains



Mini-Lanyard Keychain, 2 Colors (Goldenrod & Red Shown)

## Things You Will Need:

- Two strands of boondoggle:
  - 3½ yards each, if making a lanyard, or
  - 4 feet each, if making a mini-lanyard keychain.
- A lanyard hook <OR> a swivel hook.
- An 8-10 inch strand of boondoggle <OR> a safety-pin <OR> a push-pin.
- A paper-clip.
- Scissors

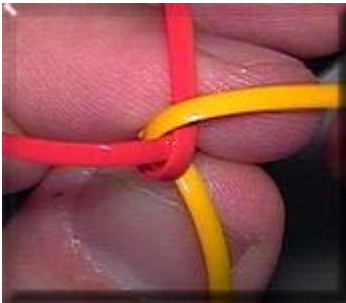
## How to Create a Mini-Lanyard Keychain:

(Lanyard Instructions Also Given)

Select either the [Diamond](#) or [Spiral](#) braid...

Continue doing your chosen BRAID STITCH until:

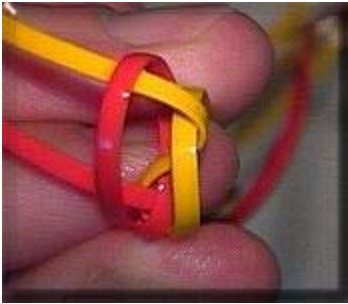
- If making a Mini-Lanyard Keychain, your FINISHED braid is between 8 and 9 inches long, or
- If making a Lanyard, your LOOSE STRANDS are about 12 inches (1 foot) long.



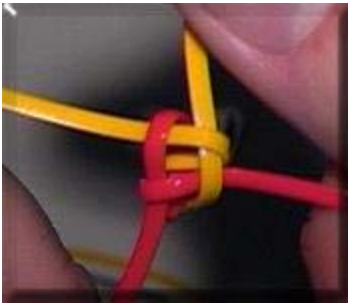
Hold your finished braid UPSIDE DOWN and see how the strands lie. You want to set them out like this. If doing the Diamond Braid, the opposite strand colors should be different, but if you're doing the Spiral Braid, the opposite strands should be the same color. I'm doing the Diamond Braid here, so I'll make one red strand opposite one yellow strand, etc.



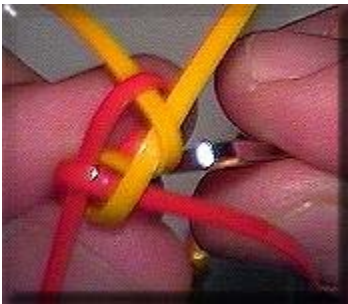
What we're going to do now is create one [Square Stitch](#), but we'll leave the stitch loose. In this shot, I've created the first loop needed for Square...



...and after making the next two loops needed for Square...



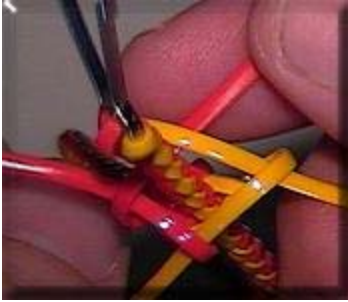
...and after making the last loop and weave needed to complete the Square Stitch.



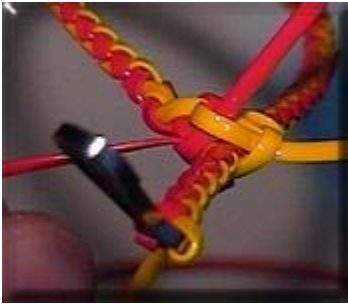
We now need to take the other end of our project, the end with the lanyard hook or swivel hook, and stick it up through this loose Square stitch we made. If making the Mini-Lanyard Keychain, stick between 1¼ and 1½ inches through the loose stitch, but if creating a lanyard, stick 6 - 8 inches through.



Tighten this initial Square Stitch around the braid. If making the Keychain, pull this stitch TIGHT, but if making the lanyard, pull it just SNUG, so as to not leave any loose loops.



Now do another Square Stitch around the braid core. Again, pull it **TIGHT** if making the Keychain, and **SNUG** if making the lanyard. If you made the Cobra Bracelet, you may remember doing a stitch-over-a-stitch, when we did the Cobra over some existing Cobra.



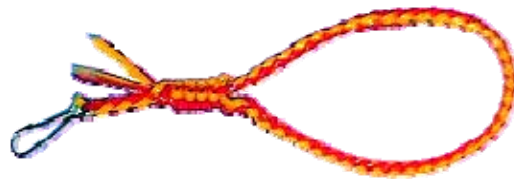
Continue with another stitch of Square. We pull the stitches **TIGHT** when we're making the Keychain, because we do **NOT** want the braid to **MOVE** inside the Square; however, when we're making a lanyard, we want to be able to **ADJUST** the **LENGTH** of the lanyard by pulling the braid up or down **INSIDE** of the Square, which is why we only pull those Square Stitches **SNUG**.



Continue doing Square Stitches. If you're making a Keychain, do about  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch of Square. If you're making a lanyard, continue doing the Square until your loose strands are about 4 inches long...



...and complete both projects by doing a [Completion Stitch](#). For this Keychain, I slightly modified how I did the completion, as I wanted all the loose ends to exit from the same side of the work. After snipping the excess strands, create some [Fancy Tassels](#) to finish this project off!



Completed Mini-Lanyard Keychain!

## Other Lanyard Ideas:

- Try adding some **PONY BEADS** to either the Keychain or Lanyard projects.

- **Instead of using the Square Stitch at the end, try using the Circle Stitch. This looks great if you also use the Spiral Braid. Remember that the first stitch you do must be Square, before you start doing the Circle stitches, or else it will fall apart on you!**
- **Attempt to swap between using the Spiral and the Diamond braid. This is more easily done when you're also using beads.**

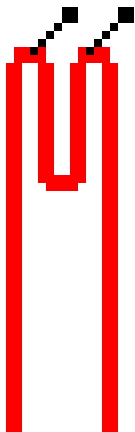
## MAKING SIMPLE THINGS

### Key-fob



This is a simple key-fob. The knot that is used can be confusing at first but as soon as that is mastered, every body can make this fob. It is also used on zips to help to open them. Because of the need to melt the string, children are not able to make it without adult help.

Take a string of about 70 cm, (2'4") It needs to be a string that melts if you hold it in a flame. If you can not find coloured string, you can take the white string you find in many stores. Fold it as in the picture. The length from the pin till the end of the loop is the length the fob will get when ready. I made it 6 cm (2 1/3").

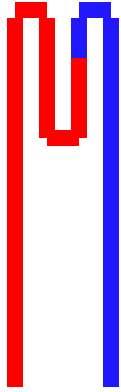


If you can, you pin the string on the table. If not but you have somebody to help you, let the helper hold the string instead of the pins. If you work alone, pin them to the knee of your jeans, first the safety pin through your jeans, than through the string at the place of the pins, than through your jeans again.

Start now with square knots with the strings around the loop. If you do not remember how to make it, click on the picture of the square knot at the end of this text.

Go on till your strings are nearly gone or till the loop gets the right size. Pull every knot tight and when you get to the end of the row pull on the loop while holding the last knot. If you do not want more loop, (because the length of the loop is just right and the string all used, do not pull or not as hard.)





In the picture above you see two more variations. For both I used two colours string. To do that, I held the two strings in a flame and when they were melting I pushed them together. This is not strong. Make sure the weak spot will be in a place where the knots take the strain, near the start of your knot work. And do not pull the loop with all your might.

For the one variation I did not do any thing but using two colours of string. The other variation is even simpler to make. I used again two colours of string but besides I used the turning square knot. Here you do tie the knot every time from the same side. If you click on the picture of the turning square knot, or that the other way round, you see what to do.

### Knots used



square knot



turning square  
knot

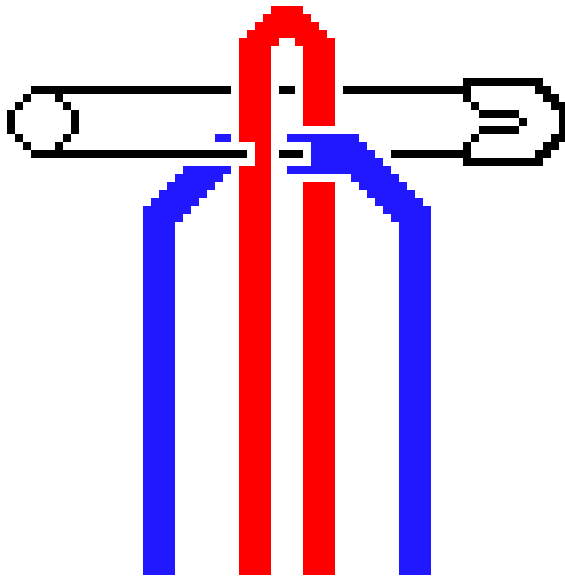


the other way  
round

## Key-fob 2



This is a key-fob beginners are able to make if they get a little help. If you are a beginner and follow the instructions you should be able to do it without help. Many experienced knot tyers often make a key-fob like this because it works quick and it helps to remember the knots for more difficult work.



To make a key-fob take two lengths of string. (1 meter/yard each, or a little longer.) I took blue and pink. Fold them as in the picture and pin them together with a safety pin. Note the loop above the pin in the red string, this is to put the key ring in.

To start: make two crown knots and tighten them real hard before taking out the pin. Follow with a diamond knot. Tie a first crown knot before you tighten the diamond knot.

Next make crown knots again. Alternating in direction. This means work to the right in the first and to the left in the second. They will get a square shape.

Go on with crown knots till you have 4 or 5 cm (1 1/2" or 2"), the exact dimensions are not important.

End your key-fob with the star knot. If you are a beginner you may not be able to tighten the star knot real tight, do not panic, tie a crown knot over 2 in its centre and pull that one tight. This will finish your work.

I like to leave a little tail under the star knot, frayed. If you do not like it, cut close to the knot.

A variation, I made it in green and pink, starts with the same set-up, with the pin, making a loop. Two crown knots and pull real tight before taking out the pin. If needed tighten again. Next one wall knot, one crown knot and one wall knot again. Continue with crown knots, all in the same direction, becoming round. Finish as above, with a star knot, and a crown knot over two in its centre.

I cut the strings in this key-fob short at the star knot.

#### Knots used

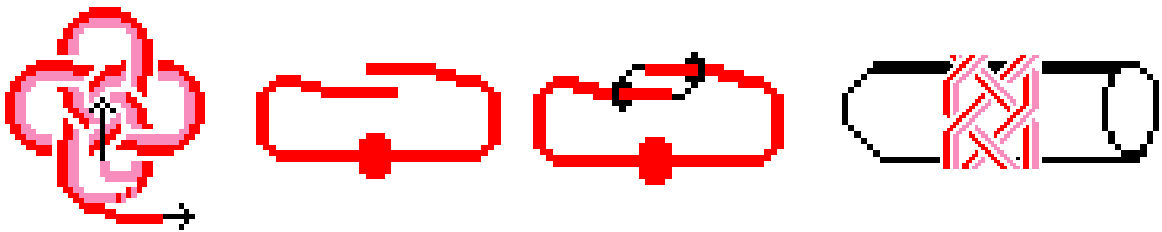


## Bracelet



Start with a turks head knot, the one in the knots used section will do the job. Double and bring one end through the opening in the centre of the knot, and tighten. Finish the bracelet with the necklace knot. If you click on this knot you will get the pictures how to make it.

Measuring how long the string needs to be is difficult, when opened wide it needs to slip over the hand and it needs to be closed to as tight a fit as the wearer finds best. If you work with a small amount of string make a test piece in different string of about the same size, if you have a lot of the string, take the string much longer than you think you will need and cut it only when you have finished the bracelet.



These are a few extra drawings to help you making the bracelet.

The first tells you where to go through the heart of the turks head knot to make it a nice bead on your string, fold the knot upward while tightening.

The second and third shows how to position the strings and where to make the necklace knot.

The fourth shows how to double the 3 bight 4 lead turks head knot

In the next set of pictures you find some variations. I have used the same knot as above, (the four bight, three leads,) not doubled 3 and 8 times and I used the three bights, four leads, see the button in the used knots, single, not doubled, single doubled and in a set of three, doubled.

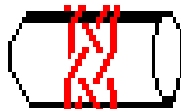
If you really like this kind of work you find a few more ideas in the knot boards with knot board 3, the jewel knot board.



Knots used



turks head knot



3 bight, 4 lead turks head knot



necklace knot

## Braided animals

### The maggot

I took some string, ± 2 meter (yard),



and made a turks head knot in the middle.



Doubled the knot,



and tightened it in two stages



to a ball, not to tight.



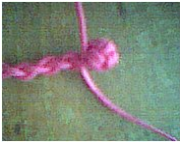
I than twisted the left-over string



for as long as I wanted the body to be.



Next I spliced the string back into the twist to make a braid,



all the way to the head.



To bring the string into the head and out again,



and cut it short,



and melted the ends.



The melted ends make nice eyes.



The body will twist into many shapes.



Used: scissors, string and lighter.



# Snake



Start with an ocean mat, make knot eyes, and bring the strings out again. Twist the strings together till half their length, or till the body is long enough, and splice the strings back to a braid. Bring the strings back through the mat, using different holes, tie, sew or melt the strings together and divide in two for a forked tongue. (If you melt it is not easy.)

## Knots used



ocean mat



splicing back  
to a 4 braid

For other ways to braid  
go to the maggot.

# Dragonfly



Start with a button knot, here I used the four bight turks head knot, doubled and tightened.

Twice the shamrock knot, each against the last knot.

The rest of the string is twisted together and spliced back till the last knot.

To finish I took the string back through the shamrock knots, one through one and half a knot,

the other just through the first half of the first knot.

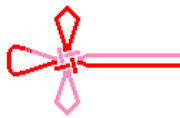
There I cut the string short and melted the rest.

You can leave it longer and use it to tie it to something.

## Knots used and extra's



turks head knot



shamrock knot



splicing back to a 4 braid

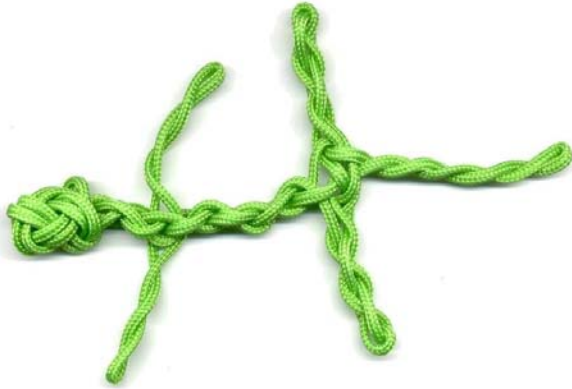


round braid of 4 trad.



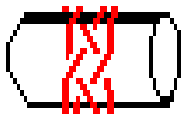
round braid of 4 alt.

# Lizard



The lizard is made with the three bight, four lead turks head knot.  
Next you twist both strings together till just past his hind legs,  
twist one string for its tail.  
Twist both strings together for one leg and splice back into a braid,  
Bring both strings through the twist and repeat for the other leg.  
When finished with this leg bring one string into the twist for the body,  
The other string goes through the other leg and then into the twist for the body.  
Splice back till where you want the front legs.  
If your strings are of equal length make one leg with each,  
if they differ much, use one for both legs.  
I just twisted the string for the front legs.  
Splice on till the string disappears into the head.  
Bring the leftover string through the head, pull and hold,  
cut and melt together, or sew and cut.

## Knots used



3 bight, 4 lead turks head    splicing back to a 4 braid

# Dinosaur



This is clearly an Ihopehedidn'tseemesaurus, built to run and eat, with a skinny body and strong legs.

To make it use the ocean mat with knot eyes.

Next you twist both strings together till the end of its tail, splice back till his hind legs.

Twist both strings, one to a side, into legs, go through the body and into the other leg with both strings and splice them into braids.

When finished with the legs bring the strings back into the twist for the body.

Splice back till where you want the front legs, make the front legs with one string for both legs.

I just twisted the string for the front legs.

Splice on with the other string till it disappears into the head, come out at an other spot and keep on splicing till you are back in the body,

make the body bigger by splicing into the braid. I have followed the original lay of the string so now it is a doubled braid of four.

Go on splicing till you run out of string or till you find the body big enough.

Finish with sinking the ends into the braid.

## Knots used

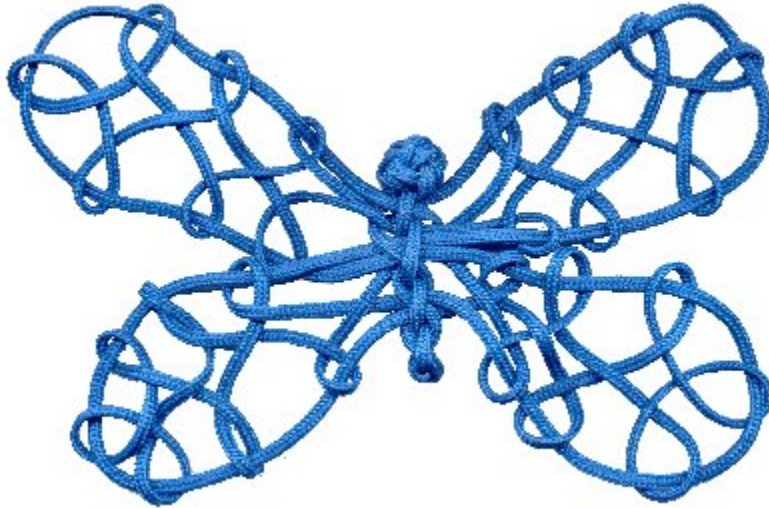


ocean mat



splicing back  
to a 4 braid

# Butterfly



Take a long length of string, the wings take up a lot of string. If you want to give your butterfly a head, you start, like you did in the maggot, with the turks head knot four leads, three bights, double and tighten.

If you want a more life like animal you start here with just your string folded double.

Make a short four strand, round braid in the twist and splice back method, splice all the way back to the head.

Lay your string in the shape you want the wings to be, real live butterflies have two pairs of wings, planted in the front part of the body, butterfly images often have wings which are attached to the body along most of the length of that body. Make the wings you think are best. When you know where and how the wings will go, make the outline of the wings. At the end of the first wing you bring the string into the body and out at the other side. Make the outline of the wing at the other side before making the second set of wings.

If the string moves in the body you may fix it temperately with a safety pin.

Fill the wings, you find how when you click on the wing button at the bottom of this page.

Do one set of wings at a time, starting with the second set of wings. You may have to make more or less loops than there are in the drawings.

The ends are cut short, melted together and lost in the body.

## Knots used



turks head  
knot



splicing back  
to a 4 braid



filling a wing

# Making Flowers

## Flower bud



Start with a round braid of four strands, all braiding methods are possible, and end the braid with a crown knot. If needed you can add an extra string. Next you make a wall knot around the braid, tighten both knots well. End with a crown knot over two. If your string tends to slip back, apply a drop of glue when tightening. Cut the strings close to the bud.

### Knots used



round braid  
of 4 trad.



round braid  
of 4 alt.



crown knot



wall knot



crown knot  
over 2



## Flower 1



Start with a round braid of four strands using green string, end the braid with a crown knot. Place 4 coloured strings on the knot. (you will work with 8 ends later on.) Make a crown knot over the new strings, try to get them organized between the green strands. Bring your green strands down between the coloured ones. Tie a wall knot of 4 ends around the braid and tighten well. Bring the rests of the green strings back up. Tie with the coloured ends a crown knot of 8 ends, over 3, keeping the green ends coming out in the middle. Follow with a wall knot of 8 ends, over 1, around the last knot, (I have no instructions for you now but if you get lost, turn the whole up side down and tie a crown knot 8, over 1.) The next knot is a crown knot of 8, over 3, tighten the knot, pull till the leftover bits of green string are in their place, and then tighten your last crown knot well. Now it is time to cut the green string real short. Again a crown 8, over 3, and if your string is slippery you may want to put a little glue on your strings before tightening, but only on the bits that disappear in the knot and not on the bits that will come out again. tighten well and cut at about 3 mm (1/10") the string will fray spontaneously, maybe they need a little help. If glue came in these bits you may want to cut them short.



view from above

Knots used



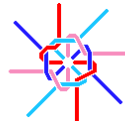
round braid of 4 trad.



crown knot



wall knot



crown knot 8, over 1



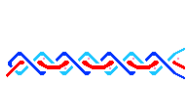
crown knot 8, over 3

## Flower 2



Take a length of green string and twist and splice back into a round braid of 4. Take 4 lengths of coloured string and double them and tie them to the end of the braid with a reef knot (square knot) of the green string. Tie the 8 ends in a crown knot of 8 ends, over 3, over the reef knot. Tie the rests of green string around the braid, I used the Mathew walker but you can use any knot that won't slip. If you need you can glue or sew the string. Cut the green string short. Tie a diamond knot in the 8 coloured strings and fold it down while tightening. Tie a second diamond knot and fold it upwards when you tighten it. Tie a crown over 3 into the hole. (While you tighten this knot will fill in the hole.) Tighten well, this will fix the strings, you should not need to glue. Cut all strings at the same length, I have done it at 1 cm (1/2") and fray the ends. If you cut the strings short the knot at the top will show better.

### Knots used



splicing back to a 4 braid



crown knot



wall knot

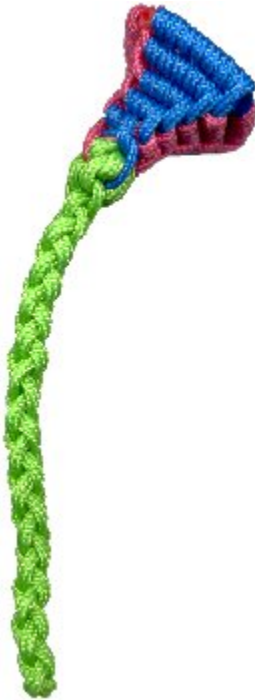


crown knot 8, diamond knot over 3



## Bell flower

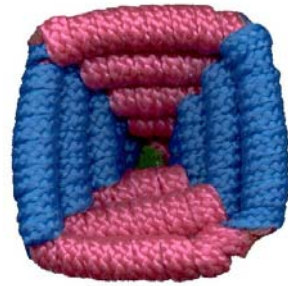
Start with a round braid of 4 strands using green string, end the braid with a crown knot. Place 2 coloured strings on the knot. Make a crown knot, over 2, over the new strings. Bring the rests of the green strings up. Tie with the coloured ends a crown knot over 2, keeping the green ends coming out in the middle. Cut the green strings.



Start the bell with a petal knot as in the drawings, with 2 turns. Now make a petal knot with 3 turns, (this is one more than in the drawings,) followed by one with 4 turns, next with a petal knot with 6 turns, and end with a petal knot with 8 turns. Cut your strings short and melt the ends, tuck them away into the knot. Mine were so short I had to cut them real short and melt them into the knot. To do so you pull it as tight as you can get it, tighter than it should be, cut it at 3 mm (1/10") and melt it. As soon as the end is really melted, (often there will be a flame, blow it out,) pull till the end is nearly flush with the coiling around it and push on it with a smooth bit of metal, like a spoon (or not as save but often used, the metal part of your lighter.)

Be always careful when melting string, it can get real hot and some sorts of string get hotter than others en every experienced knot tyers can tell you stories about burnt fingers.

In the view from above you can see the petal knot with 4, 6 and with 8 turns well. In the view from the side you can see all the petal knots well, you can even see the string go from one knot to the next.



view from above

Knots used



round braid  
of 4



crown knot



crown knot  
over 2



petal knot

# Flower 3



Start with a round braid of 4 strands using green string, end the braid with a crown knot. Place 2 coloured strings on the knot. Make a crown knot over the new strings. Bring your green strands down between the coloured ones. Tie a wall knot of 4 ends around the braid and tighten well. Bring the rests of the green strings back up. Tie with the coloured ends a crown knot over 2, keeping the green ends coming out in the middle. Now make a petal knot with 3 turns, (this is one more than in the drawings,) followed by one with 4 turns, and end with a petal knot with 6 turns, up side down. Cut your strings short and melt the ends, tuck them away into the knot. Cut your green strings short as well, they stay rather visible. In the view from above you can see the petal knot with 3 and with 6 turns well.



view from above

## Knots used



round braid of 4



crown knot



wall knot



crown knot over 2



petal knot



petal knot up side down



## Flower 4

Start with a round braid of 4 strands using green string. Place 2 coloured strings on the braid. Make a crown knot over the new strings. Bring your green strands down between the coloured ones. Tie a wall knot of 4 ends around the braid and tighten well. Bring the rests of the green strings back up. Tie a crown knot with the green ends and keep the left over bits of string sticking out to the side. Tie with the coloured ends a crown knot over 2, keeping the green ends coming out at the side, cut the green ends short. The first petal knot is the one that the drawings give, with 2 turns (in knot tyers language a full round turn.)

Next make a petal knot with 3 turns, (this is one more than in the drawings,) but make it up side down, that is, instead of going under the next string first you go over first and around. To be followed by one with 4 turns, right side up. The next one has 5 turns, up side down, and the last knot has 6 turns right side up.

Weave your strings back through the knot at the corner, I needed a pair of pliers to do so. Cut your strings short.

In the view from above you can see the petal knot with 4 and with 6 turns well, in the picture that shows the bottom of the flower you see the petal knot with 3 and 5 turns, and a bit of the one with 6 turns.



view from above

Knots used



round braid  
of 4



crown knot



wall knot



crown knot  
over 2



petal knot



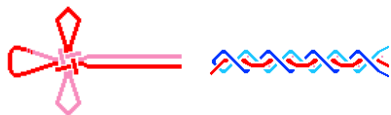
petal knot up  
side down

# Leaf



To complete a posy, (a small bunch of flowers,) you can make a leaf, (or two.) Take a length of green string and tie a series of shamrock knots. Try to keep the 'wings' of the shamrock knots even and the knots tight. I kept the knots close together to get a strong spine in the leaf. If you want to, you can leave a little more space in between, it is your leaf. If needed you can strengthen it like the stems of the flowers or like the animals. When you think your leaf is long enough, or when your string gets short, twist and splice the ends into a round braid of four. The last bit of the string will disappear into the last shamrock knot. To braid the stem you need just over twice its length. If you do not have enough length left, you can also just make a tight twist, if needed with wire.

## Knots used



shamrock knot splicing back  
to a 4 braid

If you want to make flowers, all you really need is two lengths of string, any colour. If you want to make your flowers in natural colours, string in green and in flower colours is very useful. But I have made acceptable flowers in black and yellow, that being the only colours I had available at that moment.

If you work in one colour the shape of the flower is more important, if you work in natural flower colours the shape just has to be vaguely flowerlike, the colours do the rest. But a flower to decorate, for instance, a gift warped parcel can be in just white.

In my instructions I give the way to work with different string for the stem and the flower, if you work in one or two colours you may prefer to go on with the same strings. You may still make all the knots I describe, but it might be useful in at times to miss the one meant to fix the old and new string together. (Often a crown knot or crown over 2.) There is no need to stick to what I have done, try your own variations. These pages are only to give you some ideas, to give you a start to make your own knotted work.

