

Dragonfly Pin/Pendant

by Joan Babcock



Dragonflies are beloved for their delicate beauty. Make one in your favorite colors with a pin or pendant version that combines Margareten Spitze style macramé with beads.

Level - Advanced Beginner and up

Micro-Macrame Knots - Vertical Double Half Hitch, Half Hitch Rope Chain, Overhand Knot, Square Knot.

Materials

Cord and Thread

- 18g Nylon Cord - 2 lengths @ 30"
1 length @ 100"

Beads

The beads for the wing interiors can be any kind you choose but should be on the small side. For example: seed beads, 3 - 5mm bicones, 4 - 6mm round, 5 - 7mm teardrops. small spacers etc...

Findings

- Pin Option: $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" Pin Back Finding
Note - I prefer the narrow "solder-on" type, but you can use the wider "glue-on" type if the narrower type is unavailable.
- Pendant Option: Jump Ring or Closed Ring (8mm preferred, but can be smaller or larger)

Other Required Supplies

- Macramé Board
- Quilting Pins or Sewing Pins
- Scissors (small for precision cutting)
- Embroidery needle (#2 or similar)
- Sewing needle (narrow enough to sew through seed beads).

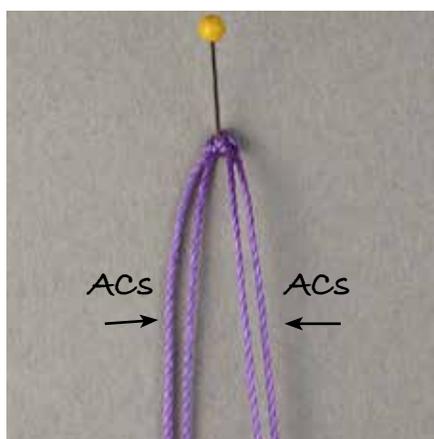


Figure 1

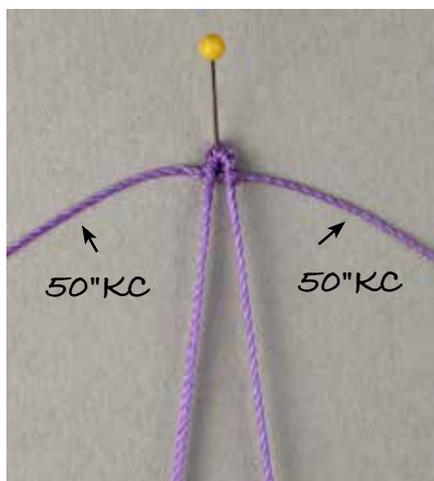


Figure 2

Dragonfly Body

1. Line up the two 30" cords so the ends are even and make an **OVK** at the center point of the cords, joining the cords. Pin the **OVK** to your board and bring the four 15" cords downward. These will be the **ACs** or Anchor Cords (see Fig. 1).

Note - The body will consist of 2 parallel knotted chains (see Fig.5) with a space between them. If you are making the Pin version, make sure to leave enough space between the chains so that the body is wide enough to conceal the Pin Back.

2. Center the 100" cord (the **KC**, Knotting Cord) behind the **ACs** and pin it in place temporarily. There should be 50" to the right and left of the center. With the right half of the **KC**, make an outward facing **VDHH** (Vertical Double Half Hitch) around the right-hand **ACs**. With the left half of the **KC**, make an outward facing **VDHH** around the left-hand **ACs** (see Fig. 2).

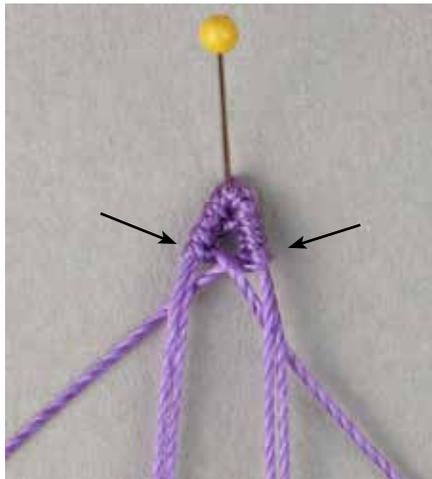


Figure 3



Figure 4

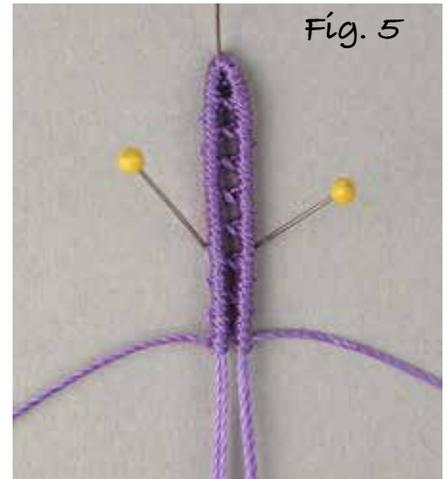


Fig. 5

3. On each chain, bring the **KC** towards the center under the 2 **ACs** and make an inward facing **VDHH** (see Fig. 3).
4. Cross the **KCs** at the center and bring them under the **ACs** on the opposite side. Make outward **VDHHs** (see Fig. 4).
5. Repeat Steps #3 & 4 seven more times (see Fig. 5).

