

Eight Strand Braid for a Friendship Bracelet

Designed by Jane Patrick

This project is adapted from the Spring and String Choker which appeared in *Time to Weave* by Jane Patrick.

Kids love to braid and this is one they've probably not learned. We've used a single color here, but patterns can be created when several colors are used.

Materials

#24 cotton cable cord, 5 yards needed; masking tape; scissors; heavy book or similar object to hold braid while working.

Weave the 8-strand braid

Step 1: Measure 8 strands of equal length. Tie an overhand knot at one end and weight under a heavy object or tape the end of the cord to the top of the table.

Step 2: Divide the 8 strands into two groups, 4 in your right hand and 4 in your left hand.

Step 3: Pass the outermost right-hand strand under 5 strands (3 in the right-hand group and 2 in the left-hand group) and back over 2 strands (the same 2 in the left-hand group you just went under), then return this strand to the right-hand group. It is now on the left-hand edge of the right-hand group, or the 4th strand from the right (step 3a).

Step 4: Now, do exactly the same thing working from the left. Take the outermost left-hand strand under 5 strands (3 in the left-hand group and 2 in the right-hand group), back over 2 (the same 2 you just went under), then return this strand to the left side. It will now be the 4th strand from the left (step 4a).

Tips

Tighten the braid as you work by pulling back on the strands after each pass.

To correct an error, the best way to find your place again is to start in the center where two yarns cross. Hold these yarns in place and then work back side to side to line up four strands on either side of the middle. Check to see that the strands are stepped up the sides, one following the next and then begin again.



Steps 1 and 2



Step 3



Step 3a



Step 4



Step 4a



Pull on the strands to tighten the braid.



Color variation