All you basically need for flowers are a stem and a flower. For the stem, braiding works quick but crowning, kept tight, will also do, or using sticks or big size string. For the flowers you need to make something vaguely flower shaped. My way is to make multi strand knots, like crown knots, diamond knots, and the petal knots. But you can make nice flowers with single string knotting as well. Half hitching, tating and needle lace to name but a few. And if you are a macramé addict you will find a way to use that. If you know how to make flowers, just do and enjoy it.

## A little help?

If you make big or heavy flowers, maybe the stems are not sturdy enough. You can reinforce them by braiding around a piece of wire. A good flower shop will have it and also a good craft shop should have the special flower wire. If you do not like the wire to be seen you can feed it into one or more of your strings before braiding, pay attention that that string stays the same as the others. You can also feed the wire into a piece of string and use it as a central post to braid around. If wire does not work for you, you can also stiffen the stem with glue, see the animals section for more details.

## Plant hanger



This plant hanger is easy to make, not as easy as the one in the beginners section, see button at the bottom of this page, but most people will be able to make it.

There are only a few knots used and each of them is easy to learn.

If you want to see how I made this plant hanger, click on the more details button next to the knots used.

I used sisal, 50 m, divided in 8 equal lengths which gave me lengths of 6.25 m, the overall length of the plant hanger is just under 1 meter. If you work with a different size of string the results might differ but it gives an indication of how long your string needs to be.

If you are not sure you will keep enough string for a nice finish, you can cut 1 or 2 meter before dividing, on the overall length you will not miss it.

Cut 8 strings of equal length, (about 6 times as long as the plant hanger needs to be.) Do not take thin string for a first plant hanger, you can work it the same but it will take a lot of time more to tie it.

Give the strings a temporary finish to prevent fraying. I used glue but a bit of sticky tape will do as well and a thumb knot is better than nothing.

Tie your strings together in the middle and tie them together with a help string and to a sturdy point like a chair or a hook in the wall.

Start with taking 2 strings making square knots around all the other strings. Make 5 whole knots, (10 halves) and turn your begin around. Move the help string over your first knots and tie it to your fixed point again.

Tie again 5 square knots, be careful to use the same strings and to go on as if they are made in one go.

When there are 10 square knots around your strings you bent the ends of your bar of square knots together. Tie 2 more square knots around all the strings. (That are 14 strings now.) Now you divide into four sets of four strings, take the strings that sit near to each other.

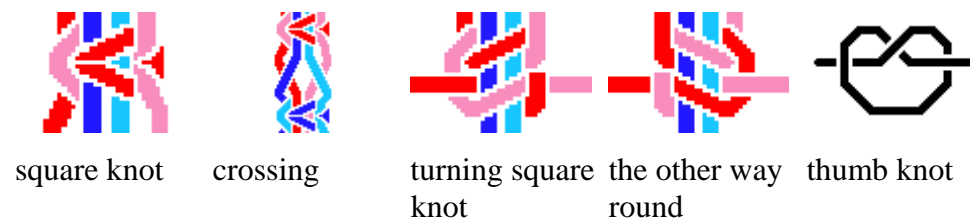
Tie square knots in each set of four strings. I have used bars of 10 knots or 20 turning knots. (Each is 20 half knots.) After each set I made a crossing and went on with the other variation. The crossings are needed to use your strings at the same speed. Work all 4 sets of string at the same time and make the same amount of knots in each. I like it the best to make the same knots but you may make a turning bar in one set and a straight bar in the next.

If your hanger is long enough or if your shortest leftover string becomes shorter than 40 cm, (15"), it is time to start the basket. As you can see in the picture, I split each set into 2 sets of 2 and made a thumb knot in each set, about 10 cm (4") away from the last square knot. Then I took 1 string from one knot and 1 from the next and made a next thumb knot at 10 cm, (4"), doing this I made a connection between the strands coming down from the top. If it is not clear which string should be tied to which, take a pot or plastic container, and tape the strands to it. Stretch the top away from the pot and see if the strands fall in a natural way. If not, undo the tape and arrange the strands in a different order and repeat. Go on till you are satisfied. If you can find no right way, fiddle a bit at the top of the strands, where they leave the common square knots. If this does not work, take the best arrangement. Tie the second row of knots all around. If you have not done it before, best tie them around the pot. The third row comes at about 7,5 cm (3") and the fourth at 5cm, (2"). The fifth row comes at 2,5 cm (1") but it can be skipped if needed. Tie the strings all together at a next 2,5 cm (1") in a bar of square knots. Take your longest leftover strings to do so or take the bit of string you put away at the start of the project. Make 10 square knots, of 20 halves turning, to stay in character but make less if you run out of string. To hide the ends you can make the last three knots loose, bring the ends up between the knots, and then tighten the knots from the top. Pull on the slack and cut the strings very close where they come out of the bar.

If this sounds too difficult and you know how to make a whipping, use the longest string or the bit put to the side to make a whipping around all strings. If all else fails, tie a thumb knot in all strings together and pull real tight, maybe even a drop of glue in the centre of this knot.

Cut your strings under the finishing knot to the same length and untwist them, making a nice frayed end. If you do not like the frayed end, you can leave the strings as string, glue with a non-showing glue. Or tie one of the fancy, multi string, knots you find in the knots used section and finish that way.

#### Knots used





## Belt



Make a little test piece first, to measure how long your strings need to be, and how many you will need. That depends on the size of the string, its stiffness, how tight you tighten your knots, how close you tie your knots together and so on. If you do not want to make a trial, as a basic rule people always say you need three times the length for an open structure and four to five times for a piece with the knots close together. And you cut your string twice as long and fold it double at the start.

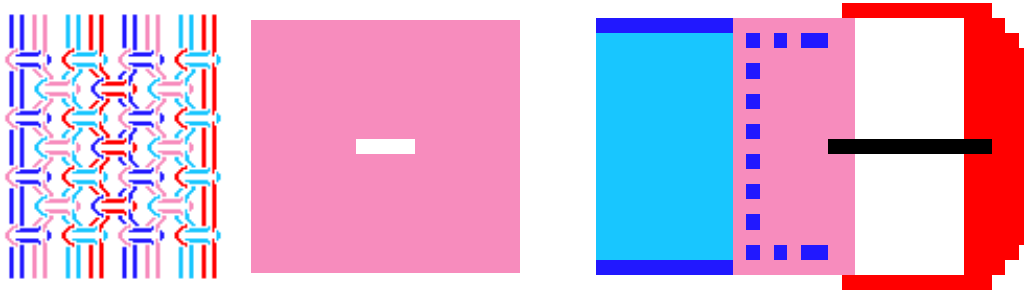
So if you want to make a 1 meter belt, you cut lengths of string up to 10 meter long. If your test piece gives you a different number remember you need twice the length of the strings as figured, and if the total length is outside the 3 to 5 times (x 2) range, measure again. Fold the lengths in half and pin two close together on your worktop. Follow the directions as given in the pointed start till the belt is wide enough. Measure the belt and the loops of the jeans it should fit in. The belt should be as wide as the inside of the buckle.

Go on as in the picture below, till the belt is long enough.

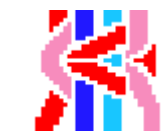
To finish, take a piece of strong leather, cut it in a square as wide as your belt, and make a hole in the middle for the tongue of the buckle. Fold it around your buckle with the tongue sticking through. Before sewing, decide which side of the belt you want to wear outside. Sew the last row (if possible two rows) of knots of the belt to the inside side of the leather. Apply glue, it will be out of sight but it will help the strings to stay in place. Cut the ends short.

Sew the top half of the leather in place and sew along the side of the leather.

Enjoy wearing your belt. (If my instructions on finishing are not clear enough, you may want to look at a braided leather belt in a shop, they are nearly all done in the same way.)



Knots used

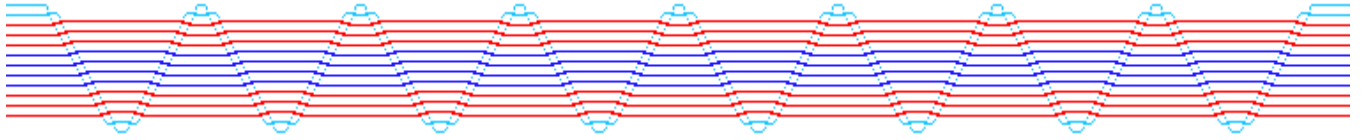


square knot



pointed start

## Fashion belt



This belt is less work than the first belt. It can still be more work than you expect. So try the knot before you buy the string.

I have seen girls wearing belts like this, in fashion colours, tied loosely through the belt loops of their jeans. If you intent to do the same be sure to measure the loops before you start working. You can, always, wear it over your sweater or dress, or around your hips.

To space your knots evenly, you may want to make a drawing on a piece of paper, right size, and pin it on your worktop. (Remember, if you print the drawing, most printer ink is water based and will get on your string when it gets wet. Laser printer and photocopier ink is better. Best is water fast ink, but test any ink before you use it.)

Easiest is to make an A4 size drawing and when you made knots all over its length, take out the pins, move the work and pin it on again.

Make a little test piece first, to measure how long your strings need to be, and how many you will need. That depends on the size of the string, its stiffness, how tight you tighten your knots, how close you tie your knots together and so on. If you do not want to make a trial, I give you a rule of thumb. But I do not guarantee that the strings will be long enough.

You will need two different lengths of string. One is for the zigzagging strings, these need to be much longer than your belt. Depending on how close you zigs and zags are together it can be two or three times as long, plus frayed ends. (You can also measure this by measuring the length of the zigzagging line and multiplying it to the length of the belt. Add a little for crimp.)

The others can be 10 to 30 percent longer than your belt, plus the frayed ends. So if you want to make a 1 meter belt, expect to cut lengths of string about 1.6 meter long, this is the length for the belt plus frayed ends.

If your test piece gives you a different number, measure again but trust you're measuring before my rule of the thumb. If you have a little more string than you measure you need, you may want to make the frayed ends a little longer.

The knot you need is the half hitched knot, version 4 and 5 are the most likely versions for this kind of work.

Pin your strings side by side the drawing on your worktop, the two longer ones should be at the start of the zigzag, and start with making the many knots.

Taking the outermost longer string, start tying half hitches. You need two strings to tie with, the other one is the other longer string, tie two half hitches, keeping the outermost string taut across the other strings, along the line where you want the knots to come.

Tie two half hitches in with these two strings, and drop the string you tied with, not the one you tied around, and pick up the next string and tie two half hitches with that string, it has to go around the other. Go on till you have used all the strings once, for two half hitches.

Then take the other long string and repeat. The last knots on this string should be made with the other long string.

The knots on the strings should lie against each other. Left to right and top to bottom.

Working from left to right you use half hitch knot version 4, two half knot per string, and on with the next string, till you reach the last of your strings. When you turn you work from right to left, using version 5.

If you find it hard to keep your knots going where they need to go, it can be that you want to make them to far apart. They need to be against each other. You should not see the colour of the string you work around. I show it in the drawing to let you see that it is there.

If the work still does not want to stay in place you may want to pin your longer string down. Follow the line it should take 10 cm (4") farther than its next turning point and pin it strongly to your worktop. See the black line in the picture below. The dotted line is for the second string.

When you come to a turning point, pin your strings to the worktop, on the drawing. Change direction and go on tying.

As you can see in the drawings, the strings stay side by side and do not cross each other, but for where there is a knot.

Go on with tying along this pattern till the belt is long enough. You should have the same length string left over at the end as you have at the start to make the frayed ends the same length. Cut them to the same length if necessary but be careful not to cut them too short.

If you use a kind of string which unravels, best to tie thumb knot in the end, glue them fixed or, if possible, meld them a little in a flame but be careful, because many kinds of string do not meld and others burn too good and cause damage.

To wear the belt, tie it around your hips with a reef knot. If you wear it in the loops of your jeans, remember to leave enough slack that you can open your jeans without undoing the belt.

There are several variations on this belt. The easiest version is almost the same as the above, only with just one row of knots. It is less sturdy but also less work.

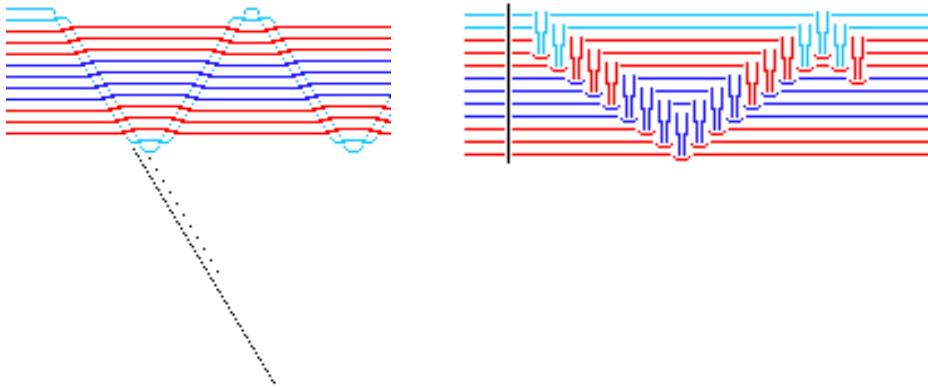
In another version you may use square knots.

To start you pin your strings next to each other on your worktop. This belt works easier from the top of your worktop. If you make one row of half hitched knots on the black line you get a nice start but if you prefer you can do without.

Take the right most four strings and tie a square knot, drop the outer right one and take the next one to the left. Tie a square knot in those strings. Go on till you have done a knot in all strings.

Then work your way back to the right side of the belt.  
 Keep the knots close together and work tight.  
 You will have to work out for yourself how long your strings need to be.  
 Finish as you have started.

If you use your fantasy you can find several more versions, like half hitching in two rows which cross each other or a mix from half hitching and square knots. Take a piece of paper and a pencil or some strings and design.



Knots used



half hitch knot square knot

## Braids.

Here you find several ways to braid.

The braids are not difficult in themselves but the style of instructions may make it needed to go back to another braid with the same structure and work your way up from there. I will try to group the braids according to structure, but if confused, just look around in the list. The three strand braid is the most basic braid and a good starter to learn to know my way of explanations.

For almost all braids it is best to have your strings attached to a fixed point. You can do that by tying your strings to a table, or a hook on the wall, or your shoe, pinning them to your trousers or tying them to a piece of string which you tie to a place farther away from you.

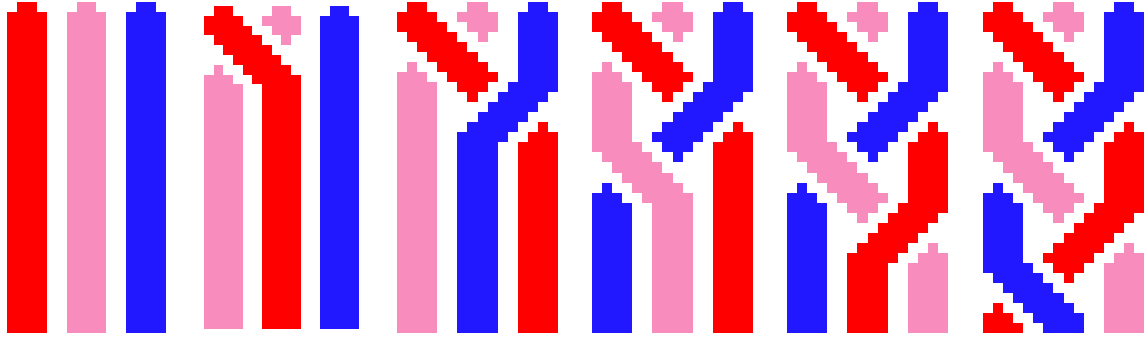
For really difficult braids, you may want to pin your work down on a pillow of foam board and wind your string on bobbins, like clothes pegs . And copy the way of work a lace maker uses.

There are a lot of braids done on cardboards disks or braiding stools. While you can do my braids that way, it is not needed.

Take a place for your fixed point so you find your strings at a comfortable working height and the start of your work near your body. If you can, make it a hands span from your belly.

### Three strand braid.

The traditional way to braid hair and a lot of other things.



Arrange your strings like this.

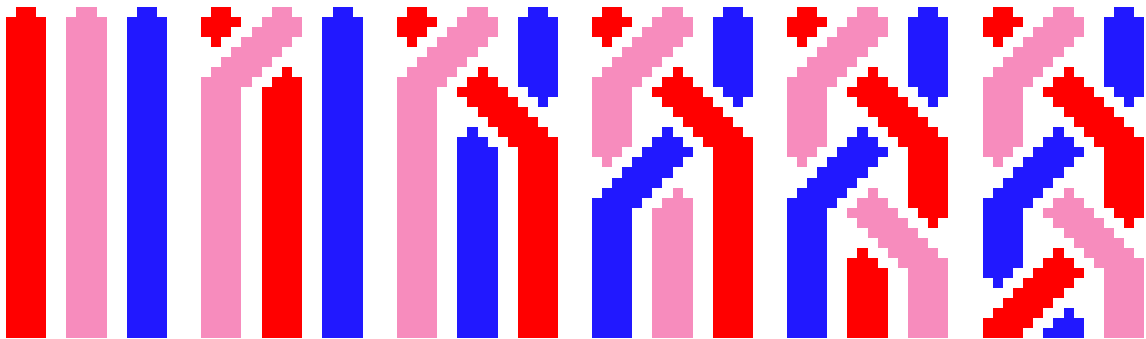
Take the string on the left and let it jump over the middle string.

Take the string on the right and let it jump over the new middle string.

From here on you just repeat, left string to the middle.

And right to the middle.

You can keep on going this way forever.



This braid is like the other, just its negative. Arrange your strings like this.

Take the middle string and let it jump over the string on the left.

Take the new middle string and let it jump over the string on the right.

From here on you just repeat, middle string to the left.

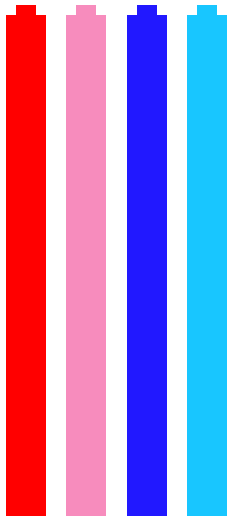
And middle to the right.

You can keep on going this way forever

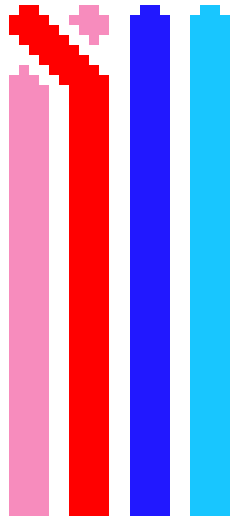


## Four strand braid.

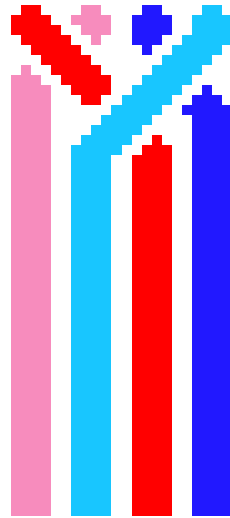
A simple way to braid with four strands.



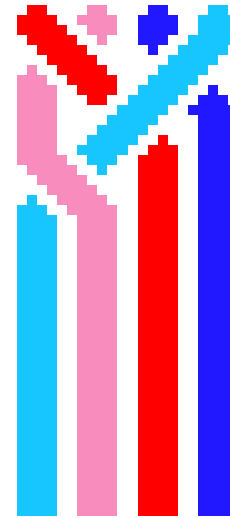
Arrange your strings like this. And decide where the middle will come.



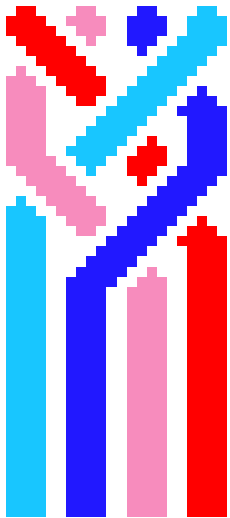
Take the leftmost string and let it jump over the string on its right, to the 'middle'



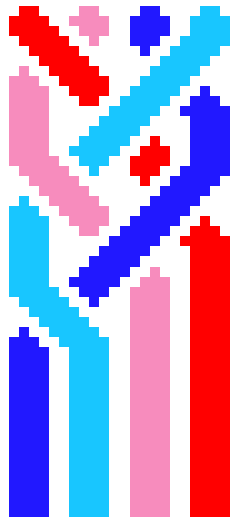
Take the outmost string on the right and let it jump over two strings, towards the middle.



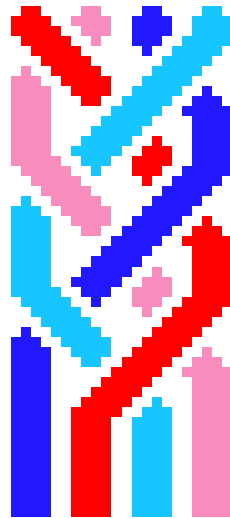
From here on you just repeat, left string to the middle.



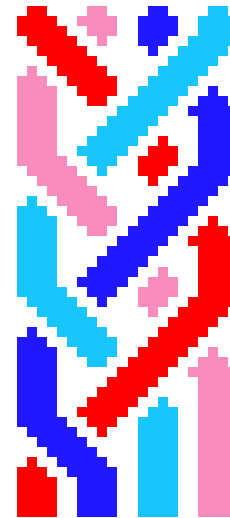
And right to the middle.



You can keep on going this way forever.

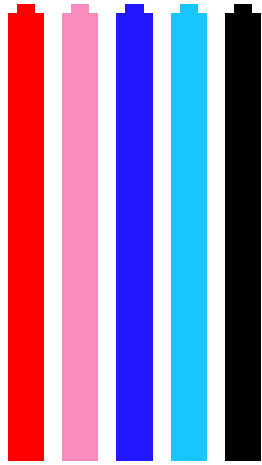


You can also braid from the middle to the sides but I think this is the easier way.

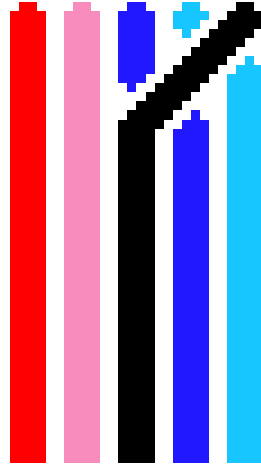


## Simple five strand braid.

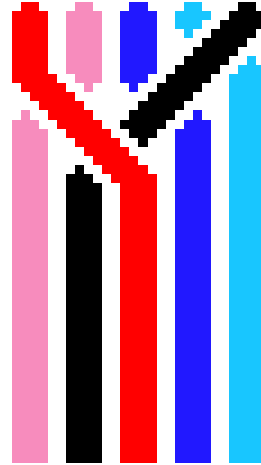
A easy way to braid with five strands.



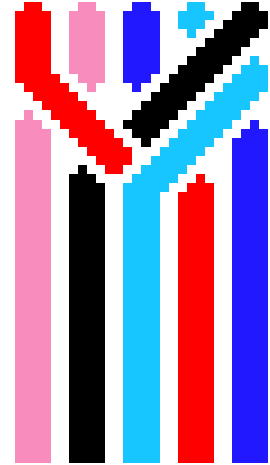
Arrange your strings like this.



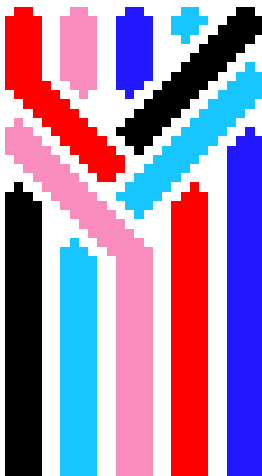
Take the rightmost string and let it jump to the middle.



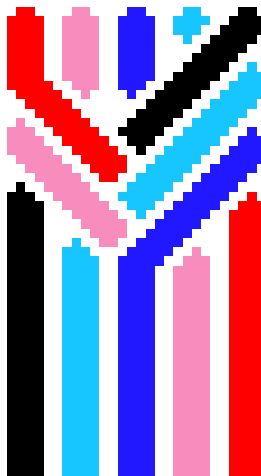
Take the leftmost string and let it jump to the middle.



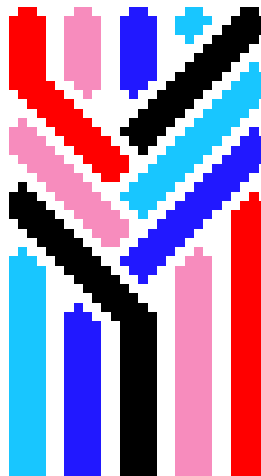
From here on you just repeat, rightmost string to the middle.



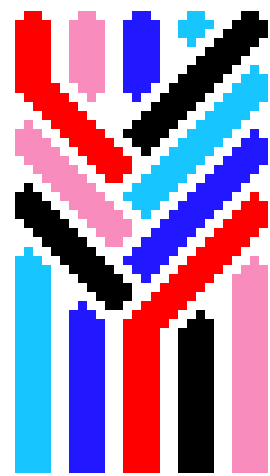
Leftmost string to the middle.



You can keep on going this way forever.



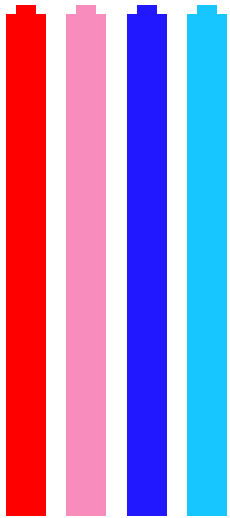
You can also braid from the middle, but I did not put that in drawings, try it and see if you like the way .



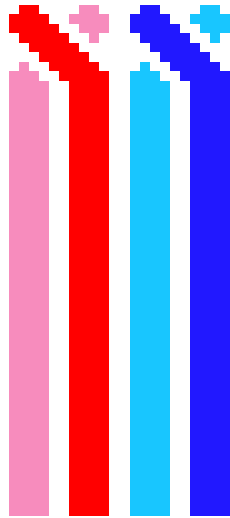


### Four strand braid.

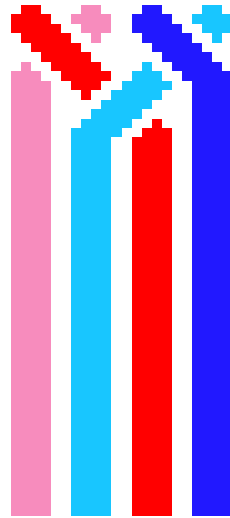
A symmetric way to braid with four strands.



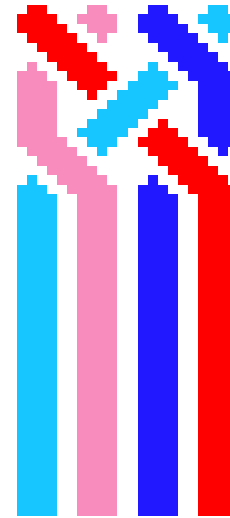
Arrange your strings like this. See your strings as two pairs.



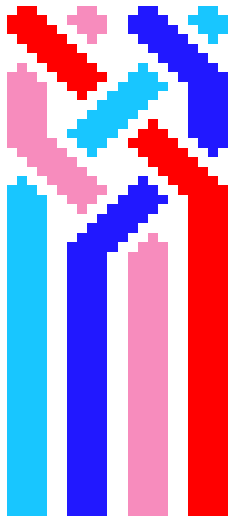
Take the left string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its right.