Small Wings

6. Reposition the body horizontally with the end to the right. Take one of the 2 lower **ACs** and bring it downward vertically. Use the lower **KC** to make a chain of 44 **HHs** (Half Hitches). To start the chain, bring the **KC** under the **AC** and to the left so that the cord exits to the left after the first **HH** of the chain (see Fig. 6). **Note** - Refer to the knot diagram for the Half Hitch Rope Chain, and start with Step 2, the **Left HH**.
7. Reposition the body horizontally with the end to the left. Take one of the lower **ACs** and bring it downward vertically. Use the lower **KC** to make a chain of 44 **HHs**. **Note** - To start the chain, bring the **KC** under the **AC** and to the right so that the cord exits to the right after the first **HH** of the chain (see Fig. 7).
8. Reposition the body vertically and pin the ends of the **HH** chains to hold them in place. On each side, bring the loose **AC** (Fig. 8a) parallel to the chain **AC** (Fig. 8b). Make a tight inward facing **VDHH** around both **ACs** to join them (see Fig. 8c, right side).

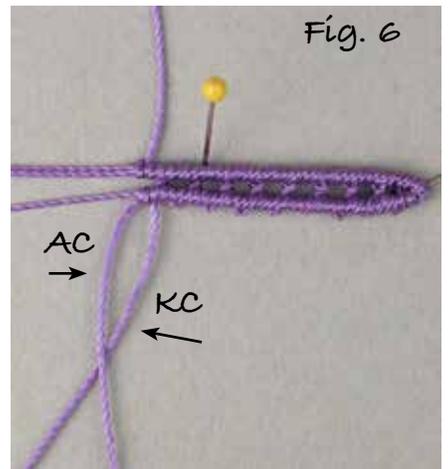


Fig. 6

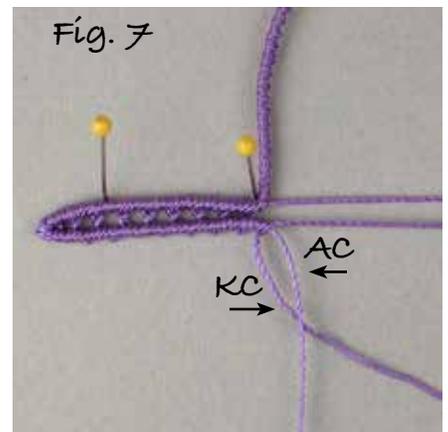


Fig. 7

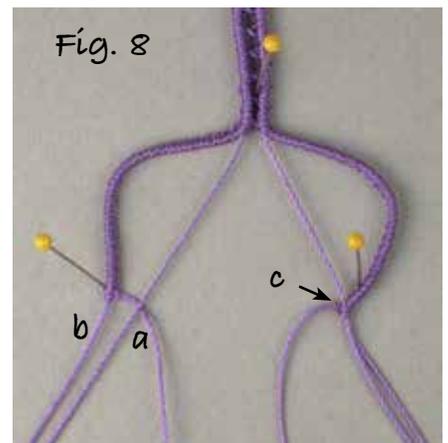


Fig. 8

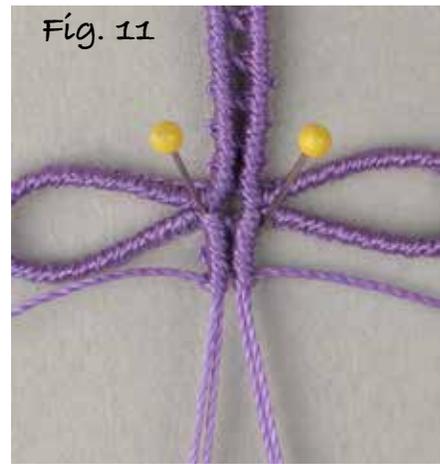
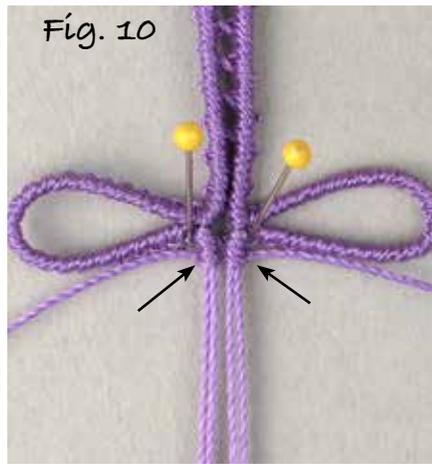