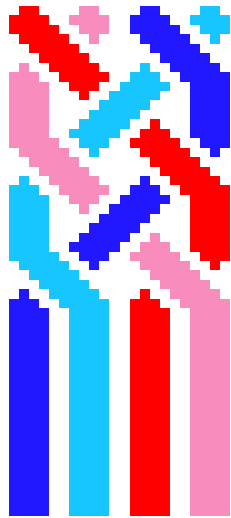
Take the string just right from the middle and let it jump over the string on its left.



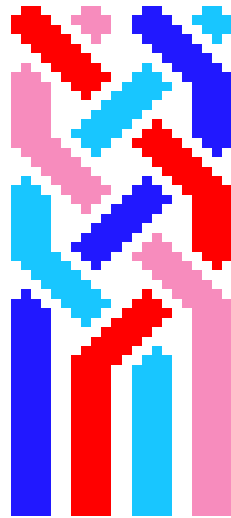
From here on you just repeat, left string of each pair to the right.



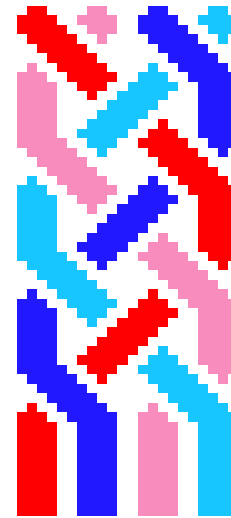
And string right from the middle to the left.



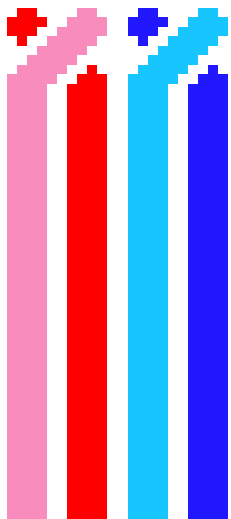
You can keep on going this way forever.



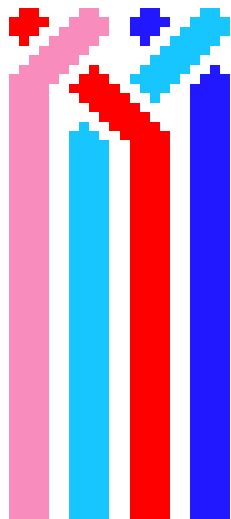
You can also braid the other way round, to help you getting started I give you some pictures.



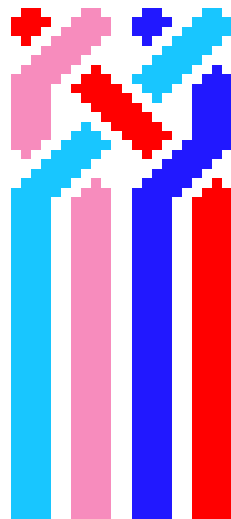
The other way round.



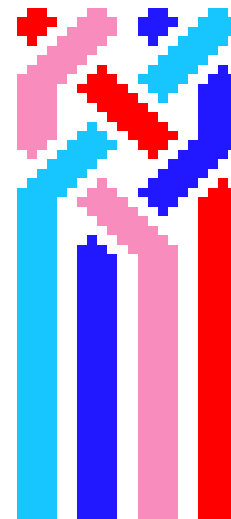
Take the right string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its left.



Take the string just left from the middle and let it jump over the string on its right.



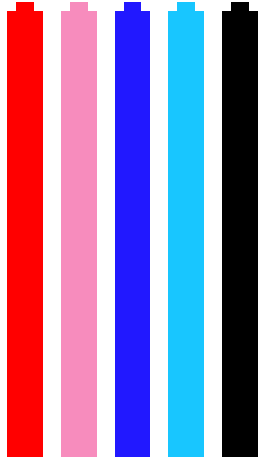
From here on you just repeat, right string of each pair to the left.



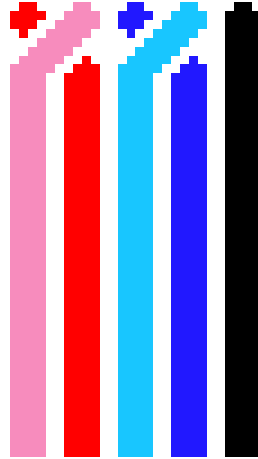
And string left from the middle to the right.

## Five strand braid.

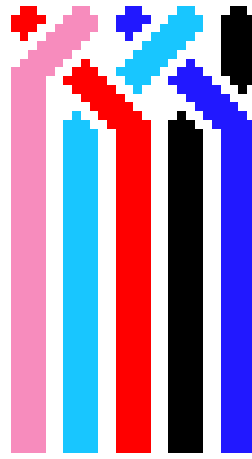
The one-up one-down way to braid with five strands.



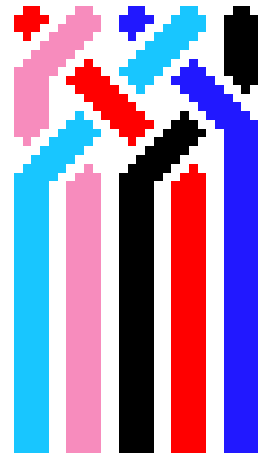
Arrange your strings like this. See your strings as two pairs and a single, start counting from the left.



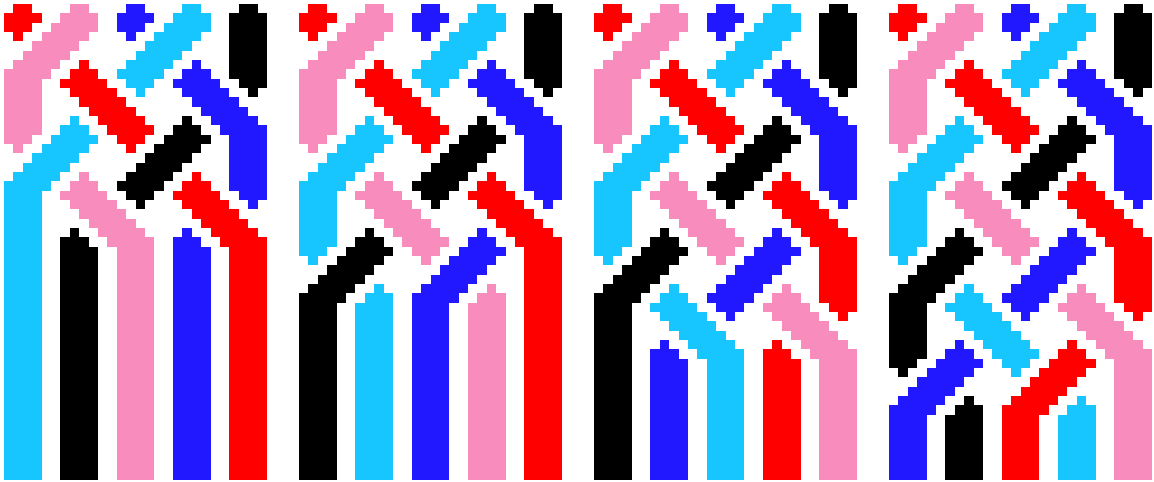
Take the right string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its left.



Now count from the right, take the left string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its right.



From here on you just repeat, start counting on the left, right string of each pair to the left.



Next start counting on the right, left string of each pair to the right.

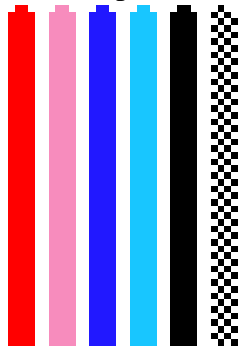
You can keep on going this way forever.

You can also braid the other way round, but it looks so much the same, you can work it out for yourself..

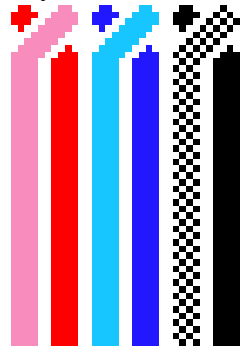


Six strand braid.

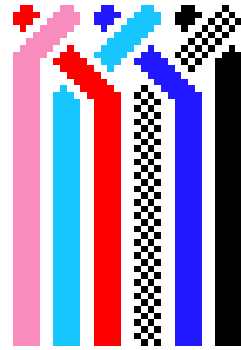
The one-up one-down way to braid with six strands.



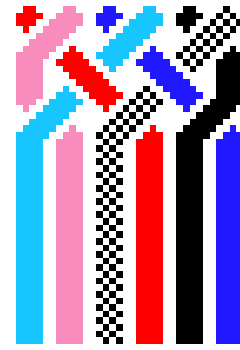
Arrange your strings like this. See your strings as pairs.



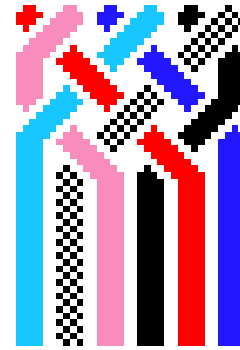
Take the right string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its left.



Now skip one string and count, take the left string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its right.

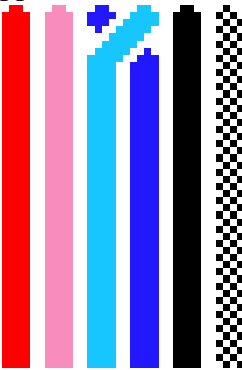


From here on you just repeat, right string of each pair to the left.

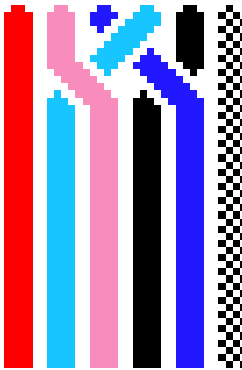


Skipping the first string, left string of each pair to the right. And go on and on.

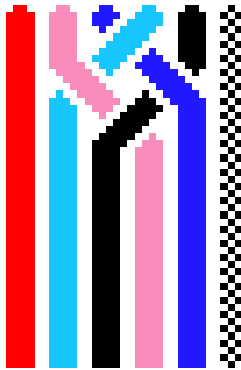
A different approach.



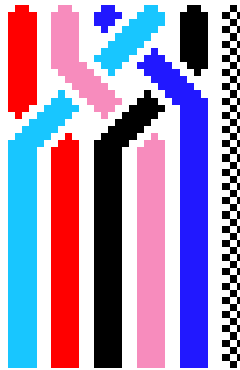
Take the middle pair and jump the right over the left.



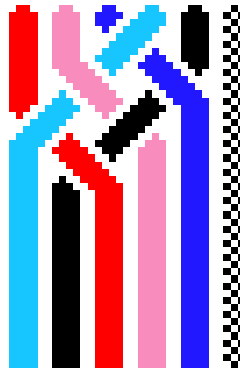
Take the ones next to that pair and cross them, left over right, with the strings of the middle pair.

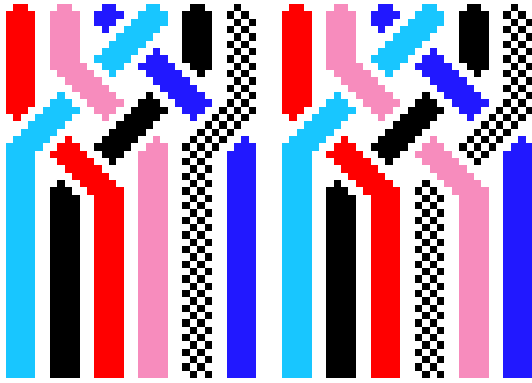


Cross the new middle pair, right over left.

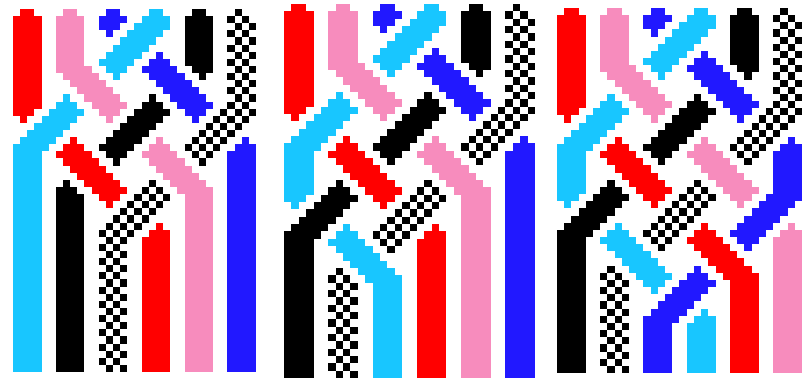


Work the outer left to the middle, going under-one over-one.





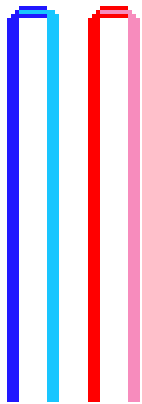
Go on till the string is in the middle, next work the rightmost string to the middle, starting with over-one. Go on till it has crossed the string you just got from the left. Keep going, one from the left, one from the right.



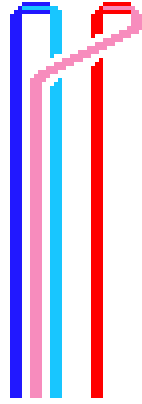
You can also change from the method above to this one, or the other way round, as long as each string goes over-one under-one all the time, and meets the edges of the braid before changing direction.

Four strand round braid, traditional method.

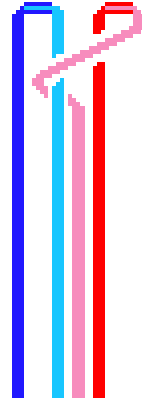
Take two (or four,) strings, if you can get them, pink, red, and two shades of blue.



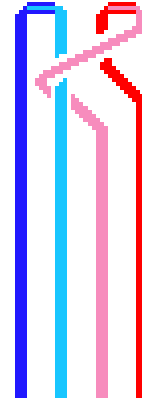
Arrange your strings like this and pin them down on your workspace.



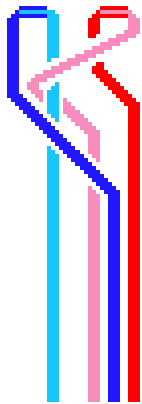
Take the outer string on the right and let it jump over the next two strings,



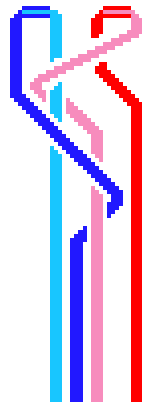
move it back one place by going under the nearest string,



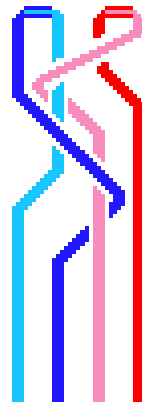
let it rest between the two it just jumped and rearrange them to make space.



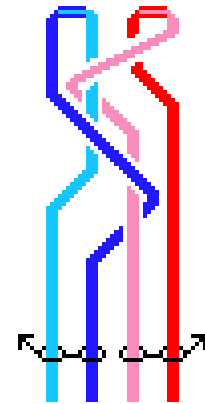
Take the outer string on the left and jump two places,



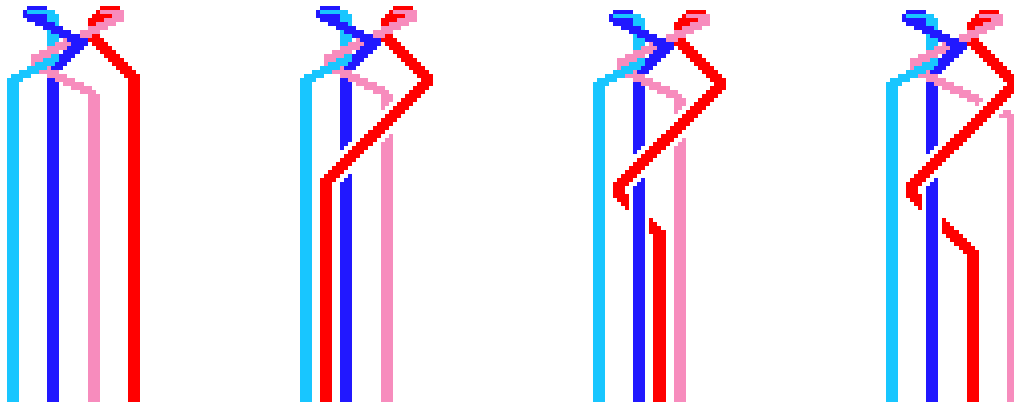
go back under one,



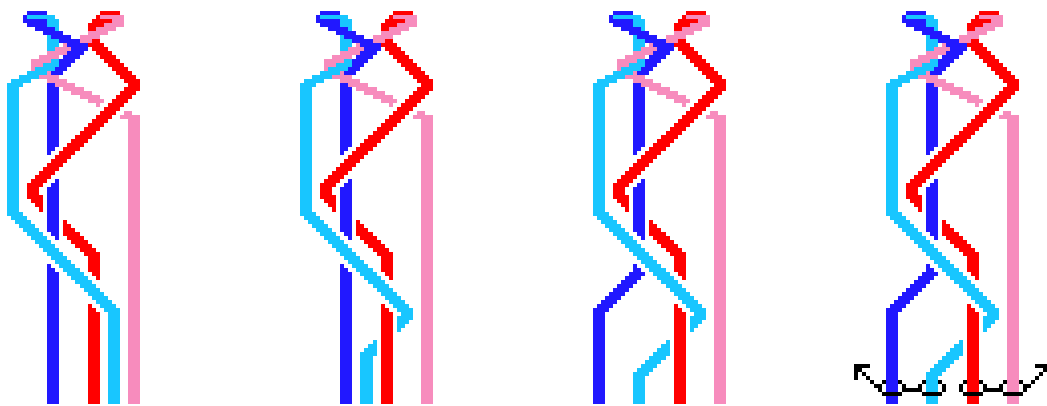
let it rest and make space.



After each set of moves, take hold on all strings and move them (in two's) away from each other and back.



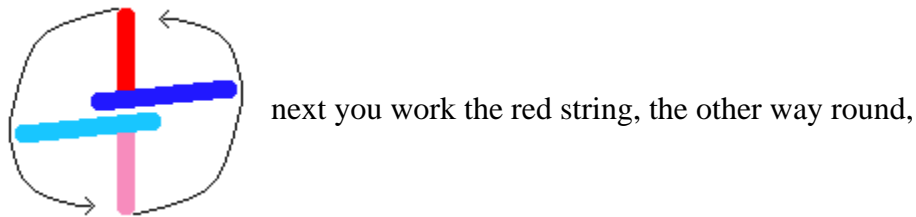
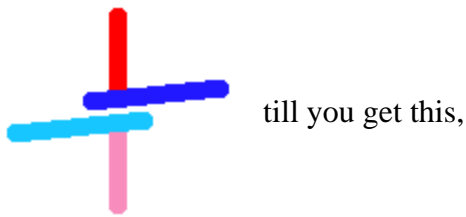
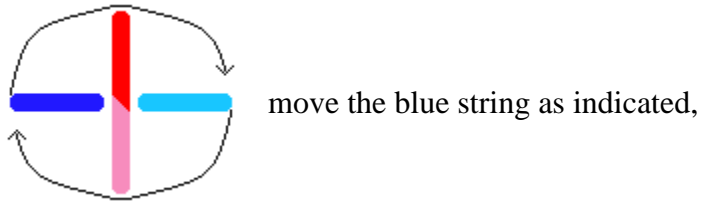
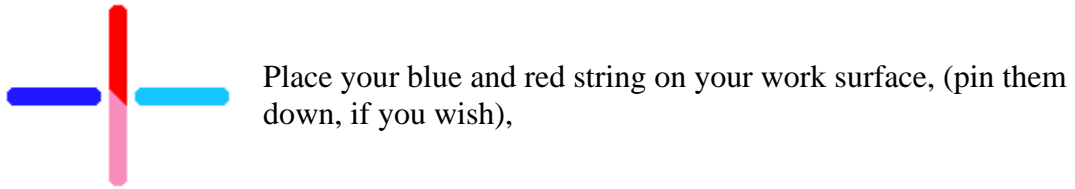
You can see the braid became tighter but the order of the strings is still the same. Repeat the movements, outer right, than outer left, tightening, till your braid is long enough.



Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right

# Four strand round braid

This is a way to make a four strand, round braid, in one colour it is the way to get confused, so try with two or four different ones.



Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right.

## Twist to braid

To make a braid out of a twist: take a blue and a red string,



twist your blue string,



and feed your red string through,



weave it through, one up one down as far as needed,



notice the pink dots, weave the string through at these spots, to the back at the first, back to the front at the next.

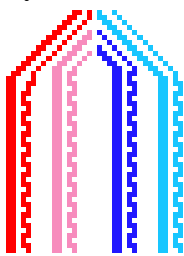


Go on till you have done all the length you want your braid to be. Take care to get an even braid, the blue string twisting one way, the red the other.

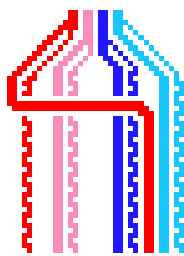
Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right.

## Square braid of 8.

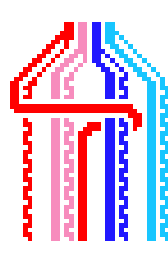
A way to braid with 8 strands.



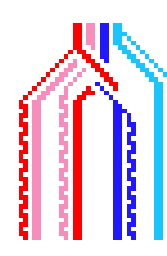
Tie your strings together and to a sturdy anchor point. Arrange your strings like this. In a left and a right half, each of them divided in two sets again.



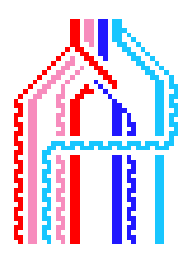
Take the left most string and cross it over the next 5 strings till it is in the middle of the set on the right.



From there it goes down, under the 2 strings to its left and comes back to its own side.

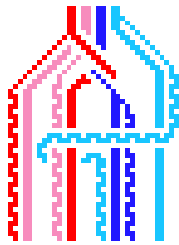


Now pull it tight and arrange the strings in the left half in 2 sets of 2 again.

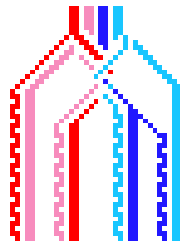


Now take the right most string and bring it to the middle of the set on the left.

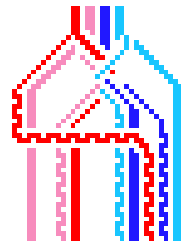




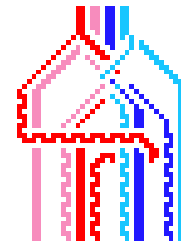
Go back underneath till your string joins its own half again.



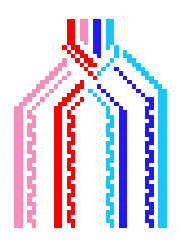
Pull tight and rearrange into two sets again.



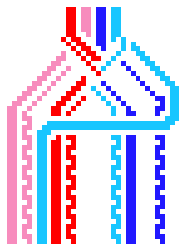
From now on you repeat the same moves. The outmost one on the left goes to the middle of the strings on the right,



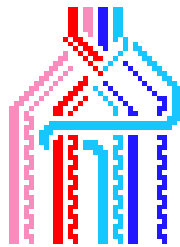
and back underneath the last 2 strings to its own side.



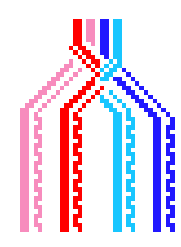
And pull tight again. My drawing of the strings pulled tight is not the best, but while working you see easily when its goes right.



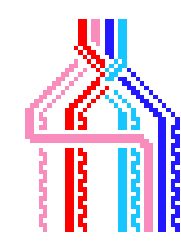
Take the outmost string on the right again, by now you can see it is also though highest on its side.



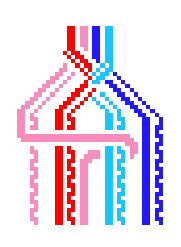
It goes over to the middle on the left and back to the right and back to its own side.



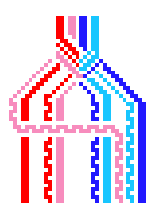
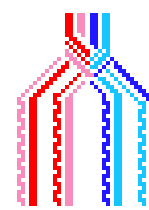
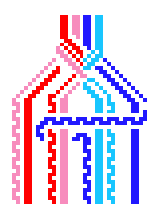
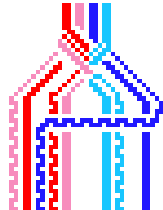
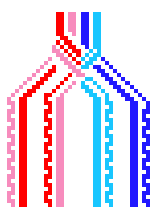
After you park it on its own side you pull tight and regroup.



And from the left again.

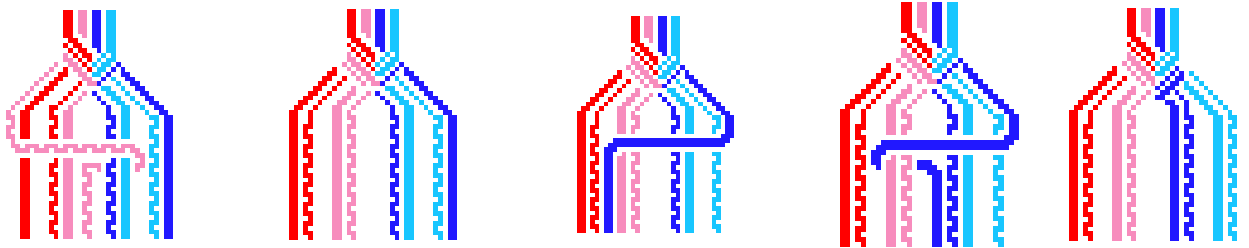


Across most and back under a few.



You see that the string on the left stay left and the strings on the right stay on the right. Making the characteristic v shapes on all sides of the braid.

I remember this braid as, top most left goes across, through the middle of the strings on the right and back to its own side and joins in the centre of the braid. Top most right goes over to the middle on the left and back underneath to the right, to join again in the centre of the braid. And repeat.



You can also use this braid with more strings. Arrange in 4 sets, as equal as you can get them. Hold 2 sets left and 2 sets right. Braid like you do in this braid. One string goes across, through the middle on the other side and back to its own side. Pull tight and rearrange into 2 equal sets. Take the topmost on the other side and repeat.

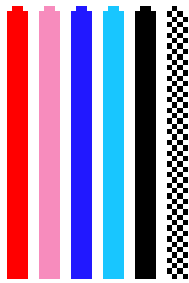
Braiding with 12 is as easy as 8, 16 possible and higher numbers bothersome because it goes slow but as easy and as square. With any number higher than 12 you will not notice if the sets are not really equal, so braiding with 15 or 17 strands can be done on the same schedule.

## Round six strand braid.

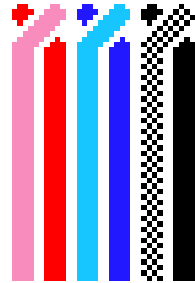
The one-up one-down way to braid round with six strands.

Here I try to give a 3 dimension braid in just 2 dimension drawings. Imagine the drawings are cylinders and the string disappearing on the left and appearing on the right goes round the back. Keep your strings tight, they will make a nice braid.

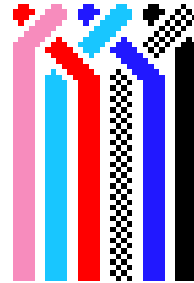
It works easiest if you hold your strings divided in two, three strings in each hand.



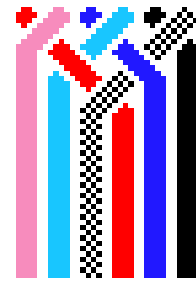
Tie your strings together, and to a sturdy point and arrange like this. Begin with braiding a triangle in the front.



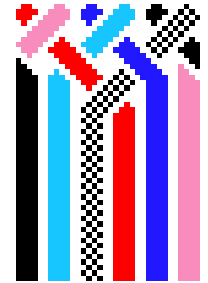
Take the right string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its left.



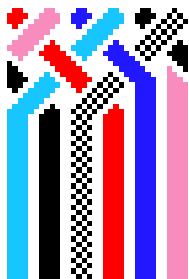
Now skip one string and count, take the left string of each pair and let it jump over the string on its right.



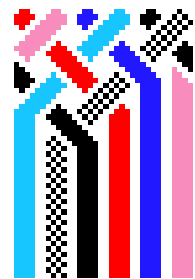
Just cross the middle pair this time.



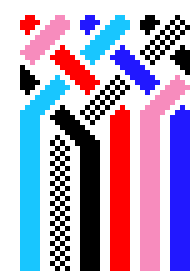
Now cross the outmost right with the outmost left, behind the work. Keeping the string from the right on the outside, this is, going over.



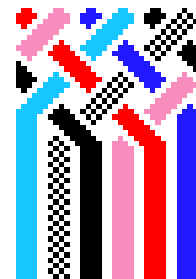
Now take the new leftmost string and cross it under the string to its right.



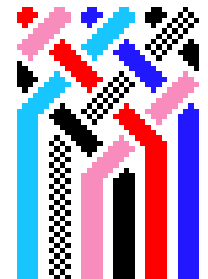
And go on to the right, now crossing over the next string.



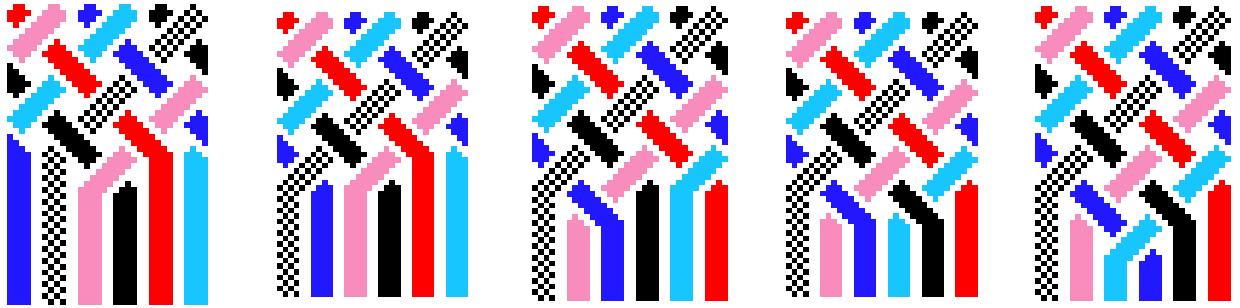
Next take the new rightmost string and work it to the left, first crossing over.



Next under.



And at last going over the string coming from the left.



Repeat, first cross the outmost strings behind the work, keeping the over-one, under-one structure, than braiding one string to the middle.

And next braiding the other outmost one to the middle till it has crossed with the string from the other side.

Note that some strings twist to the left and some twist to the right, they keep going the same direction all the time. In my drawings the darker colours go one way; the lighter colours go the other way round.

They never change direction. This is one of the characteristics of a round braid.

Braiding a round braid with more strings works the same way as long as you use an even number of strings. First braid a triangle in the top across the whole width of the strings. Next take the outmost string on both sides and cross them behind the work, keeping in the same over-one under-one structure. Then work your strings to the middle, at last crossing them in front.

Be aware that with any number of strings higher than 6 you will get a tube that needs a core to be a firm braid.

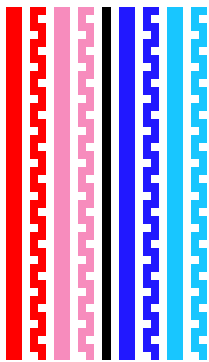
## Round braid of 8.

A way to braid with 8 strands and a core.

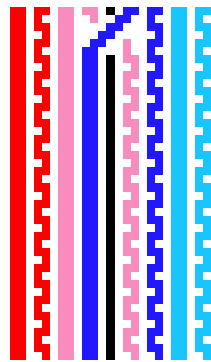
You can do this braid without a core, but most likely it will become a tube with a hollow in the centre. So better work around a core. For a beginner it is the easiest if the core is one thicker string, but with a bunch of thin strings you can adjust the size of the core if needed.

Tie your strings together and to a sturdy anchor point. Arrange your strings into half on the left and half on the right. If you have a core, keep it in the centre, it is depicted as a black line in these drawings. Keep your core taut, if needed tie it to your belt. The instructions for the core are within brackets. ( )

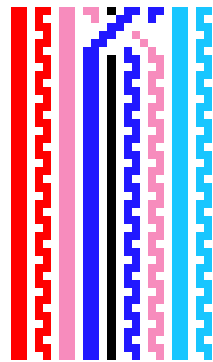
Keep all your strings taut as you work. In my drawings I had to leave spaces between the colours to make it possible to read them, in real the strings are side by side, touching much of the time.



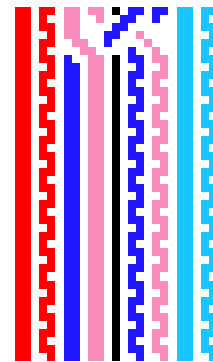
Start position.  
All strings will move one place at the time, always going over-1 under-1



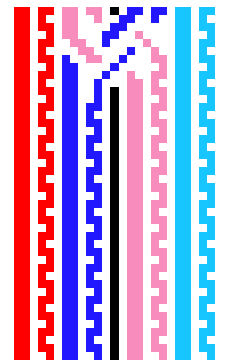
Take the string right from the middle and cross it over the string on its left. (Cross both of them over the core while doing this.)



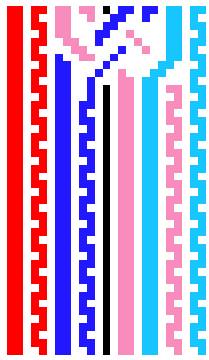
The string to the right of the middle goes over the string on its right.



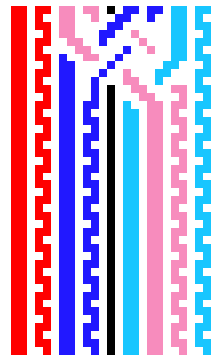
The string to the left of the middle crosses with the string on its left, going under it.



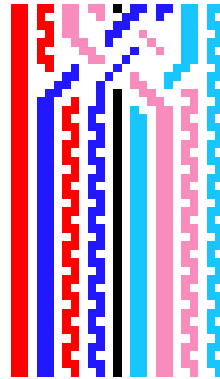
And the 2 strings in the middle cross again, right over left. (Both crossing over the core.)



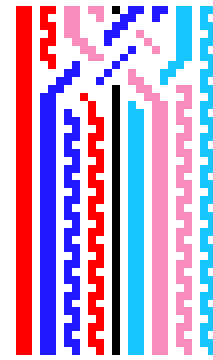
Take the next string on the right, the one but last and cross it over the string to the left of it.



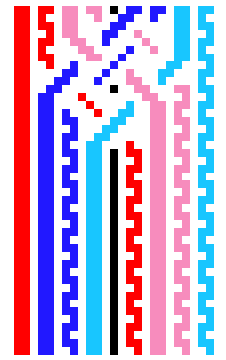
And under the next string, it is next to the middle now.



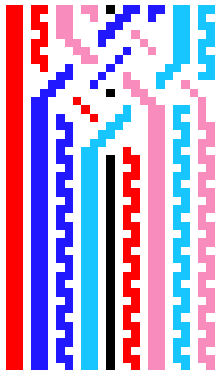
Take the next string on the left, the one but last and work it to the right, going under the first.



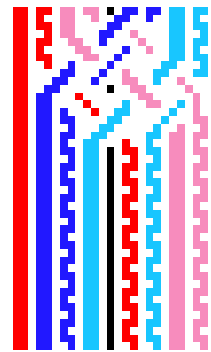
Over the next string.



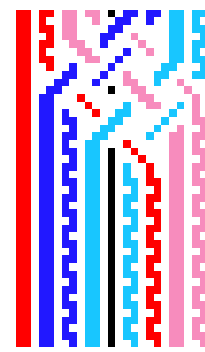
And cross with the string on the other side of the middle, going under it. (Both of them crossing over the core.)



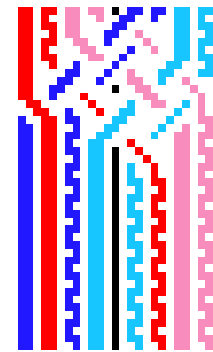
Now take the right most string and work it to the left. Crossing under the first string.



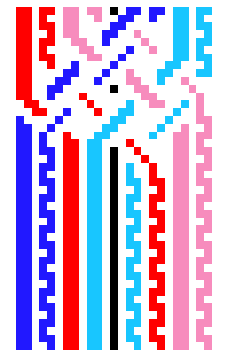
Over the next.



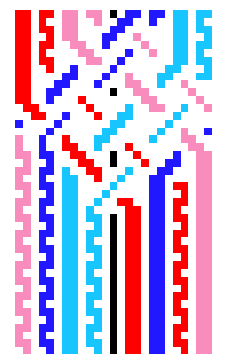
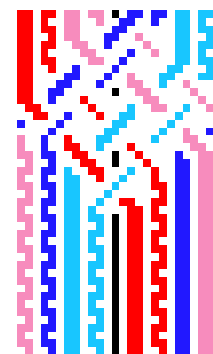
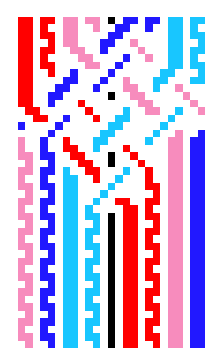
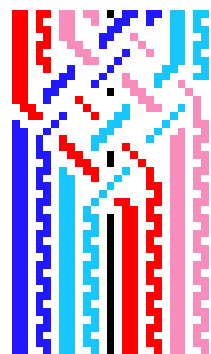
And under the next again, you are now in the middle.



Next you take the leftmost string and work it to the right, over the first.



Under the second.





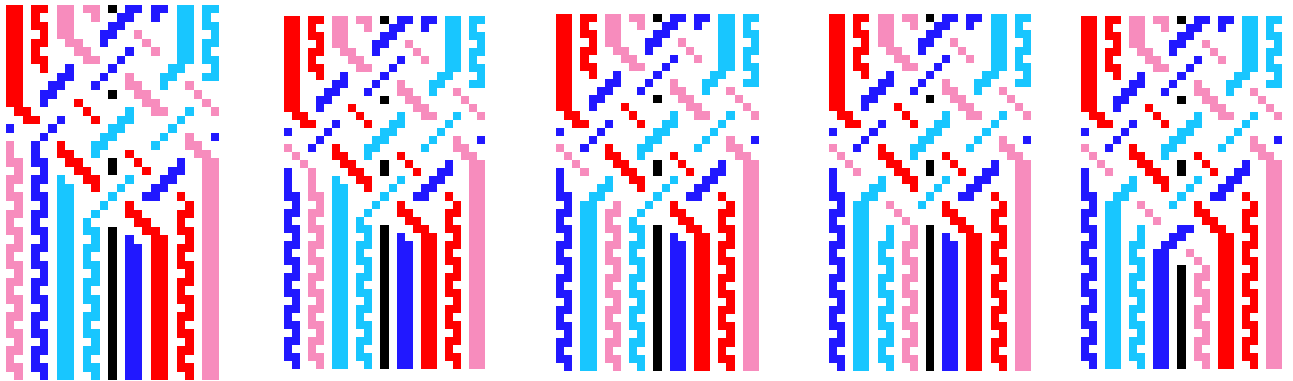
Over the third.

And across the middle, under the string coming from the right. (Both of them going over the core to do this.)

Now take both outer strings and cross them under the work (and under the core) keeping in the over-1 under-1 structure, The string from the right stays on the outside.

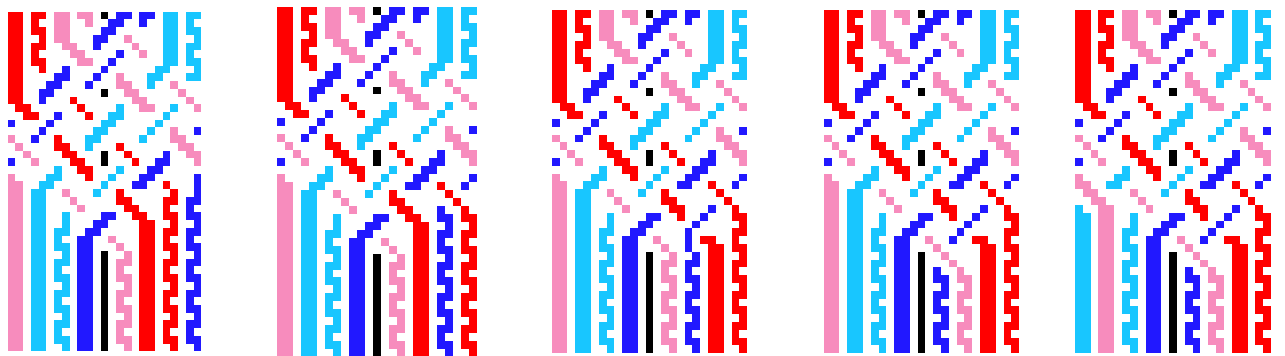
And work both of them to the centre, the new right most string goes under the string on its left.

Over the next.



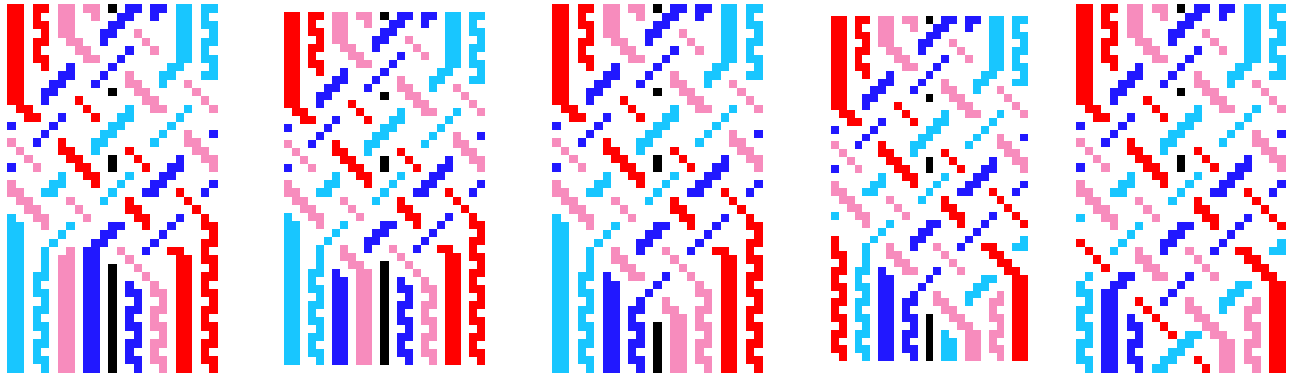
And under the next one again. And the same from the left, starting with over. In the drawings I have worked a few more strings but I know you can do it by now.

I remember this braid as, outer right works under-1, over-1 to the middle, outer left goes to the middle, over-1, and under-1 and there they cross. Next the outermost strings cross under the work. And repeat.



You see that the string go one way round and do not have sharp corners to take. In my drawings the blues always work to the left and the reds always work to the right. And within one set, the strings stay parallel; they do not cross with an other string going the same direction.

If you need an example, most shoe strings/laces are made like this.



The same way of braiding works for any number of strings, even odd numbers. Arrange them in two groups, (and the core in the middle,) make the groups as near equal as you can get them. You can start with the outmost strings from the start, first braid a triangle at the top or work from the middle as I have done here, this last method shows best whether strings need to go over or under when they come into the braid. For the triangle method, see the six strand round braid.

You can also start with a piece of flat braid with the same number of strings and change that into a round braid.

## Knots used and how to do them.



The thumb knot or overhand knot.  
The knot is well known, its name less.



Splice back to a round braid.  
Make a braid when you do not have four strands available. Once you know it, it is very useful.



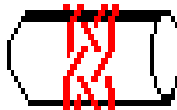
Round braid of four strands, the traditional way.  
The easiest way to make a round braid.



Round braid of four strands, alternative way.  
A different way to make the same braid, it seems easy but you get lost very fast.



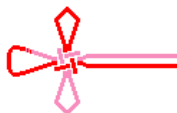
Turks head knot.  
To make a small button, a mat or a ring.



Three bights, four lead turks head knot.  
An elongated button, can be used as animal head.



Ocean mat  
An elongated mat. Folded over a good head for dangerous animals.



Shamrock knot.  
A decorative knot, to make three loops, or two loops between other knots.



The filling for the wing.  
Here you get the filling.



Crown knot.  
The knot that is at the base of multi strand knot tying.



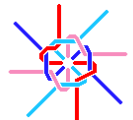
Crown knot reversed.  
The version 'against the clock'.



Crown knot over two.  
A variation, looks like the normal crown knot but can be used in different places.



Wall knot.  
Another variation on the crown knot, the same knot up side down.



Crown knot.  
Now with eight ends.



Crown knot over three.  
With eight ends, over three.



Diamond knot.  
With four ends, 2 versions.



Diamond knot.  
With eight ends, over one and under one.



Diamond knots.  
A different way to make these knots, and a few variations.



Petal knot.  
A knot that is not well known, here with four ends.



Petal knot 'up side down'.  
With four ends, worked in a different direction.



The star knot.  
With four ends.



The star knot.  
More explanations and versions. Just text.



The square knot.  
A well known macramé knot.



The crossing.  
A useful macramé trick.



The square knot, turning.  
A well known macramé knot, now twisting around.



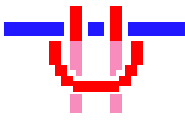
The square knot, turning the other way round.  
A well known macramé knot, now twisting the other way.



To start the square knots in a point.  
A way to start macramé.



The half hitch knot.  
A simple knot in many versions.



The larks head knot.  
Often used to start macramé work.



The necklace knot.  
To close necklaces and bracelets.

These knots are often also known by other names but these are the names I used. Where I could not find the names, I have made them myself.



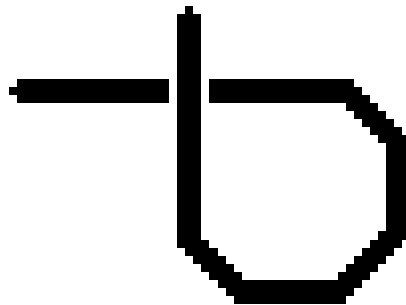
The thumb knot or overhand knot.  
The knot is well known, its name less.

### Thumb knot

If you ask people to tie a knot in a piece of string, this is the knot you most often get. Many people do not know its name. It is known by a lot of names but in the English speaking world 'thumb knot' seems its daily name and 'overhand knot' is a more formal, often used one.

You see in the pictures that there are two versions of this knot. Often it does not matter which one you tie but if you have to tie a lot of thumb knots close together, stick to one. If you tie this knot in the construction of another knot, often it does make a difference, if it does, you can read the right one in the pictures.

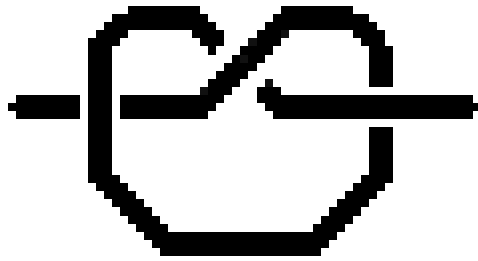
### Version 1



Start with  
a loop,  
crossing  
over your  
string.

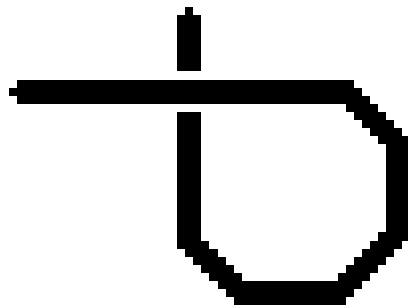


Bend the  
end  
backwards.

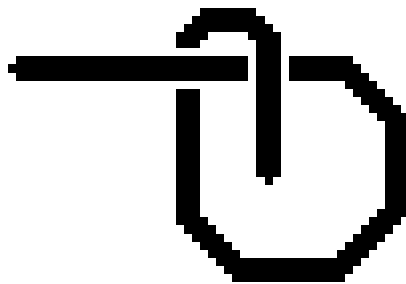


Through the loop and out to the side, over the string. And pull tight.

Version 2, the mirror image.

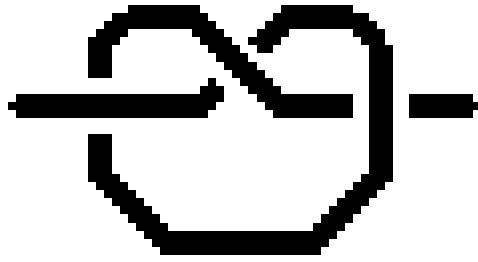


Make a loop, crossing under your string.



Bend the end over, forwards.





Through  
the loop  
and out to  
the side,  
under the  
string.  
And pull  
tight.

This is a basic knot, often used in other knots. And when you tie it, most likely your hands do already know what to do.

If you work in laid rope or string it might be that the one version gives a better looking knot than the other. If so, try to use the better looking version.

## Splice back to a round braid

To make a braid out of a twist: take a blue and a red string,



twist your blue string,



and feed your red string through,



weave it through, one up one down as far as needed,



Notice the pink dots, weave the string through at these spots, to the back at the first, back to the front at the next.



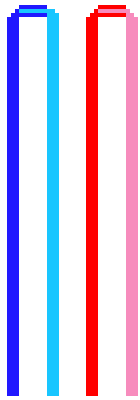
Go on till you have done all the length you want your braid to be. Take care to get an even braid, the blue string twisting one way, the red the other.

Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right.

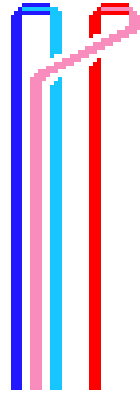


Four strand round braid, traditional method.

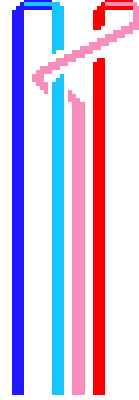
Take two (or four,) strings, if you can get them, pink, red, and two shades of blue.



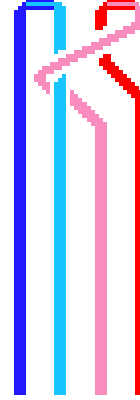
Arrange your strings like this and pin them down on your workspace.



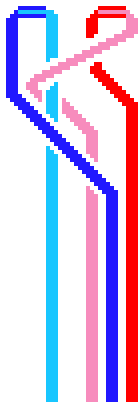
Take the outer string on the right and let it jump over the next two strings,



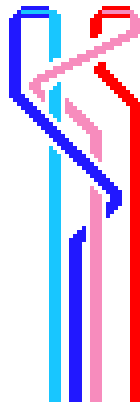
move it back one place by going under the nearest string,



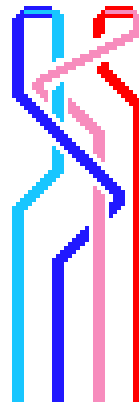
Let it rest between the two it just jumped and rearrange them to make space.



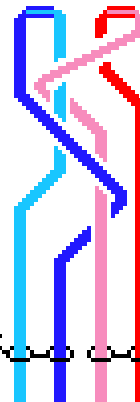
Take the outer string on the left and jump two places,



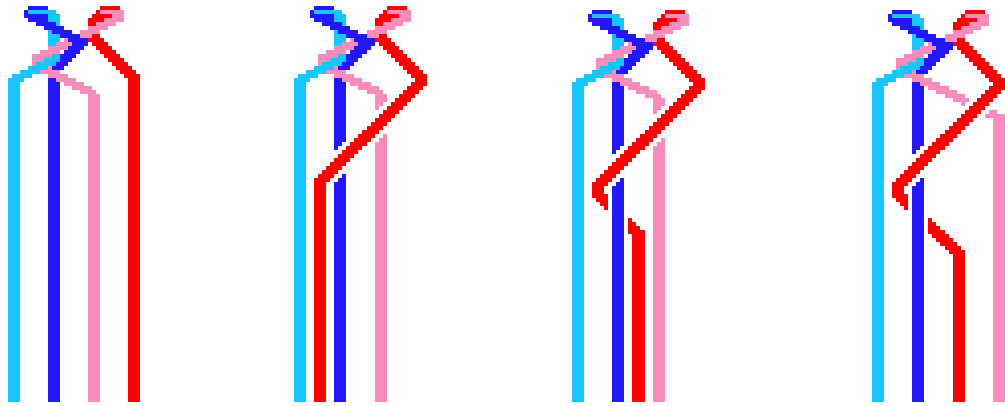
go back under one,



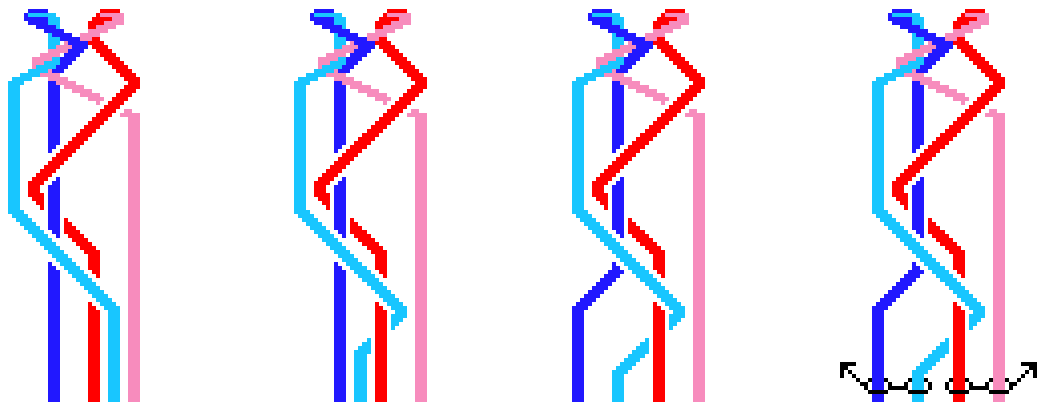
Let it rest and make space.



After each set of moves, take hold on all strings and move them (in two's) away from each other and back.



You can see the braid became tighter but the order of the strings is still the same. Repeat the movements, outer right, than outer left, tightening, till your braid is long enough.



Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right.



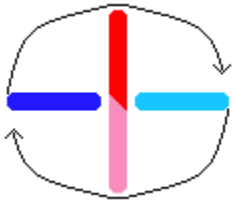
### Round braid of four strands, alternative way.