Figure 12

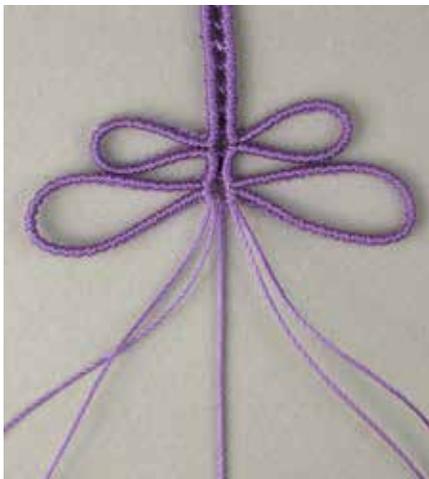


Figure 13

9. On each side, slide the **VDHH** upward on the loose **AC** until the chain end aligns with the chain start (see Fig. 9).

10. Pin both sides in place bringing the 2 **VDHs** closely together. Cross the **KCs** to the opposite sides and make outward **VDHs** (see Fig. 10).

11. Repeat Steps #3 & 4 (see Fig. 11).

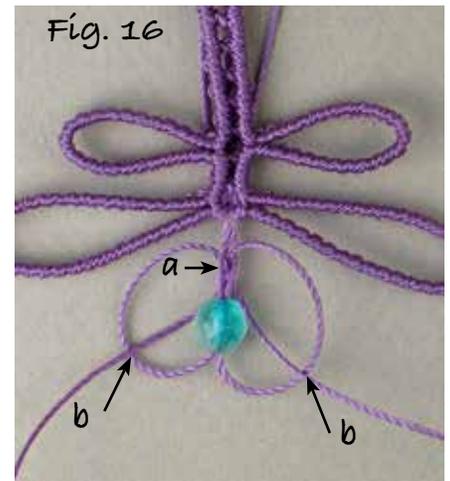
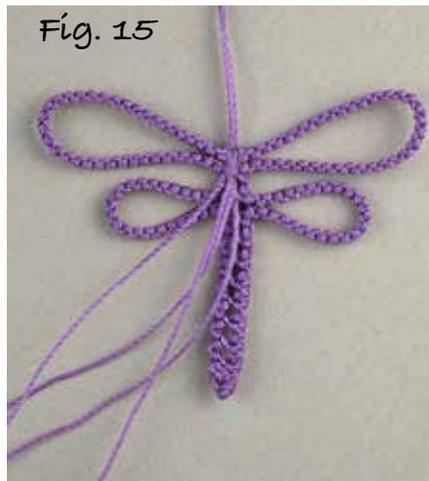
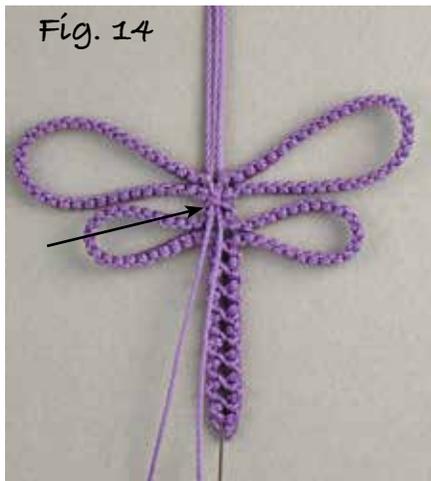
Large Wings

12. Note - The large wings are made with the same method as the small wings (Figures 6 & 7). Reposition the body horizontally with the end to the right. Take one of the lower **ACs** and bring it downward vertically. Use the lower **KC** to make a chain of 68 **HHs**. **Note** - Bring the **KC** under the **AC** and to the left so that the cord exits to the left after the first **HH** of the chain (**L.HH**).

13. Reposition the body horizontally with the end to the left. Take one of the lower **ACs** and bring it downward vertically. Use the lower **KC** to make a chain of 68 **HHs**. **Note** - Bring the **KC** under the **AC** and to the right so that the cord exits to the right after the first **HH** of the chain (**R.HH**).

14. Reposition the body vertically and pin the ends of the **HH** chains to hold them in place. Make an **OVK** at the tip of each chain **AC** to mark it. On each side, bring the loose **AC** parallel to the chain **AC**. Make a tight inward facing **VDHH** around both **ACs** to join them (see Fig. 12).

15. On each side, slide the **VDHH** upward on the loose **AC** until the chain end aligns with the chain start (see Fig. 13). Retighten the **VDHs** if necessary. Bring the **KCs** to the back of the piece.