A different way to make the same braid, it seems easy but you get lost very fast.

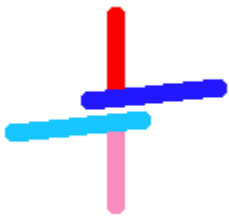
This is a way to make a four strand, round braid, in one colour it is the way to get confused, so try with two or four different ones.



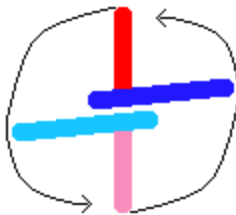
Place your blue and red string on your work surface, (pin them down, if you wish),



move the blue string as indicated,



till you get this,



next you work the red string, the other way round,



To get this.



Repeat both movements, till your braid is long enough.

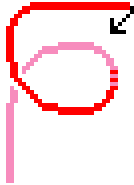
Hold your braid at both ends and twist both ways to test whether you have done it right.



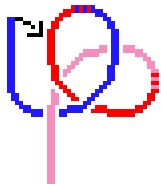
### Turks head knot.

To make a small button, a mat or a ring.

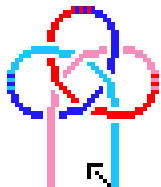
To make a little button or ball, make a turks head knot and tighten it. I have used different colours to make it easier to read the pictures, you can take whatever colour near at hand.



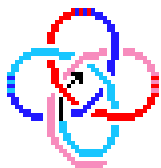
Start with a loop,



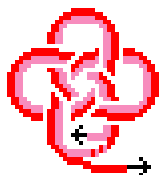
make the second loop over the first and pass under the starting string,



Weave the string through, one up one down till you are at the bottom.



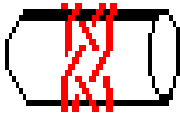
Start following the knot, I have done it on the inside, but if you have worked tight, you may follow on the outside.



Now you tighten by pulling the starting string a little, follow that string and where it has slack again, pull the slack along till you get out at the other end. Often you have to repeat this two or three times.



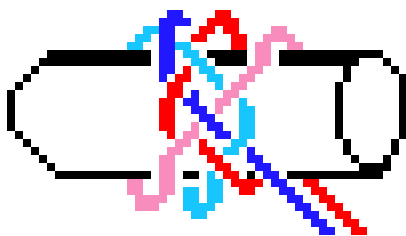
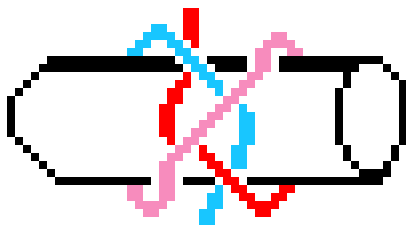
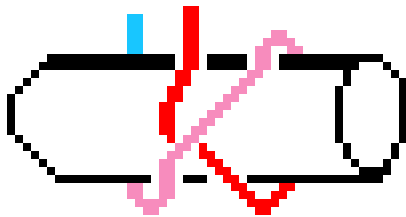
While tightening you can put in a little paper or plastic rolled into a ball, or leave it empty.



Three bight, four lead turks head knot.

An elongated button, can be used as animal head.

To make an elongated little button or ball, make a three bight, four lead turks head knot. I have used different colours to make it easier to read the pictures, you can take whatever colour near at hand. In the pictures all the crossings are in view, at the back the strings are going strait up.

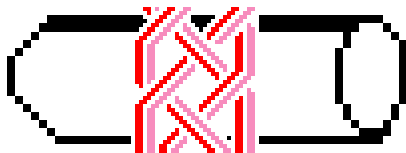
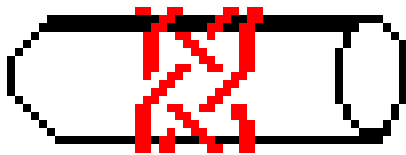


Work around a tube, make a full loop around it, in the picture I started with red and went on with pink.

From the top, go over the first string, next under the next two, and behind the tube back to the top. (This is all in light blue.)



From the top, between the first two strings, go over the first, (you are at the outside now,) under the string which is under, over the next one which is over, and under the last. (Dark blue.) This is what the knot looks like when the crossings are evenly divided between front and back. This is what the knot looks like when doubled.



Tighten a little to get the knot organized and start doubling, leave the tube in. After

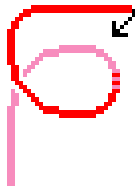
doubling you tighten again, you may want to replace the tube by something narrower, like a pencil, knitting needle or a bit of string, but leave something in till the knot is tight enough. (When not doubled the knot will loose shape, also when doubled and not tight.)



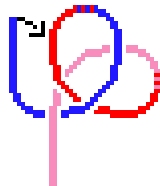
### Ocean mat

An elongated mat. Folded over a good head for dangerous animals.

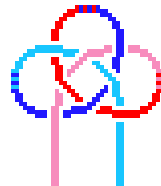
If you already know another ocean mat you may use that one as well.



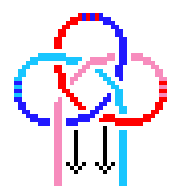
The start is a turks head knot. Start with a loop,



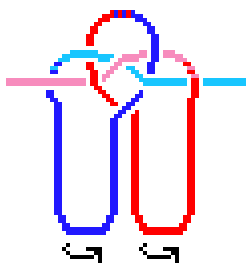
make the second loop over the first and pass under the starting string,



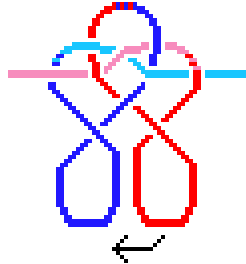
Weave the string through, one up one down till you are at the bottom.



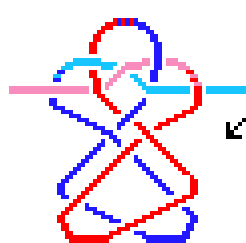
pull both loops out,



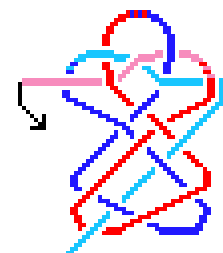
and twist them, keeping the one over-one under pattern



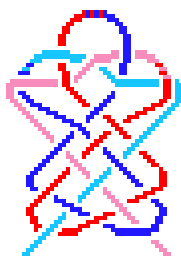
Bring the one over the other, keeping the pattern at the topmost crossing.



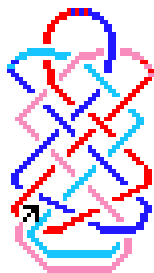
The other crossings are not in pattern any more.



Feed one string through, the first two tucks are in pattern again.



Feed the other string through, the pattern is back.



Shape the knot. Double or follow and take the old one out, as far as needed.



If you use the mat for a head, this is where you make eyes. When you get to the middle of the mat you can start with the eye-knots.



The eyes are just thumb knots, come back to this side to fix them, and go out at the big spots for the neck.



Shamrock knot.

A decorative knot, to make three loops, or two loops between other knots.

This knot can be used for leaves for plants, for dragonfly wings or for whatever you think it looks like. You can use it either singly or work the knots in series.



Start with a bight,



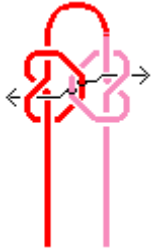
Tie a thumb knot in one end.



A thumb knot has a belly and a back.



Tie a like knot in the other end, in such way that they interlock, at the bellies. It has to be the same knot, not its mirror image.



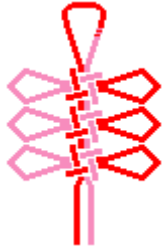
Open both thumb knots at the back a little, grip the other knot at the belly and start pulling.



Pull slowly, carefully, till both loops are big and the knot is tight.



Pull the knot really tight, so the loops can not move anymore.



To make a series, start with a new knot right under the one you just finished.

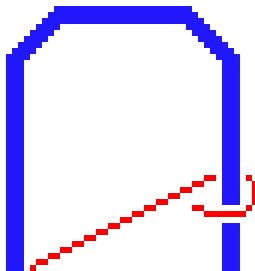
If you work the knot into a project, put the knots you already have in the place of the bight at the top of the knot.



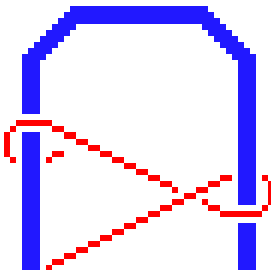
The filling for the wing.

First make the frame of your wing and bring the string for the filling to the place where the frame meets the body.

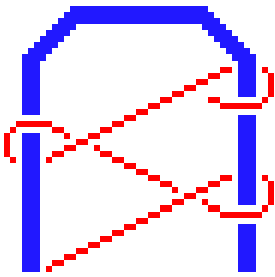
In my drawing the wing is straight, you will often find it narrow near the body. This filling works the same.



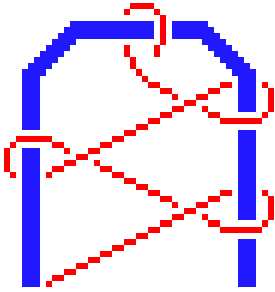
Go under the frame at the other side of the wing and turn back over the frame.



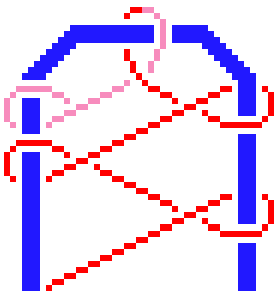
Go under the string you just placed and over the frame at the other side.



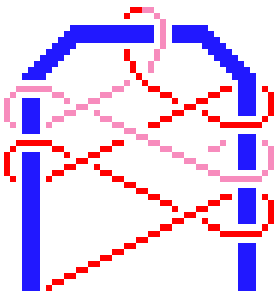
Now start with going over the string and under the frame at the other side.



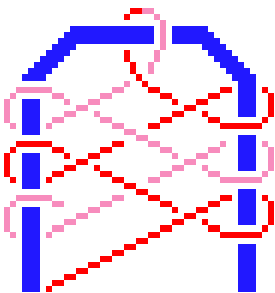
Now you start with going under the string and than under the frame at the top of the wing.



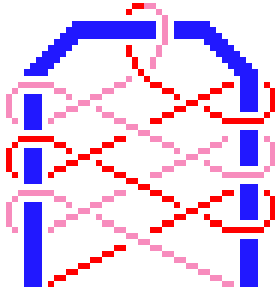
From here the working string is pink in the pictures, to show it better. Go under the string and than under the frame at the side.



Go under the string near the frame, over the string in the middle of the wing and over the frame at the other side of the wing, in between the loops already there.



Go over the string near you, under the string in the middle of the wing and under the frame at the other side.



A last time under the string near to the frame, and over the string in the middle of the wing and fix where the wing frame meets the body.

Tighten the filling of the wing, bit by bit from the start, sometimes you even have to give a little, till the string is tight and even along the whole of the wing. It needs to fill the frame, it should not stick out and it should not pull the frame in.

This is a way to fill a wing, if your wing is bigger or smaller you may need to use more or less filling. It does also depend on how tight you want to have it and how much string you have left to work with.

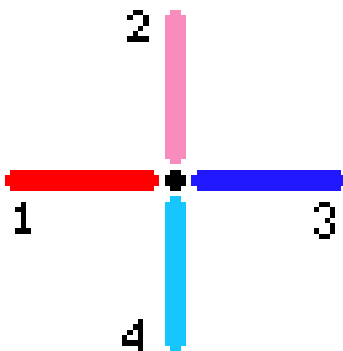
If you work careful, getting the overs and unders right, you can make more or less loops if you want.



Crown knot.

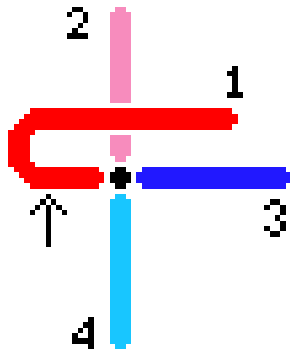
The knot that is at the base of multi strand knot tying.

Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have a worktop with a hole in it you may put the rest of your work trough the hole.

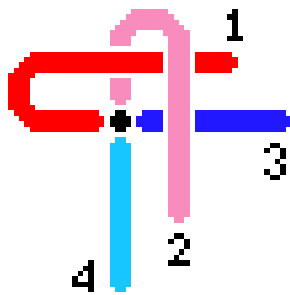


Number the strings with the clock, the one in the nine o'clock position as number 1.

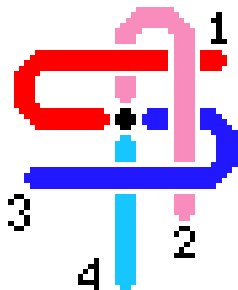




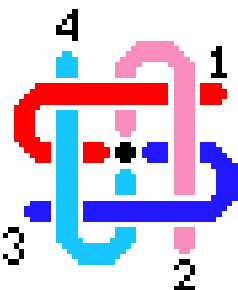
Take the number 1 string and put it over the number 2, and place in on the table, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



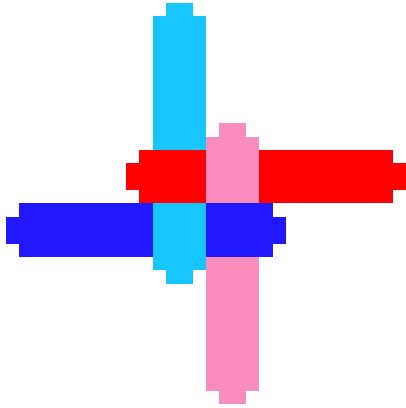
Now you take string 2 and bring it over string 3 (and automatically string 1) and place it on the table.



Number 3 string needs to do the same.



And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.



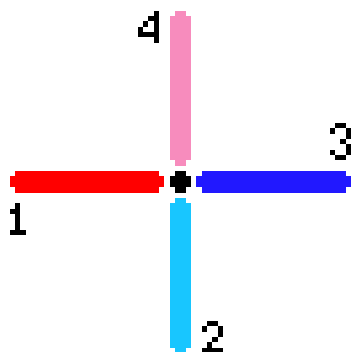
Tighten carefully, putting equal pressure on each string. One way to get them real tight is to place the thumb of one hand on the knot and tighten with the other hand.

You can see that the strings have moved to the other side of the knot, top to bottom, left to right. This only happens if you work with four strings. You may repeat this knot as many times as you want or alternate directions.

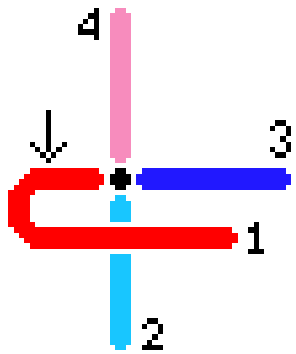


Crown knot reversed.  
The version 'against the clock'.

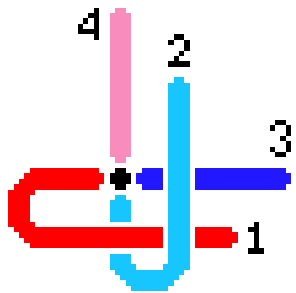
This knot is a mirror image to the 'normal' crown knot, in this way you can make a reversed version of almost any knot. Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have a worktop with a hole in it you may put the rest of your work trough the hole.



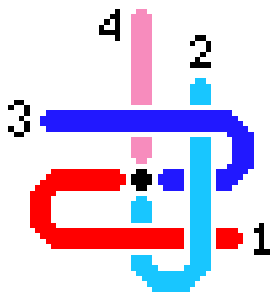
Number the strings against the clock, the one in the nine o'clock position as number 1.



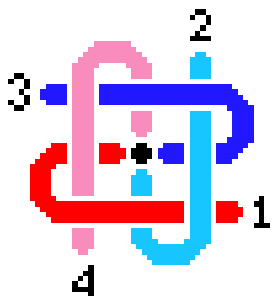
Take the number 1 string and put it over the number 2, and place in on the table, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



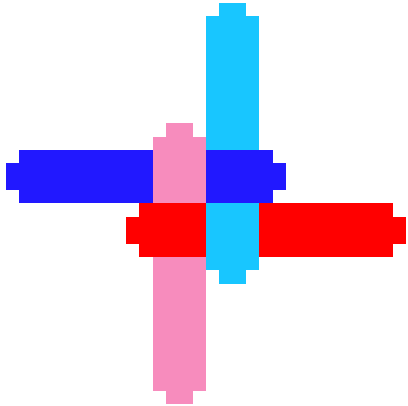
Now you take string 2 and bring it over string 3 (and automatically string 1) and place it on the table.



Number 3 string needs to do the same.



And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.



Tighten carefully, putting equal pressure on each string. One way to get them real tight is to place the thumb of one hand on the knot and tighten with the other hand.

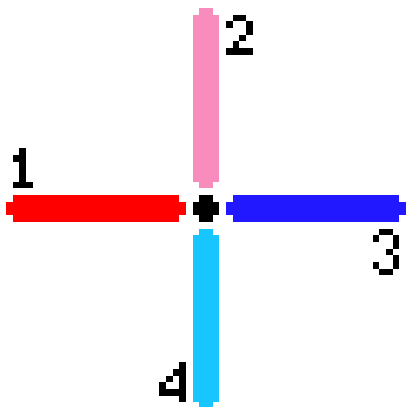
In this knot about anything is a mirror image of the crown knot with the clock, but this knot is much like the other and they will combine very well. You may repeat this knot as many times as you want or alternate directions.



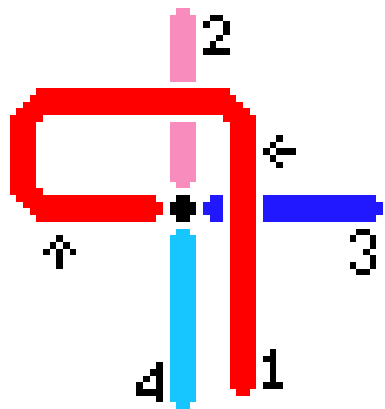
Crown knot over two.

A variation, looks like the normal crown knot but can be used in different places.

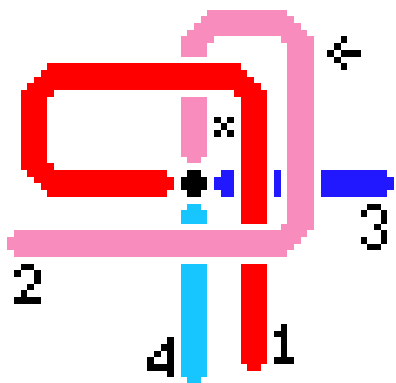
This knot is a variation on the crown knot and is made in the same way. Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have a worktop with a hole in it you may put the rest of your work trough the hole.



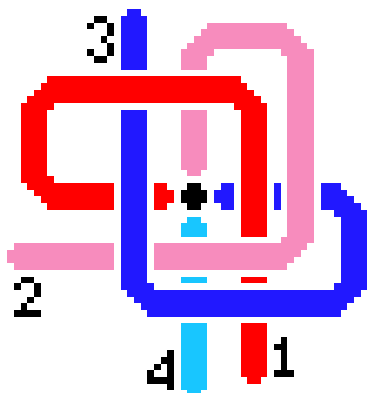
Number the strings with the clock, the one in the nine o'clock position as number 1.



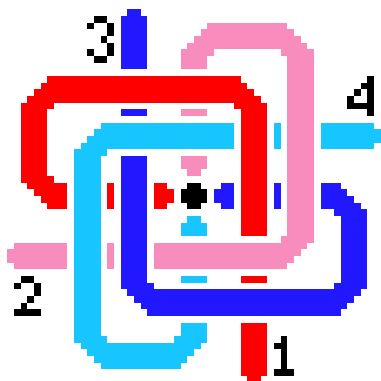
Take the number 1 string and put it over the numbers 2 and 3, and place in on the table, leaving little loops at the arrows.



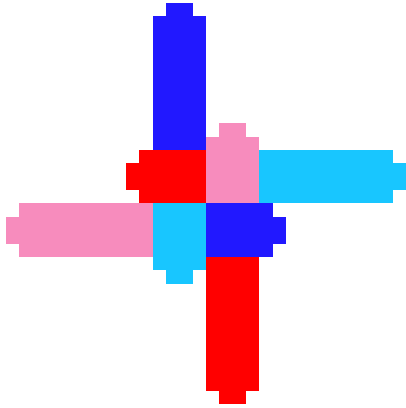
Now you take string 2 and bring it over string 3 and 4 (and automatically string 1) and again leave a little loop at the arrow, (it is the spot with the x you need.)



Number 3 string needs to do the same, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.



And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loops of string 1 and 2.



Tighten carefully, putting equal pressure on each string. One way to get them real tight is to place the thumb of one hand on the knot and tighten with the other hand.

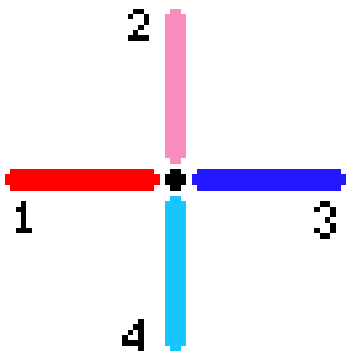
You can see that the strings have moved more now. The knot will not be as tight. You may repeat this knot as many times as you want but it is also useful as end knot on simple work. When you work with six, or more, strands this knots works better in endless repeats than the single crown knot.



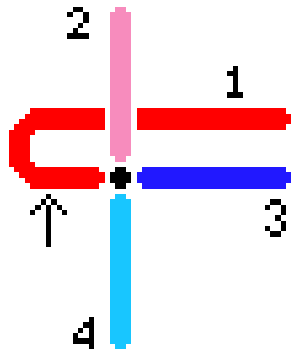
Wall knot.

An other variation on the crown knot, the same knot up side down.

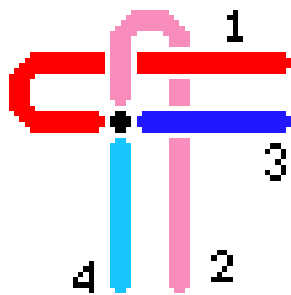
This knot is a lot like the crown knot. Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have a worktop with a hole in it you may put the rest of your work trough the hole.



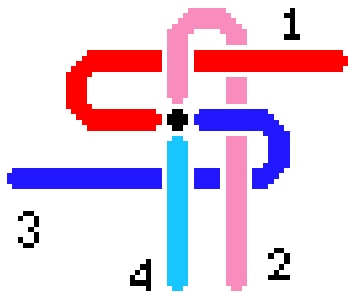
Number the strings with the clock, the one in the nine o'clock position as number 1.



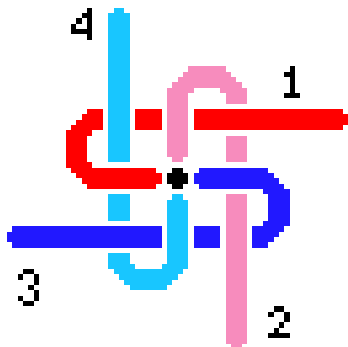
Take the number 1 string and go under the number 2, and place it on the table, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



Now you take string 2 and bring it under string 3 (and string 1) and place it on the table.

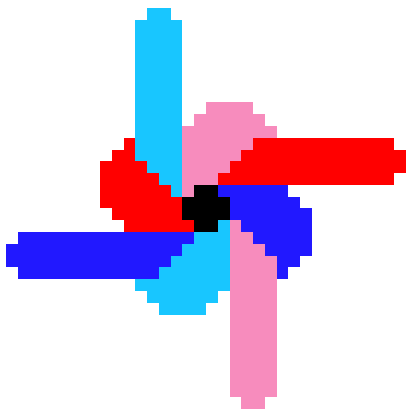


Number 3 string needs to do the same.



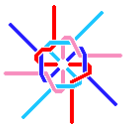
And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.





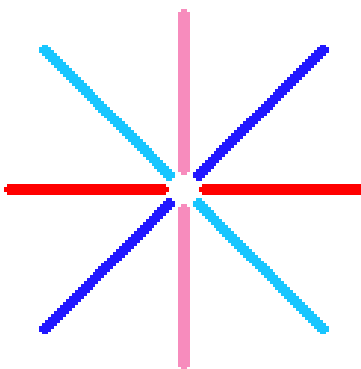
Tighten carefully, putting equal pressure on each string. One way to get them real tight is take the knot in your fist, so that only the strands still stick out and tighten with the other hand.

You can see that the strings have moved to the other side of the knot, top to bottom, left to right. This only happens if you work with four strings. You may repeat this knot but it is easier to alternate with the crown knot.

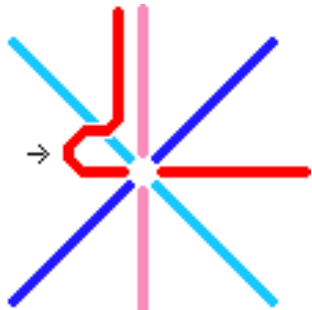


Crown knot.  
Now with eight ends.

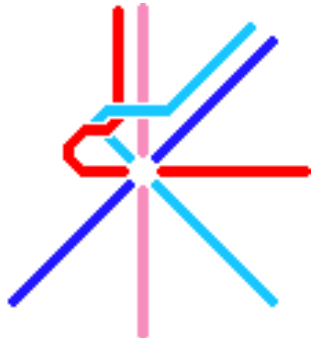
If you make this knot for the first time, and at the end of a braid make sure you have a worktop with a hole, and put the braid in the hole. The hole can be a little space between two tables or cardboard or foam with a hole on your worktable.



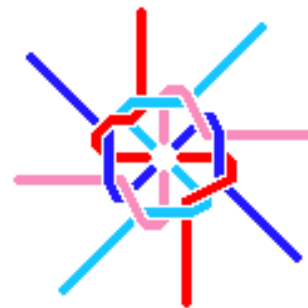
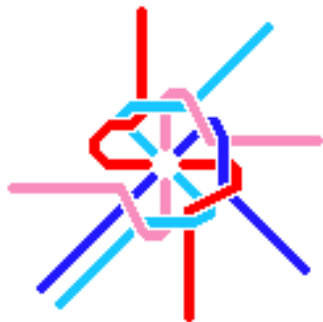
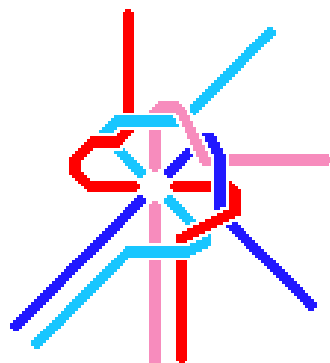
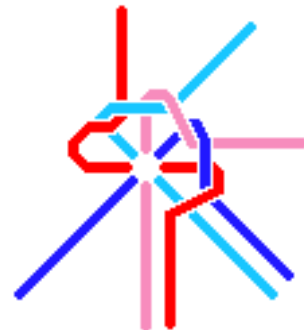
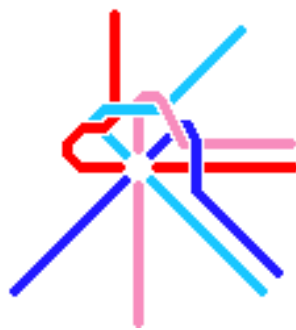
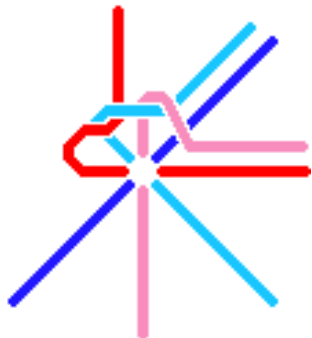
Like the crown knot with 4 ends, place your strings on the table like the spokes of a wheel, number the ends if you wish, with the clock, start at the nine o'clock position.



Move that string over the next, keep a little loop at the arrow.



Repeat with the next six. Remember that in going over a new string, you also go over the one you just put on the table in its new position.



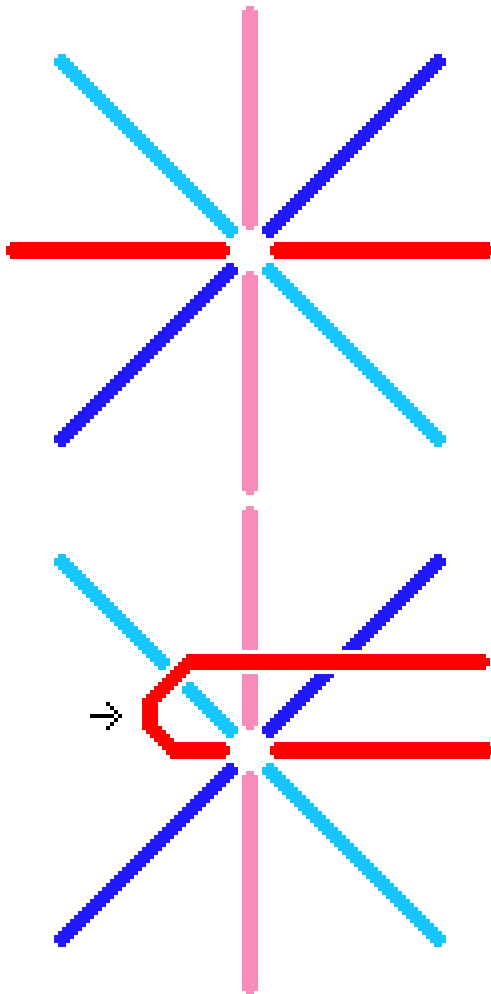
The last has to go through the loop made by the first.

Tighten, in two or three phases, you will keep a hole in the middle, or tie this knot around an other and keep that in the centre of this knot. If you need a knot which is closed in the middle, try the 'over 3' version of this knot.



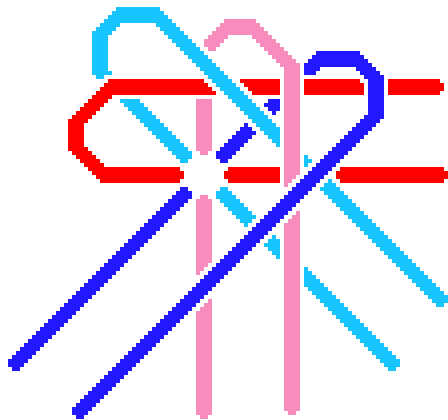
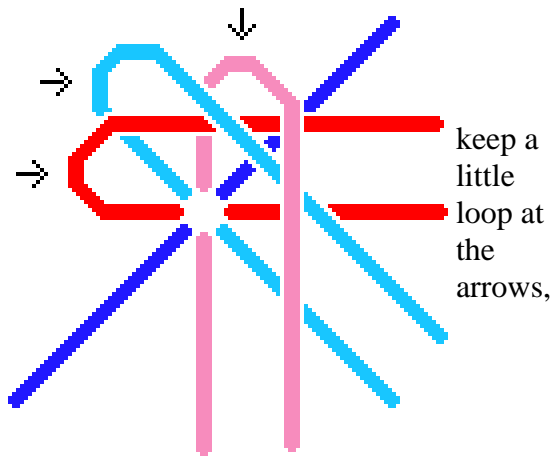
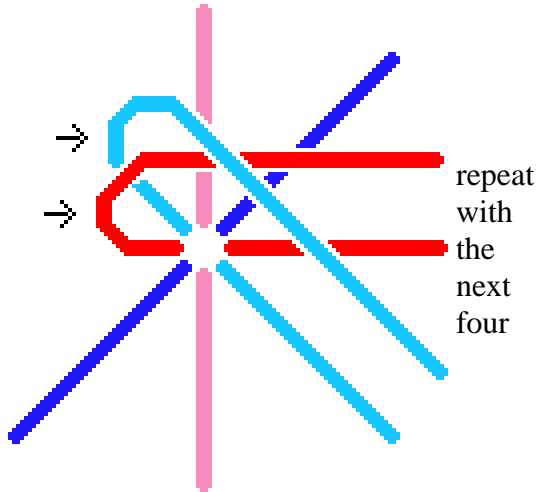
Crown knot over three.  
With eight ends, over three.

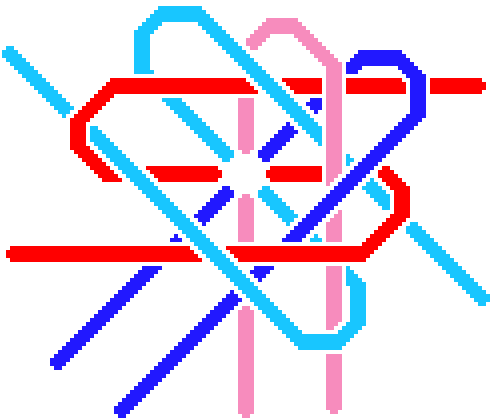
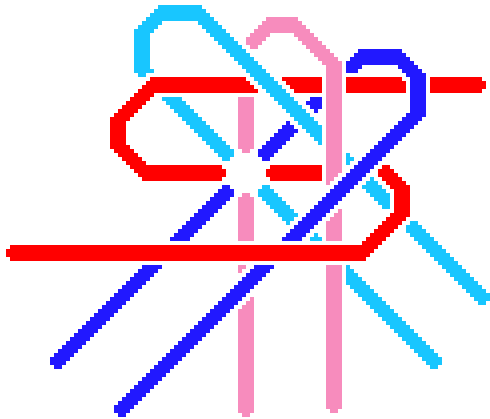
If you make this knot for the first time, and at the end of a braid make sure you have a worktop with a hole, and put the braid in the hole, and pin your strings down. Once you get experience you can make this knot with less fuzz, I do it just in the hand.



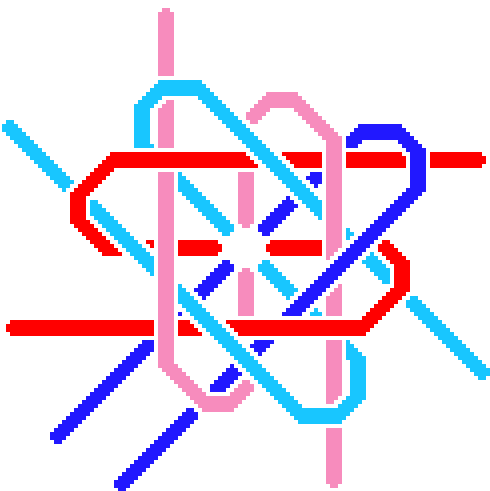
Like the crown knot with 4 ends, place your strings on the table like the spokes of a wheel, number the ends if you wish, with the clock, start at the nine o'clock position.

move that string over the next three,

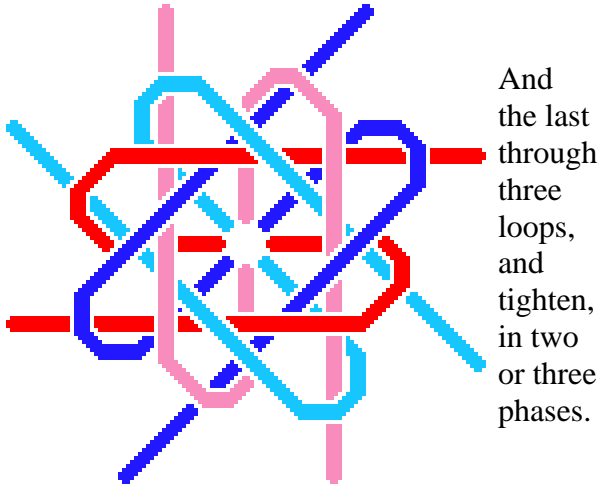




The last three have to go through the loops, one through one,



the next through two,



You can make an eight strand crown knot over one and over two as well and even go over more strands, you can go over eight if you want. In flowers and bell ropes I often go over five, but it is impossible to draw. I hope you understand how to do that after doing this knot. If not make an over one and an over two, this over three, and than go over four and so on.

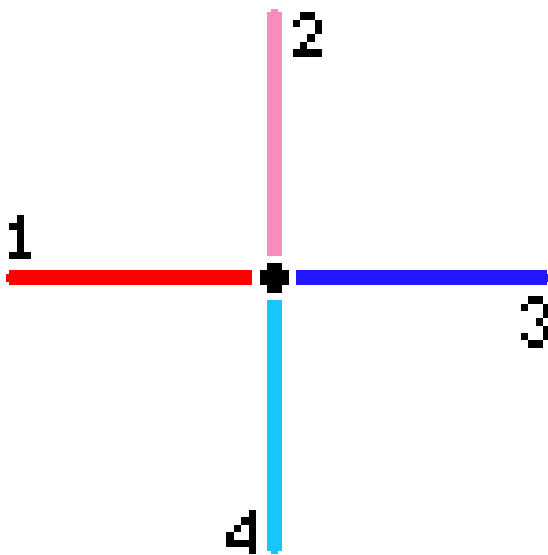


Diamond knot.  
With four ends, 2 versions.

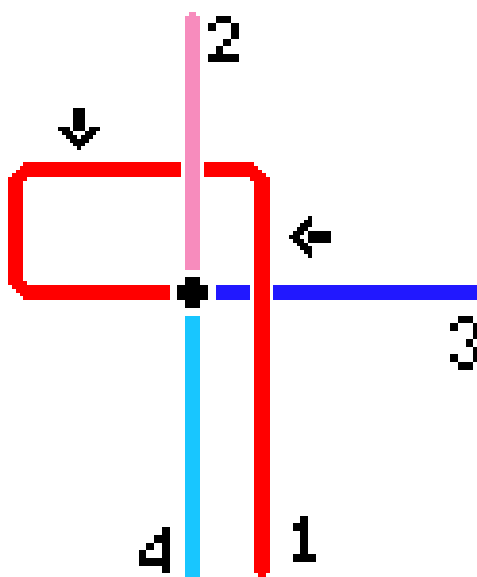
This knot is a variation on the crown knot and the wall knot and is made in much the same way.

### Version 1

Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have already done a little work to start with this should stick upwards.

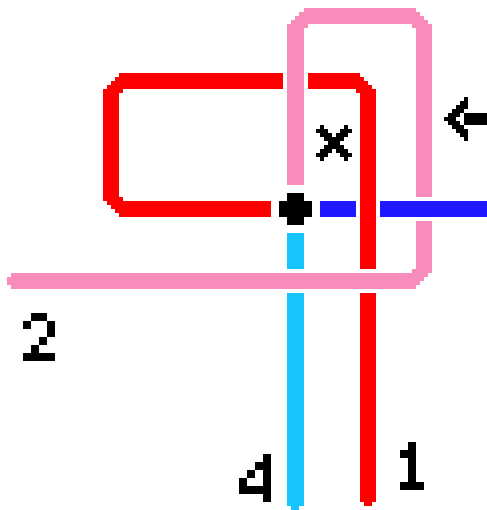


Number the strings with the clock, the one in the nine o'clock position as number 1.

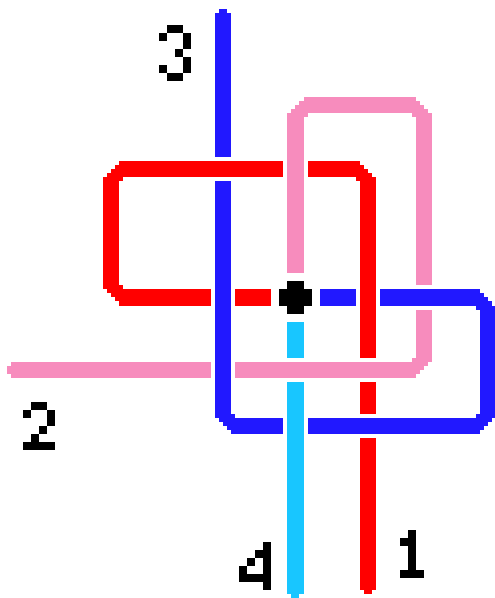


Take the number 1 string and bring it under the number 2 and over 3, and place in on the table, leaving little loops at the arrows.

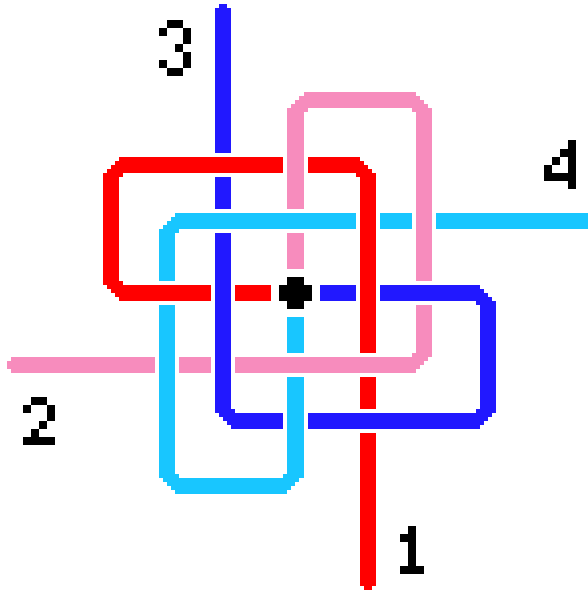




Now you take string 2 and bring it under string 3 and over string 4 (going over string 1) and again leave a little loop at the arrow, it is the place with the X where you will need the space.



Number 3 string needs to go under one and over the next as well, remembering to ignore the strings you have already worked, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.



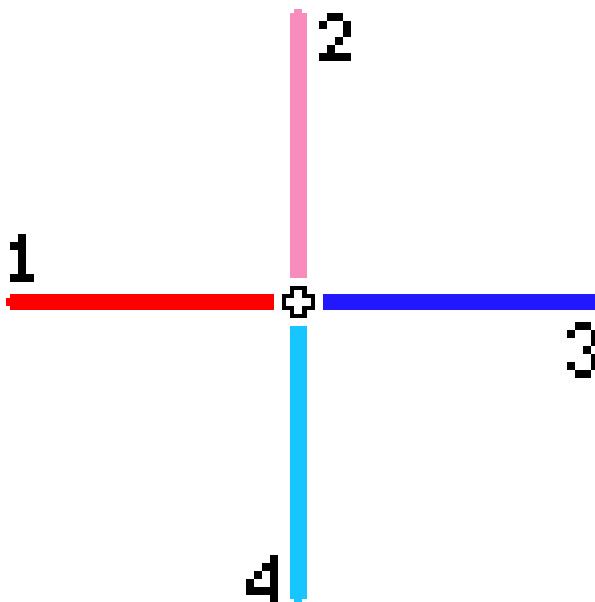
And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loops of string 1 and 2, still going under one and over the next. Tighten carefully, and you may have to repeat several times.

While tightening you will notice that the knot wants to fold down, let it, unless you have a reason to keep it upwards. Keeping it horizontal is not often useful, it will fold at its own time.

I have not made a picture of this knot tightened, because you can not see much. If you want to see what it looks like, see the last picture in the next version.

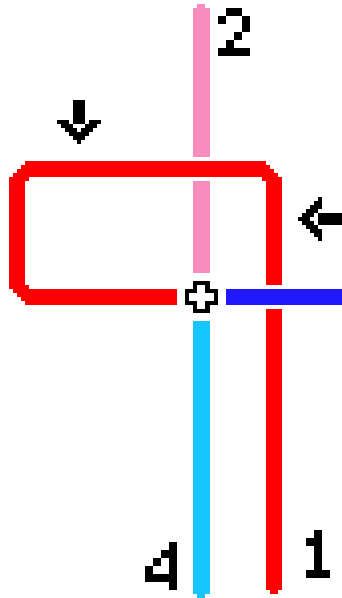
### Version 2

This knot is the same knot up side down, and because the direction of work is the same, the result will be mirror image.

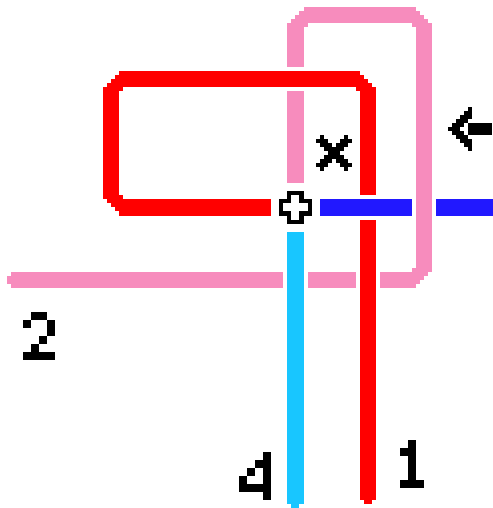


Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel, if you have already done a little work to start with this should stick down, into a hole in the table if you have one.

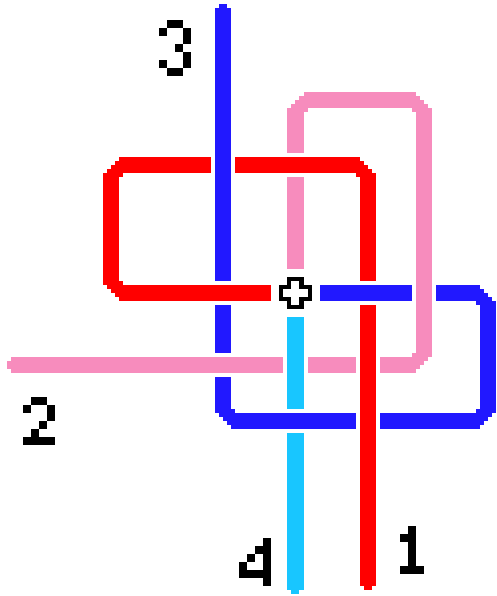
To keep things easy I kept the layout of the strings the same. Number the strings with the clock, the 1 in the nine o'clock position as number 1.



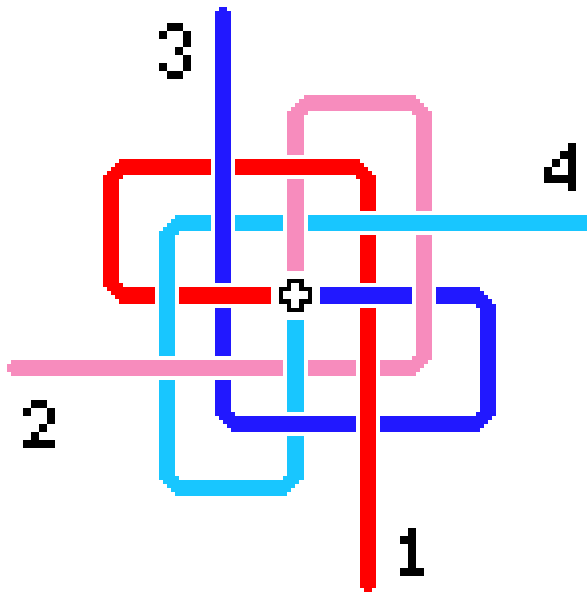
Take the number 1 string and bring it over the number 2 and under 3, and place in on the table, leaving little loops at the arrows.



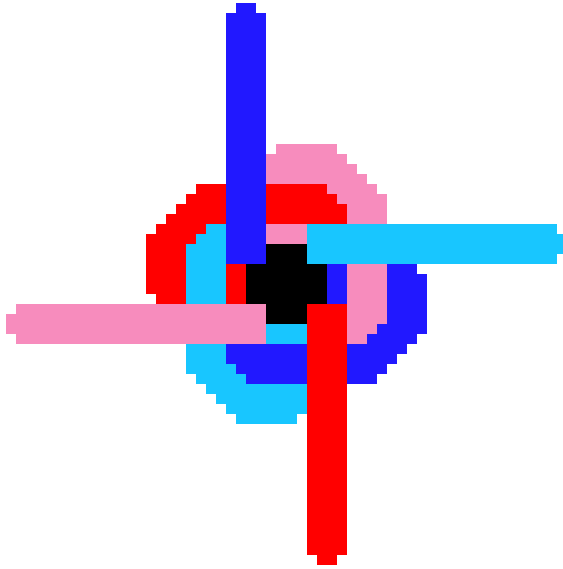
Now you take string 2 and bring it over string 3 and under string 4 (going under string 1) and again leave a little loop at the arrow, it is the place with the X where you will need the space.



Number 3 string needs to go over one and under the next as well, remembering go under the strings you have already worked but not counting them, but to get that one it has to go through the loop of string 1.



And string 4, but to get that one it has to go through the loops of string 1 and 2, still going over one and under the next.



Tighten carefully, putting equal pressure on each string. You may have to repeat that several times. And, as you can see in the picture, from above this knot doesn't show, it is from the side you want to see it, it looks like a braid there.

If you work version 1 in the hand, you can hold the strings you have worked with within your hand. It makes this knot less confusing but it needs a different approach. In version 2 the strings have to get out of the way into the air. If you have a fixed point above your work, you can try to use that. If your string is long enough, you may even drape them over your shoulder.

You may repeat this knot if you want, but it works better as a single knot within a series of crown knots. It will look like a turks head knot made around the crown knots.



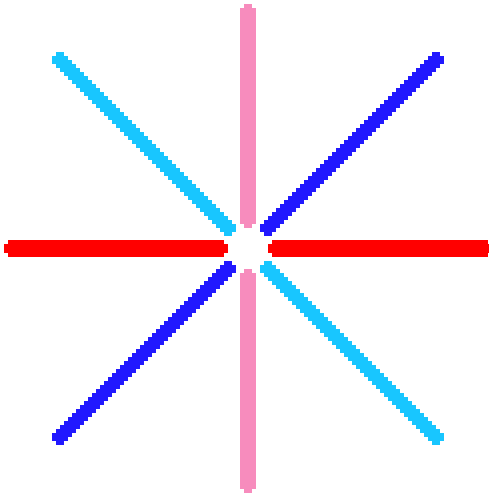
### Diamond knot.

With eight ends, over one and under one.

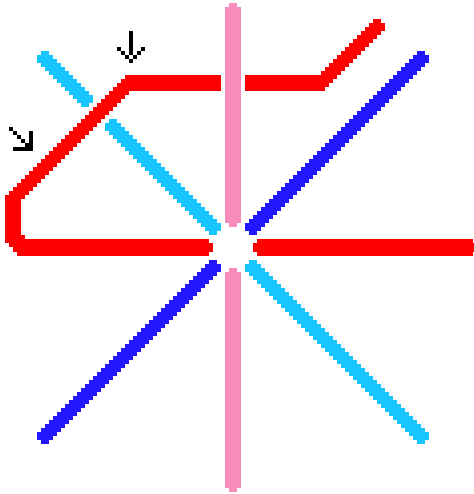
This knot is a brother to the crown knot and the wall knot, in fact it is a combination of both. In the crown knot you go over all the strings, in the wall knot under and in this knot you go over one under the next.

If you are not familiar with the diamond knot, make a crown and a wall knot with eight ends first to get the feel of working with many strings.

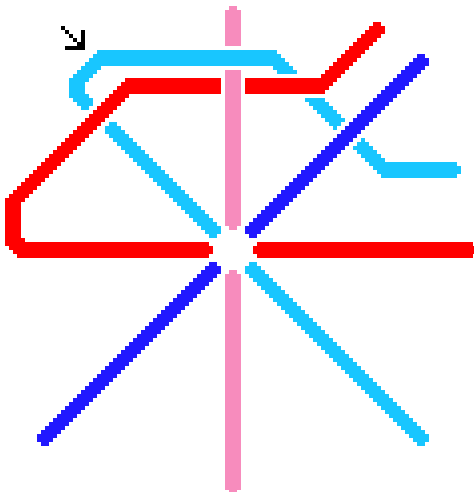
And as with the crown and wall knot, it is good to use a worktop with a hole. And with some training, this knot can be made in the hand as well.



Place your strings on the table like the spokes of a wheel, number the ends if you wish, with the clock, start at the nine o'clock position.

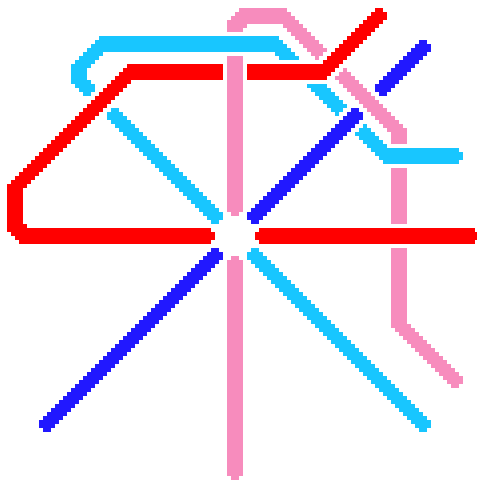


Take your first string and move over the next string and under the following one. Put it on the table, remember the loops at the arrows.

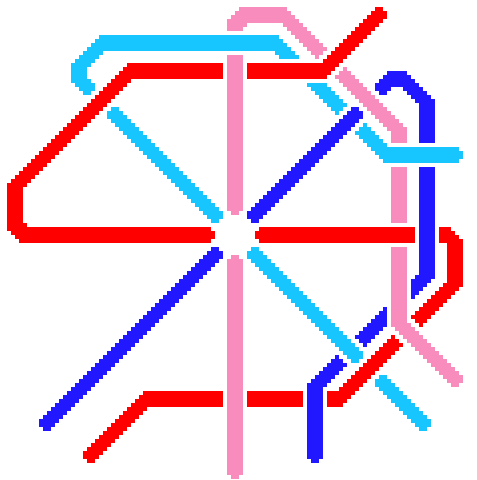
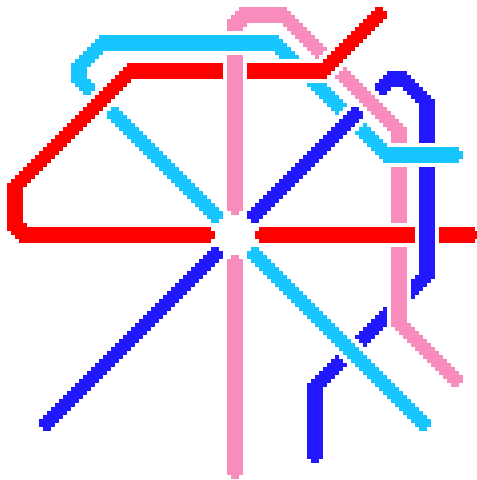


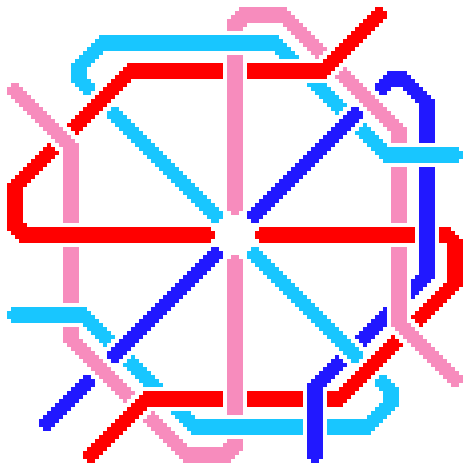
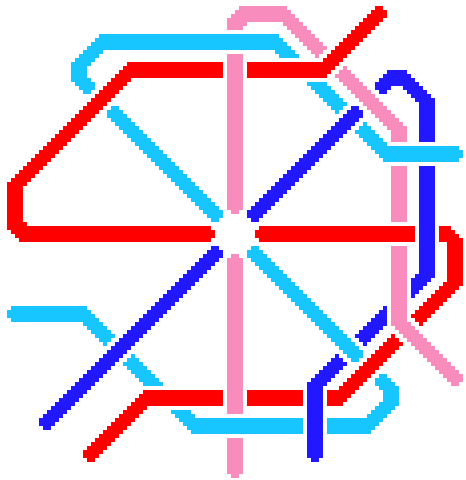
The other strings also have to go over one string and under the next.



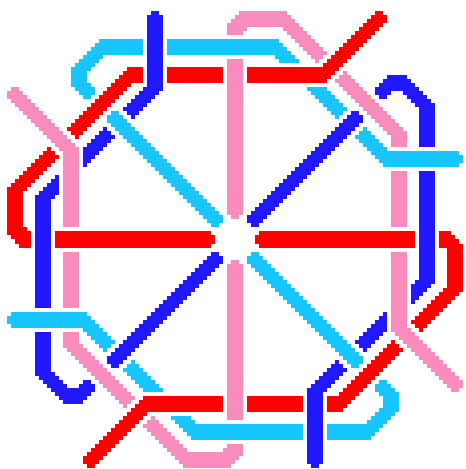


You will see that the string goes under the strings you put on the table, like in the wall knot.





The last two strings have to go through the loops, one through one loop,



The last goes under one string and over the next, in the loop. Now you tighten, in two or three phases. You may fold the knot down or up, or if you work carefully,

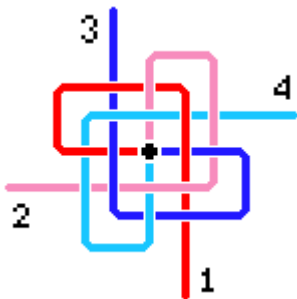
keep it  
like it is.

I have drawn this knot with eight strings but you can tie it with any other amount too. From as few as three till an endless number. You may also change the unders and overs, here I used the basic sequence, but you can go 'over two, under one,' or four times 'over one, under one' or another pattern. As long as the pattern is repeated with all the strings the knot can be used in fancy work. (And maybe you find the use for an irregular knot.)



Diamond knots.  
A different way to make these knots, and a few variations.

### Diamond knots.



If you have no problems reading the above diagram, every thing is OK and you do not really need this page.

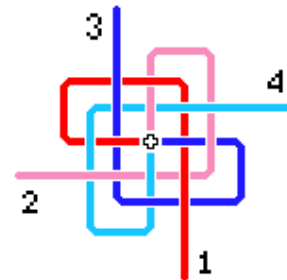
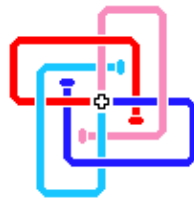
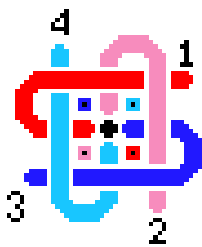
If you are lost with the above knot, do not loose hope, there is a different way to tie this knot. This way works with many knots and even when you understand the drawing reading this text can help you.

It gives you an alternative way of tying knots. And a little help is never wrong.

Start with a crown knot. To keep things easy use this one.

Work with four colours string, if you have them use the same as I did.

In the picture below you see four coloured squares each with a black dot.  
 When you bring each string to the spot of its own colour, using the short route, and straight up  
 Through the knot, you have made a diamond knot.



In the second picture the strings are in the right position, (indeed already above the knot.)  
 When you straighten the strings you get the layout of the third picture.

In the next pictures I give a couple of other variations.

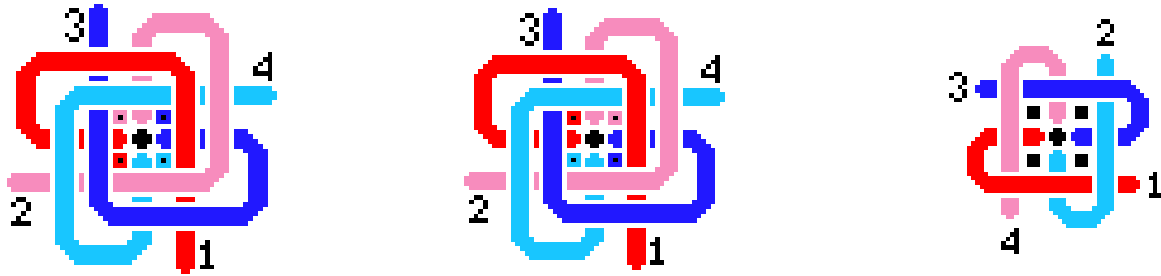
The first is a crown knot over two, the coloured spots make you go under 1 before coming up again.

This becomes a diamond knot over 2 under 1.  
 The next is the same knot but the colour spots make you passing under 2.

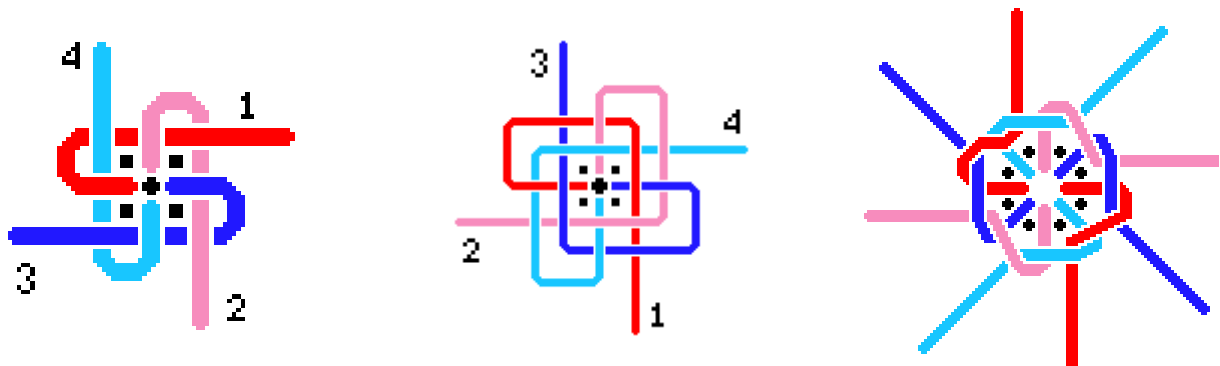
This will become a diamond knot over 2 under 2.  
 The third is the crown knot the other direction.

Here I made the spots all black, you can decide for yourself how many strings you pass before coming up.

It is tradition to keep the direction of work the same but try and see what works.

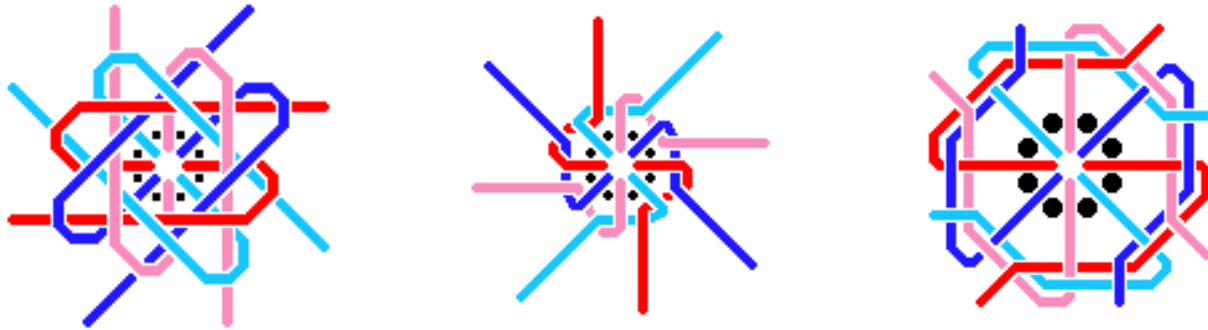


As you can see in the next set of pictures, you can also use this trick with the wall knot,  
 The diamond knot and knots with more strings.



A couple more variations.

The crown knot with 8 strings over 3, the wall knot with 8 strings and the diamond knot with 8 strings.



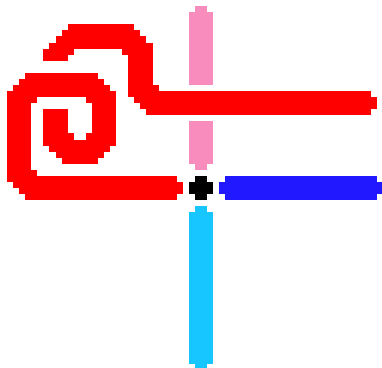
Remember that this way of working with all strings the same colour can be confusing at times, even more with many strings. Try and see that every time you mastered one variation, the next seems easier. I did not give more than three steps. The last knot becomes an over 1-under 1-over 1 structure. Or the last goes over 2 or more if you want. But you can go on. Tightening becomes harder and more important.

Enjoy.

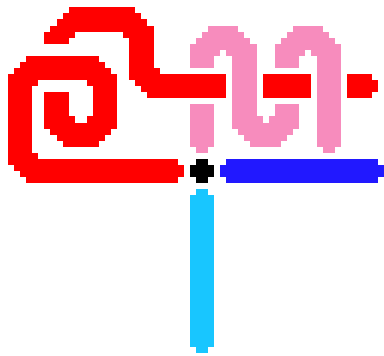


Petal knot.  
A knot that is not well known, here with four ends.

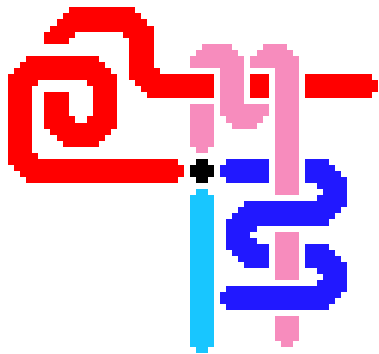
Place your string on your worktop, like the spokes of a wheel.



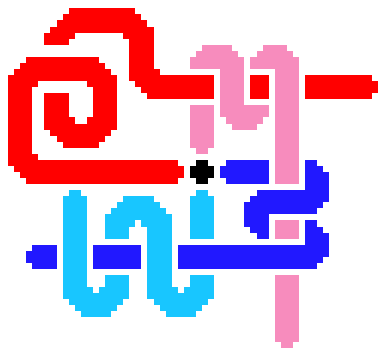
Take your first string and make a loop, not necessary but helps in the last stage. Put the string on the table across the second string.



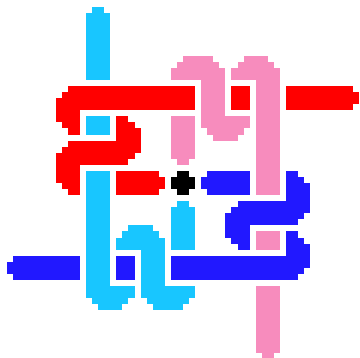
This second string makes one round turn (or more) around the first string,



Before it is placed across string 3. Which does the same, keep the same amount of round turns.



You may keep the turns tight while tying but I had to leave a little slack in the drawings.



The last string has to go through the round turns of the first string. If you had not made them before you need to make them now.

You can make this knot with one or more round turns, with 3 or more strings. And you

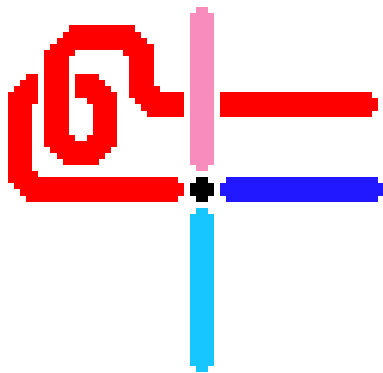


can make this knot in series of increasing numbers of round turns. If you start with the one above and follow it with one with more turns you get a disk. Increase the next one with the same amount to keep the knot regular and you created a flower.

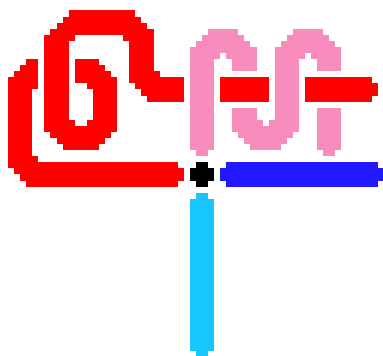


Petal knot 'up side down'.  
With four ends, worked in a different direction.

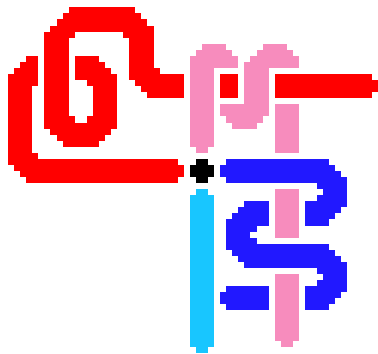
This is the up side down version of the petal knot.



Take your first string and make a loop, not necessary but helps in the last stage. Put the string on the table under the second string.



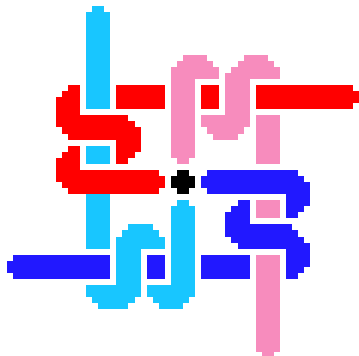
This second string makes one round turn (or more) around the first string,



Before it is placed under string 3. Which does the same, keep the same amount of round turns.



You may keep the turns tight while tying but I had to leave a little slack in the drawings.



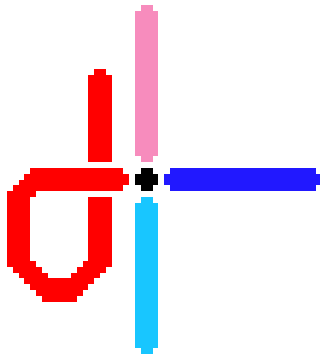
The last string has to go through the round turns of the first string. If you had not made them before you need to make them now.

This is a variation on the petal knot. As you may know, you can change direction of work in most knots and in many you may change the 'overs' and 'unders' as well, as long as you change all of them. But try for yourself, since this is decorative work you can change as many things as you like, just to see the results.

When you make this knot the first time, use a worktop with a hole, and put the stem of the knot in the hole. This knot has to be made on a stem. Tie your strings together, or tie a couple of crown knots before you start with the star knot.

It helps a lot to work with ends in different colours, if you do not have special string in different colours, use shoelaces (strings). They are available in many colours, if you just use them to learn new knots, or try

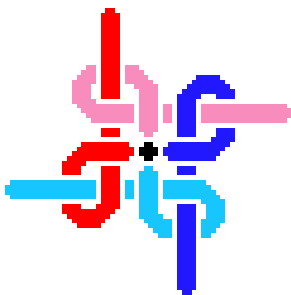
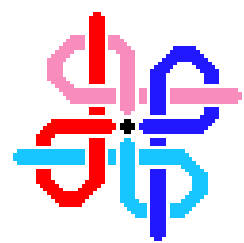
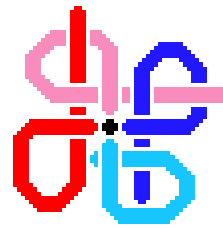
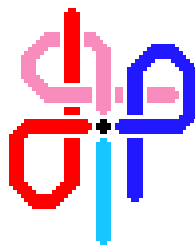
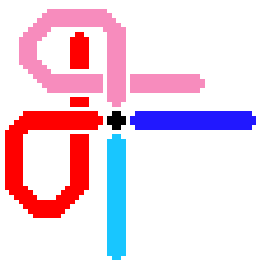
things, they will last for years. And in the factory they have finished the ends better than you ever can yourself. For your first try you should take fairly long strings.



Place your strings on your worktop, spread them as the spokes of a wheel. If you haven't done the crown knot for a while do it now, several times, it helps a lot.

Start with any string you like, as long as you use every string in every phase of the knot. The sequence I use in the drawings works the best.

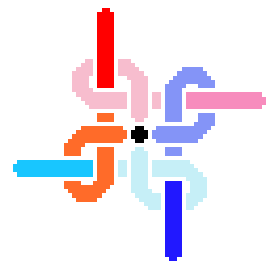
Make a little loop in the first string by passing it under itself. Repeat with the second string and get the end of the first string through the loop. Repeat with all the strings, the end of the last string goes through the loop of the first string.

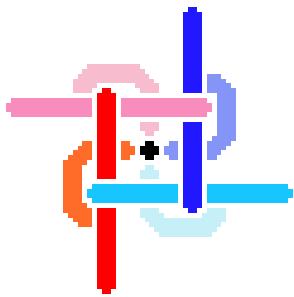


When you have done this, tighten a little, you should be able to put a finger in the loops, not all your hand.

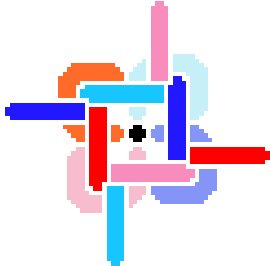
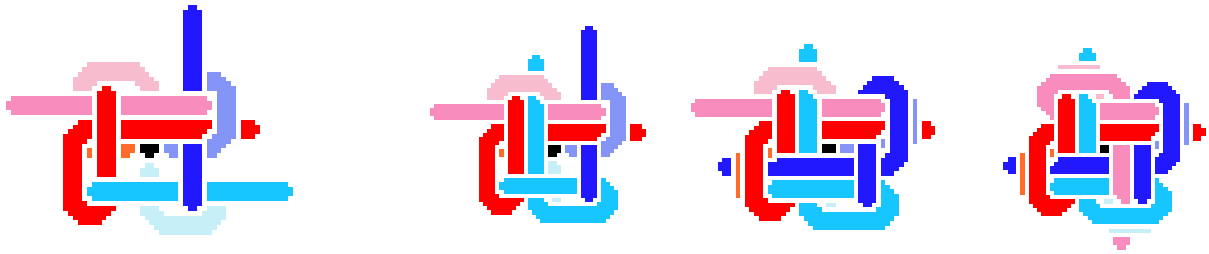
To make the next phase easier to view, I changed the colours in the drawings.

Tie a crown knot on top of the knot you have, against the direction you work.



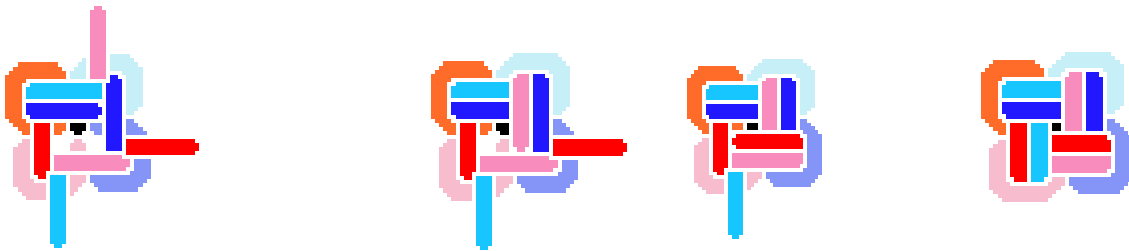


Tighten a little, again. Take a string, in the drawings I used red, and go with a loop, in the first direction of work, underneath itself, follow the string beside it and go through the same loop that one goes.  
 Repeat with all strings. The next string you use is the next one against the direction you work. You will notice that the 3rd string goes through 2 loops and the last goes underneath two strings as well.  
 Maybe you want to hold the knot in your hand in this phase already.



Turn the knot over and this is what you should see. The knot is sturdy enough not to need a table anymore. (If not, you work to loose.)  
 Like in the last phase you follow alongside the string you are beside, remember to stay at the inside of the knot.  
 Tuck the string through the little hole you will find and at the top it should exit the hole in the middle of the knot. If your knot is nice and tight you may want to use a pair of pliers or a hairpin, to use them, go into the hole in the top of the knot and than through one of the four little holes, feed your string into the your tool and pull.  
 The last string will not go as easy, you may have to pull the

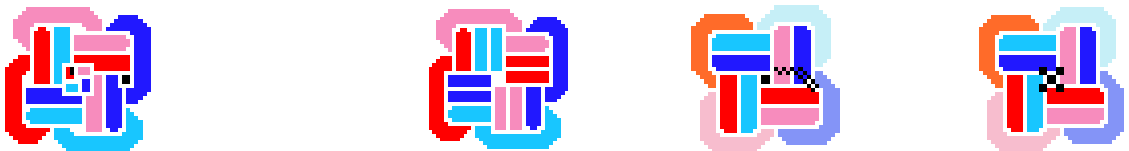
first one out a little.



This is the knot on the top again, the little coloured spots stand for the strings. If you use this knot as an in-between knot you are finished, if you use it as a final knot you better tuck the strings another time.



For the last tuck, the string comes from the centre of the knot, take it to the edge, in the drawing I gave it a black spot, go underneath the outer strings, (they were the loops in phase 1 and 2, and under the strings at the bottom, in the one but last drawing I made the path with black dots, to end near the stem of the knot, the black squares in the last drawing.



Tighten this knot in several phases. Start with pulling out all the slack per phase, so you start with pulling the first loops out a little. (They are the bottom ones now.) Next you pull the slack to the crown knot, the outer stripes in the drawings,) and than the second set of loops, (the top ones,) and so on till there is nothing left to pull on. If all the knot is still loose, repeat it. If there

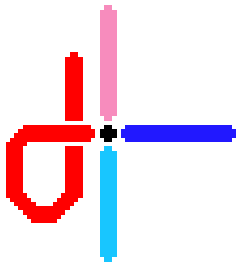
are only a few loose loops left you may pull one string at the time all the way through. When the strings are tight you may cut them here or you can bring them through the knot a last time and use them as a tassel. An other possibility is working around the stem or untying the stem and working with 8 strings from here on.



The star knot.  
With four ends.

When you make this knot the first time, use a worktop with a hole, and put the stem of the knot in the hole. This knot has to be made on a stem. Tie your strings together, or tie a couple of crown knots before you start with the star knot.

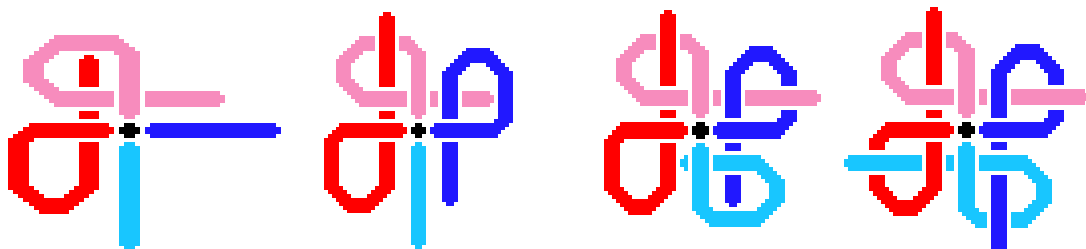
It helps a lot to work with ends in different colours, if you do knot have special string in different colours, use shoelaces (strings). They are available in many colours, if you just use them to learn new knots, or try things, they will last for years. And in the factory they have finished the ends better than you ever can yourself. For your first try you should take fairly long strings.

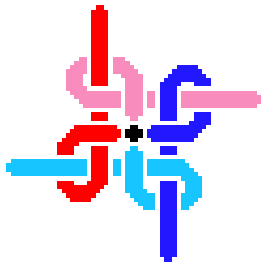


Place your strings on your worktop, spread them as the spokes of a wheel. If you haven't done the crown knot for a while do it now, several times, it helps a lot.

Start with any string you like, as long as you use every string in every phase of the knot. The sequence I use in the drawings works the best.

Make a little loop in the first string by passing it under itself. Repeat with the second string and get the end of the first string through the loop. Repeat with all the strings, the end of the last string goes through the loop of the first string.

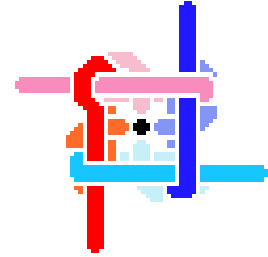
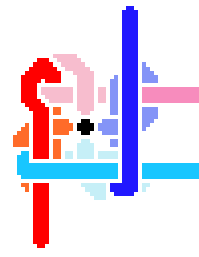
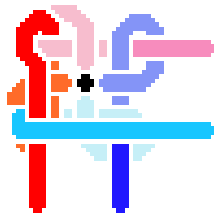
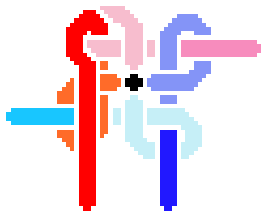
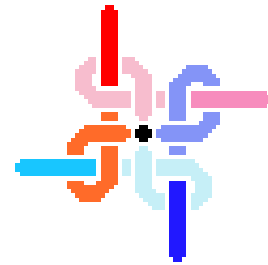




When you have done this, tighten a little, you should be able to put a finger in the loops, not all your hand.

To make the next phase easier to view, I changed the colours in the drawings.

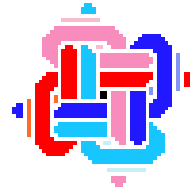
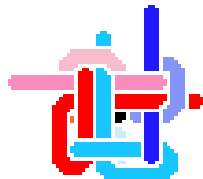
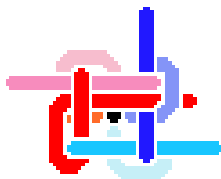
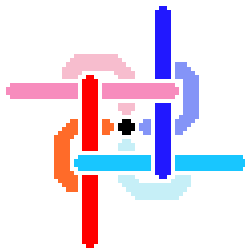
Tie a crown knot on top of the knot you have, against the direction you work.



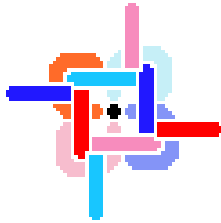
Tighten a little, again. Take a string, in the drawings I used red, and go with a loop, in the first direction of work, underneath itself, follow the string beside it and go through the same loop that one goes.

Repeat with all strings. The next string you use is the next one against the direction you work. You will notice that the 3rd string goes through 2 loops and the last goes underneath two strings as well.

Maybe you want to hold the knot in your hand in this phase already.



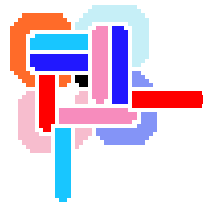
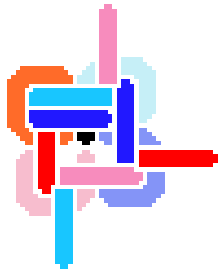
Turn the knot over and this is what you should see. The knot is sturdy enough not to need a table anymore. (If not, you work to loose.)



Like in the last phase you follow alongside the string you are beside, remember to stay at the inside of the knot.

Tuck the string through the little hole you will find and at the top it should exit the hole in the middle of the knot. If your knot is nice and tight you may want to use a pair of pliers or a hairpin, to use them, go into the hole in the top of the knot and than through one of the four little holes, feed your string into the your tool and pull.

The last string will not go as easy, you may have to pull the first one out a little.



This is the knot on the top again, the little coloured spots stand for the strings. If you use this knot as an in-between knot you are finished, if you use it as a final knot you better tuck the strings another time.



For the last tuck, the string comes from the centre of the knot, take it to the edge, in the drawing I gave it a black spot, go underneath the outer strings, (they were the loops in phase 1 and 2, and under the strings at the bottom, in the one but last drawing I made the path with black dots, to end near the stem of the knot, the black squares in the last drawing.





Tighten this knot in several phases. Start with pulling out all the slack per phase, so you start with pulling the first loops out a little. (They are the bottom ones now.) Next you pull the slack to the crown knot, the outer stripes in the drawings,) and then the second set of loops, (the top ones,) and so on till there is nothing left to pull on. If all the knot is still loose, repeat it. If there are only a few loose loops left you may pull one string at the time all the way through.

When the strings are tight you may cut them here or you can bring them through the knot a last time and use them as a tassel. An other possibility is working around the stem or untying the stem and working with 8 strings from here on

This is not an easy knot but it is not as difficult as it appears. Follow the drawings and pay attention to the direction you need to work. That changes several times. When you make this knot the first time, or even the first hundred times, you do not need to make the last few tucks, those tripling the strands at the top.

It helps to use the drawings of several different people, till you find the instructions you can work with best. I have not found any star knot on internet, but I have not looked for it either. If you do want to search you may like to start with this site: [Knots on the Web](#)

In almost any library you will find a book with knots, and most often they can order a book from an other library. How many books you will find depends on the language you use. In English there are a lot, in the others a little less but often enough. The star knot you will find in books on fancy knots and in the general books. If they want you to name a book you may try "Ashley book of knot" by Clifford W Ashley, the biggest I found, all the traditional knots, big and expensive, translated into many European languages. Other writers, with books still in the market, who have written about the star knot are Geoffrey Budworth, Hervey Garrett Smith and Floris Hin, but better check before you buy the book, they have also published books without this knot. And there are many other books, just look through all of them. (I know people with several bookcases knot books, so do not stop till you have found a book you like.)

If you found the star knot in books, or on the net, you may have seen that not everybody uses four strands, I have checked when working on this knot and found one with 3 strands and one with 5. Both writers had good reasons for using the version they used. I choose 4 because of drawing them on the computer.

When you have made the knot with four ends (strings), try it with just three. (Two is not enough, try it yourself if you wish.) And try it with 5 or 6.

Working with 6 or more ends you will notice that the hart of the knot will stay open. You may use an other variation then. Use the crown knot, over 2 or 3, instead of the crown knot in the star knot.

Most people will not make the star knot with more than two loops at the side but I have been able to make it with three levels. If you are able to do it as well you belong in the International Guild of Knot Tyers' [IGKT](#)

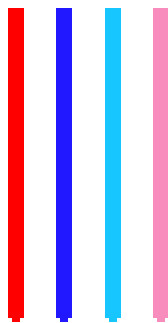
They can teach you more than I can at this site.

A small hint for everybody who wants to make a star knot, the loops in the first phase of the knot are easier to make if you twist the string between thumb and index finger, but watch the direction of the loop. If you just only the string you may want to make the mirror image of the knot.

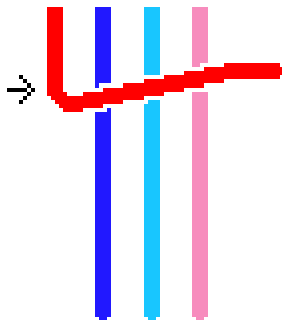


The square knot.  
A well known macramé knot.

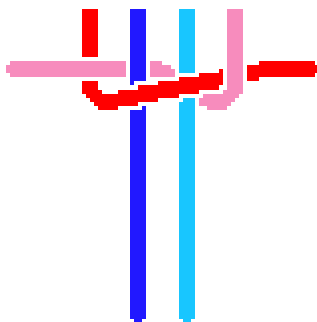
You will find this knot in macramé work and in dog's leads and whistle lanyards. To learn this knot it is best to work on a table.



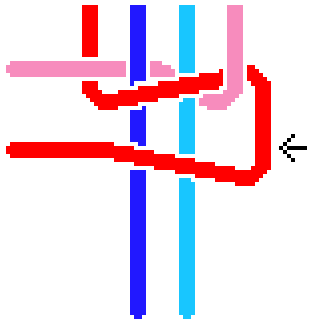
Place your strings on your worktop and pin them down, four besides each other. I have used four different colours in the drawings, if you can do it as well it will help you. If you have only two colours use the one for red and the other for pink, the ones in the centre do not work for now and may be any colour.



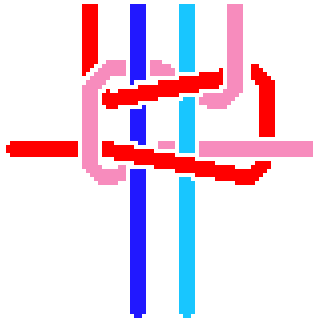
Take the red string and bring it over the other strings, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



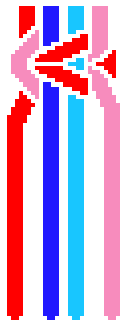
Now you take pink the string and bring it over the red, than go under de two central strings, and under the horizontal part of the red string to come out of the little loop. Pull the strings tight, not in the drawing but in real live it works better. Now you have made halve a knot.



The red string is now at the other side of the knot but you work it again, pick it up and bring it back over the central strings, again leaving a little loop at the arrow.



And now the pink string goes over the red, under the two central ones and under the horizontal part of the red, to come out of the little loop. Now you have made one knot.



Tighten after each part of each knot, it is only for the drawings I have not done it in between.

The strings are back where they began and facing you is a knot with a red V in the centre and a pink stripe at one side. If you turn the knot over you will see that the colours there are the other way round.



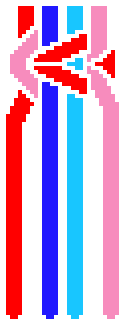
You can continue with this knot if you want, keep the same colour above all the time and your bar will lie flat on the table. You will see that the stripe comes at both sides.

## Square knot crossing



The crossing.  
A useful macramé trick.

You will need this change in macramé work to keep your strings at equal length  
To learn this, first make a row of square knots.



Take your middle strings and bring them to the outside over the outer strings. In the picture the blue strings cross over the red and pink.



Tie the next knot, you will use the new outer strings, blue in the example.

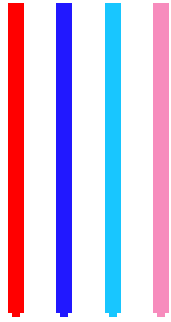
You can close the gap with the crossing to get it nearly invisible or leave it open to use its decorative effect.

With the turning square knot you can do the same, as well as any macramé knot where you use the strings with a different speed. If you are familiar with this trick you can use it whenever wanted, just cross as many strings as needed.

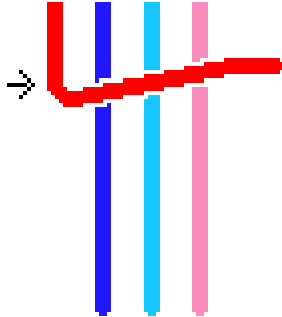


The square knot, turning.  
A well known macramé knot, now twisting around.

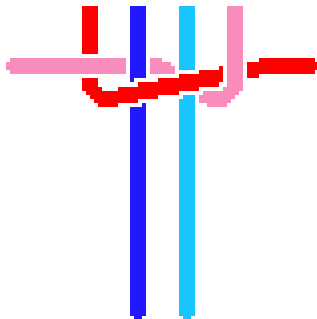
You will find this knot in macramé work and in dogs leads and alike.  
To learn this knot it is best to work on a table.



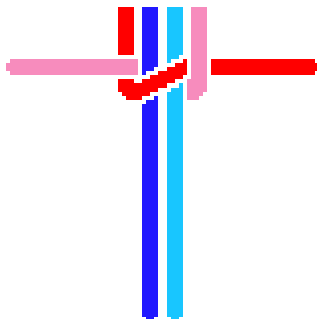
Place your strings on the table like you did for the straight square knot.



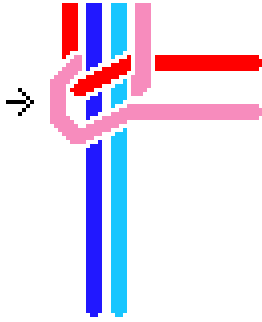
Take the string at the left and bring it over the other strings, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



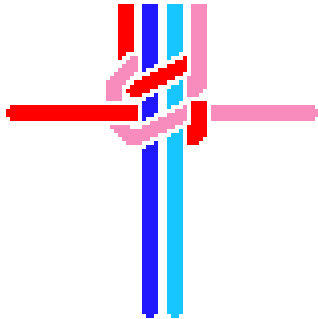
Now you take the string at the right and bring it over the other, than go under de two central strings, and under the horizontal part of the other string to come out of the little loop.



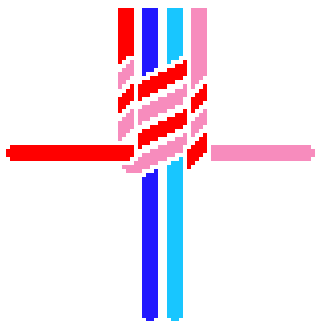
Tighten carefully.



Keep working from the same side, so now the string from the left goes over the other strings first again.



And now the other string goes over the newcomer, under the central ones and the horizontal part of the other string and out of the loop.

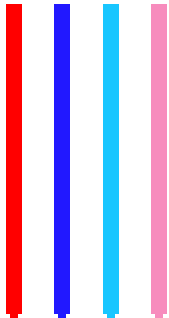


You can continue with this knot if you want, keep working from the same side. You will notice the bar turning. Let it, flip it over when you have done a couple of knots and keep working from the left side. The colours will be mixed all the time.

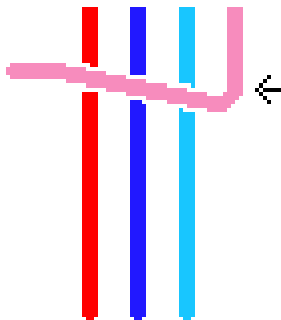


The square knot, turning the other way round.  
A well known macramé knot, now twisting the other way.

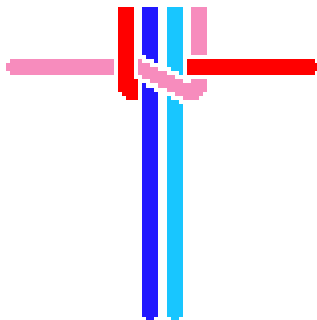
This knot turns as well, but in the other direction.



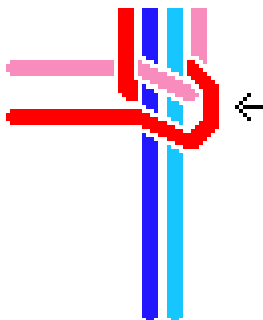
Place your strings on the table like you did for the other square knots.



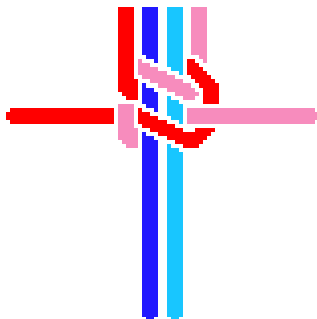
Take the string at the right and bring it over the other strings, leaving a little loop at the arrow.



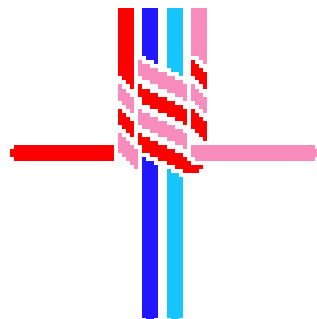
Now you take the string at the left and bring it over the other, than go under de two central strings, and under the horizontal part of the other string to come out of the little loop.



Keep working from the same side, so now the string from the right goes over the other strings first, again.



And now the other string goes over the newcomer, under the central ones and the horizontal part of the other string and out of the loop.

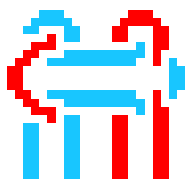


You can continue with this knot if you want, keep working from the same side. You will notice the bar turning. Let it, flip it over when you have done a couple of knots and keep working from the right side. The colours will be mixed all the time.

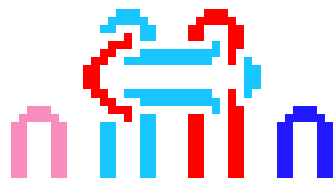


To start the square knots in a point.  
A way to start macramé.

This is a way to start a belt, or watchstrap, or any bit of macramé you want to start with a point. You can also use this method to add more strings at the side of a piece of macramé. Pin your two doubled strings down on your worktop. Use a piece of foam, board or a cork notice board to protect your tabletop.

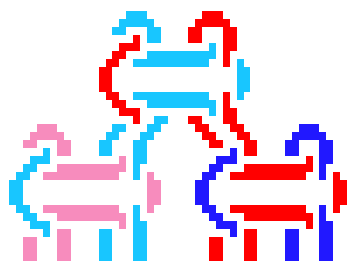


Tie a square knot that is one half knot starting from the one side and then one from the other side. Keep the knot close to the pins, replace them if needed, at tightening the knot.

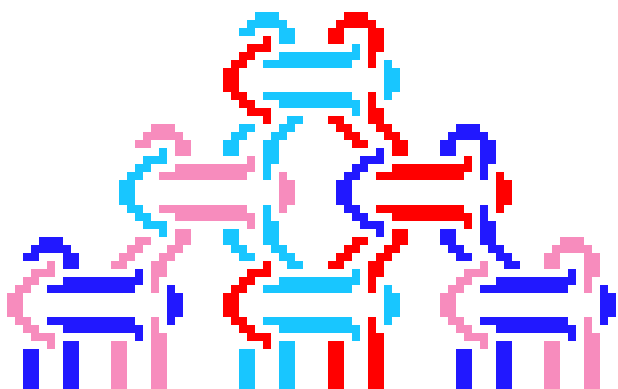


Pin a new string on each side of the knot.





Tie a knot in the leftmost four strings and the rightmost four. Start every time from the same side.



And repeat above, pin two new strings at a time, and tie square knots in each set of four. If you prefer to start tying in the middle of your work, remember to take two strings from one knot and two from the one next to it.

You can see that the strings have not moved. The strings that started the work at the top stay in the middle. With all strings in the same colour it does not show but if you work with different colours make sure the strands end up right after each knot.

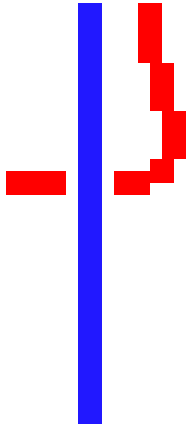


The half hitch knot.  
A simple knot in many versions.

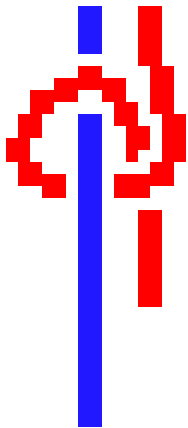
This is a simple knot, it is the first bit you do when you tie your shoes, before the bit with the loops. You must have tied it countless times. Now you have to see what you are doing and maybe change it a little. That is why I made the pictures. But if you do not understand what I tell you, just pretend to tie your shoelaces.

The different versions are not there to confuse you but to help you see the different ways you can tie this knot.

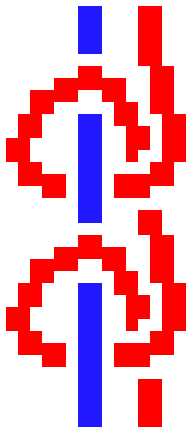
## Version 1



Place your string side by side, and cross the one from the right under the other to the left.

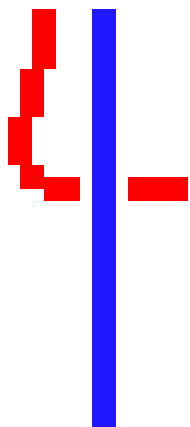


Take it back to the right over the string and under itself, this is one half hitch.  
Keep the string not working under a little tension, it needs to stay straight.

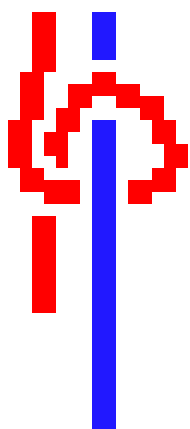


Repeat the move. Often this knot is used in two's but it can also be an endless repeat.

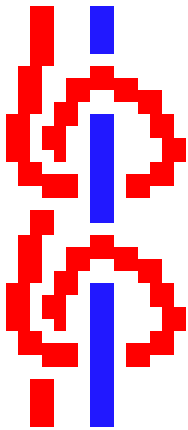
## Version 2



This is the mirror image of version 1, so now it is the string from the left which does the work.

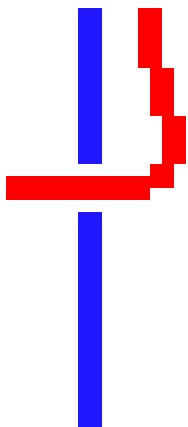


You see, it moved around its friend.

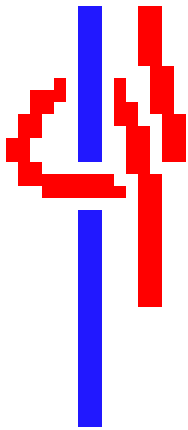


You have to tighten the knots after each half hitch.

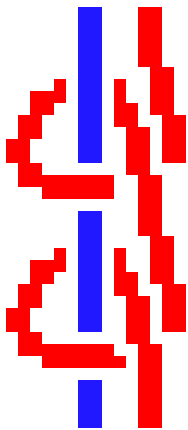
### Version 3



In this version the string goes over its partner first in going around but the knot is the same.

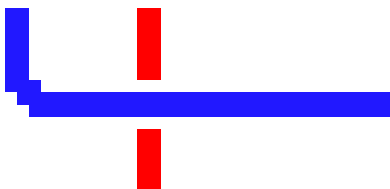


When you tie a couple of knots in version 2 and go on in version 3 you will see that the knots are the same. I give you the different versions to show how it looks when working.

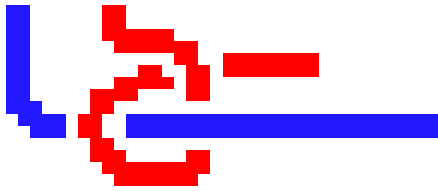


You can make a mirror image of this version as well, you get the same knot as in version 1, only looking at it from behind.

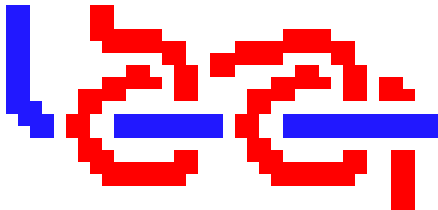
## Version 4



Again the same knot as version 1 but the way you hold the string is different,

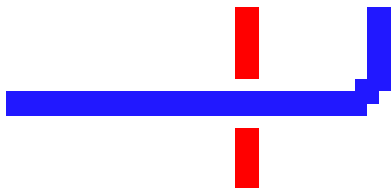


it may take some getting used to but is worth learning the different ways to tie.

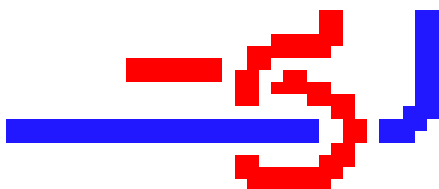


In this way of tying you almost always make two knots before moving to the next string.

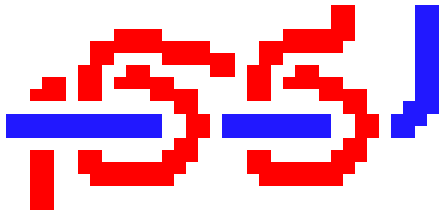
## Version 5



As you can see this is the mirror image again, but the pictures may be needed.

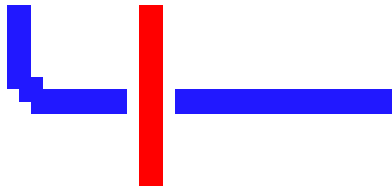


It is amazingly confusing to work this versions mirror image without the pictures.

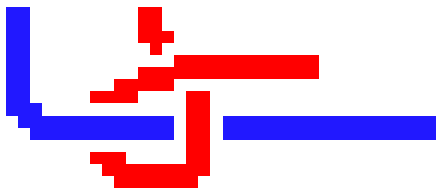


But with a little help you should be able to master it.

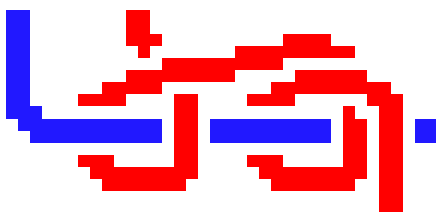
## Version 6



This version is the back again.



You do not often tie this knot at the back.

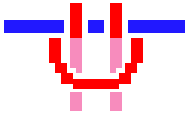


But there is no reason not to give you these pictures.

You see this simple knot has many versions, while writing this I remembered another 4 at least. But they will go in another section.

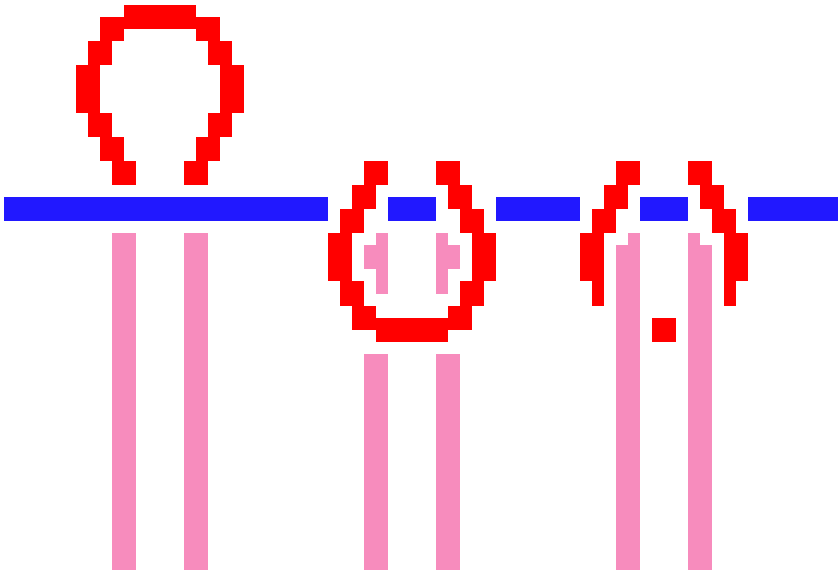
As with any decorative knot, try out what you like best, and what works for you but remember there are more versions if you need them.





The lark's head knot.  
Often used to start macramé work.

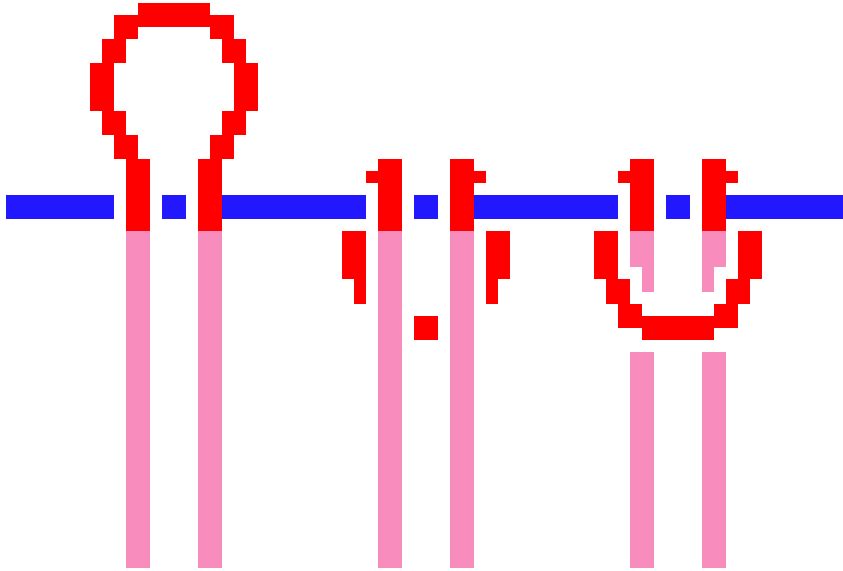
This is a knot most often used as starting knot in macramé. To make it tie a string taut across your worktop, use pins or nails or tie it around your worktop. This I call your base string. If you want to work on a ring fix it to your worktop, your ring is your base (string).



Take a string, double it and pull the loop underneath your base string, fold the loop over and pull the long ends of your string through. Pull the knot tight but do not overdo it, it should still slide over the base string.

If you need more strings tie the next one besides the first, like the steps are in the drawing.

If you want the knot the other way round do as in the next drawing.



Place your doubled string over your base string, fold the loop backwards, beneath the string and pull the long ends through.

Do not mix the two versions of this knot, or do it in a controlled way, like one of the one and one of the other because you need the effect.



The necklace knot.  
To close necklaces and bracelets.

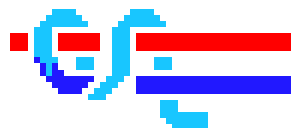
This knot is known (but not widely) as the necklace knot. (As far as I remember, I could not find it in the books.) If you use it differently, it is known as the double fisherman's knot. Because of the use I have for it I do refer to it sometimes as bracelet knot.



Place the strings alongside each other, facing the other way. Just work with the string where the end is at hand.



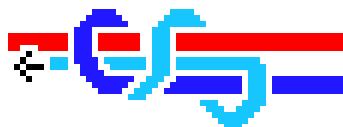
Place the short end below the longer one. Cross over and down at the back.



Go around again, over the two strings together.



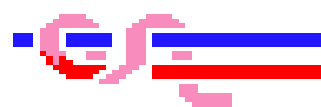
When you are back, go through the centre of the knot, between the two strings and under the two loops you just made.



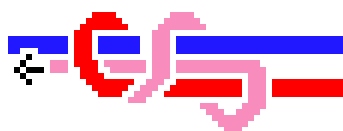
Tighten well.



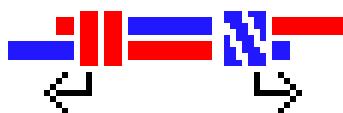
Here you see what the knot should look like when tightened. Front and back. You see the little end moved to the other side. (If yours has not, no problem.) This is one of the two knots you need to make.



Turn your work around so the other string is above and the short end where the other used to be and make the same knot again.



Go around the string twice and through the centre of the knot again and pull tight.



If you have made the knots the same as I do they are mirror image. Pull on the knots, as the arrows indicate, to shorten the bracelet (or necklace) and pull on the long strings to lengthen it.

Cut the ends short. If you melt or glue the ends to prevent fraying, be careful the strings will not become glued together. The knot has to slide on the string that is why you made it.