Head

16. Flip the piece to the back and, one at a time, sew each **KC** under the crossed cord that's located at the center back between the upper and lower wings. Pull through (see Fig. 14). Sew both loose **ACs** (not the **OVK ACs**) under the same crossed cord at the center back and pull through (see Fig. 15).

17. Cut off the **OVKs** on the remaining 2 **ACs**. Thread the cords through the head bead but don't push it all of the way to the neck for now. **Note** - For the pendant option, thread a jump ring onto the cords now (see cover photo, pink dragonfly). Take each cord's end and thread it from front to back through the center between the 2 cords (see Fig. 16a). Bring the ends back to the front, passing over the side cords (see Fig. 16b). Tighten the cords so that the bead sits on top of the body (see Fig. 17).

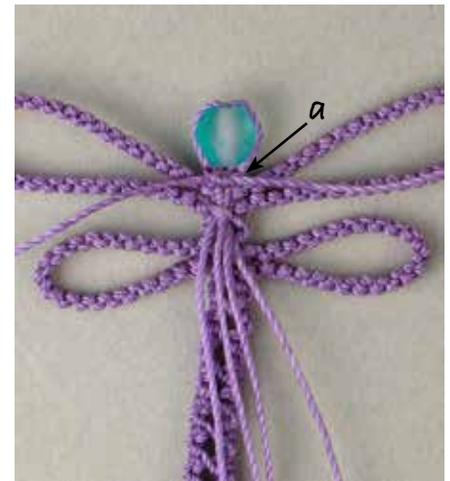


Figure 17

18. Flip the piece to the back and make a tight **SQK** (Square Knot) at the base of the bead (see Fig. 17a).

19. Untwist the **SQK** cords and separate out a 1-ply thread from each cord (see Fig. 18a). Sew the 2-ply segments under the crossed cord at the center back.

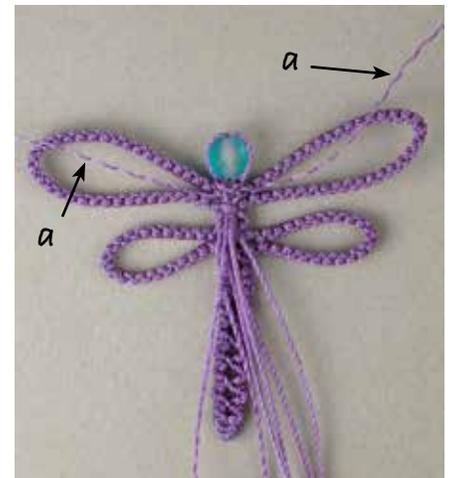
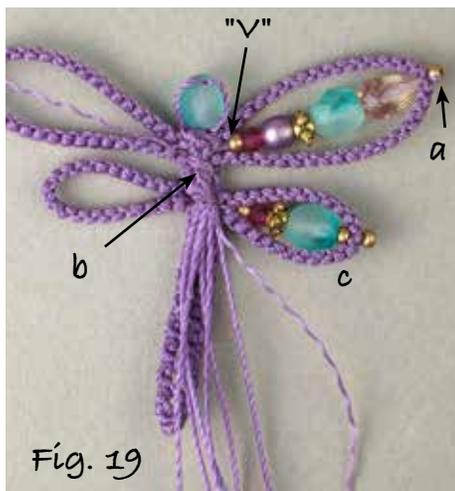


Figure 18

Wing Beads

- When choosing beads to decorate the interior of the wings, use small beads (from seed beads to 6 mm) and lay them within the wings to see how they fit and work together.



Tip - Sewing through knotwork can be made a lot easier with the help of these two tools: a thimble (to push the needle through) and a pair of needle nose pliers (to pull the needle through).

20. Starting on either side: Thread the 1-ply thread onto a sewing or beading needle. On the inside "V" of the wing, sew under one or two cords in the upper **HH** chain to move the thread outward a tiny bit (about 1 mm from the "V" in the wing) and bring the needle out. Thread the beads onto the needle and check that they fit within the length of the wing (I recommend that you use a seed bead at the start of the strand because it will fit better within the wing). At the tip of the wing, sew through the chain to the outside (see Fig. 19a, top right).



21. Thread on a seed bead and sew back through the chain bypassing the seed bead. Sew through all of the strand beads and under one or two cords in the **HH** chain opposite to where the thread entered the strand.

22. Bring the thread out at the back of the piece. To secure the group of loose cords at the back of the piece, sew around them several times and tie them down securely to the dragonfly body (see Fig. 19b).



23. Using the same thread, sew the beads into the lower wing on the same side, following the same method as in the upper wing (see Fig. 19c). Secure the thread at the center by sewing back and forth through the grouped cords 2 or 3 times and cut it off.

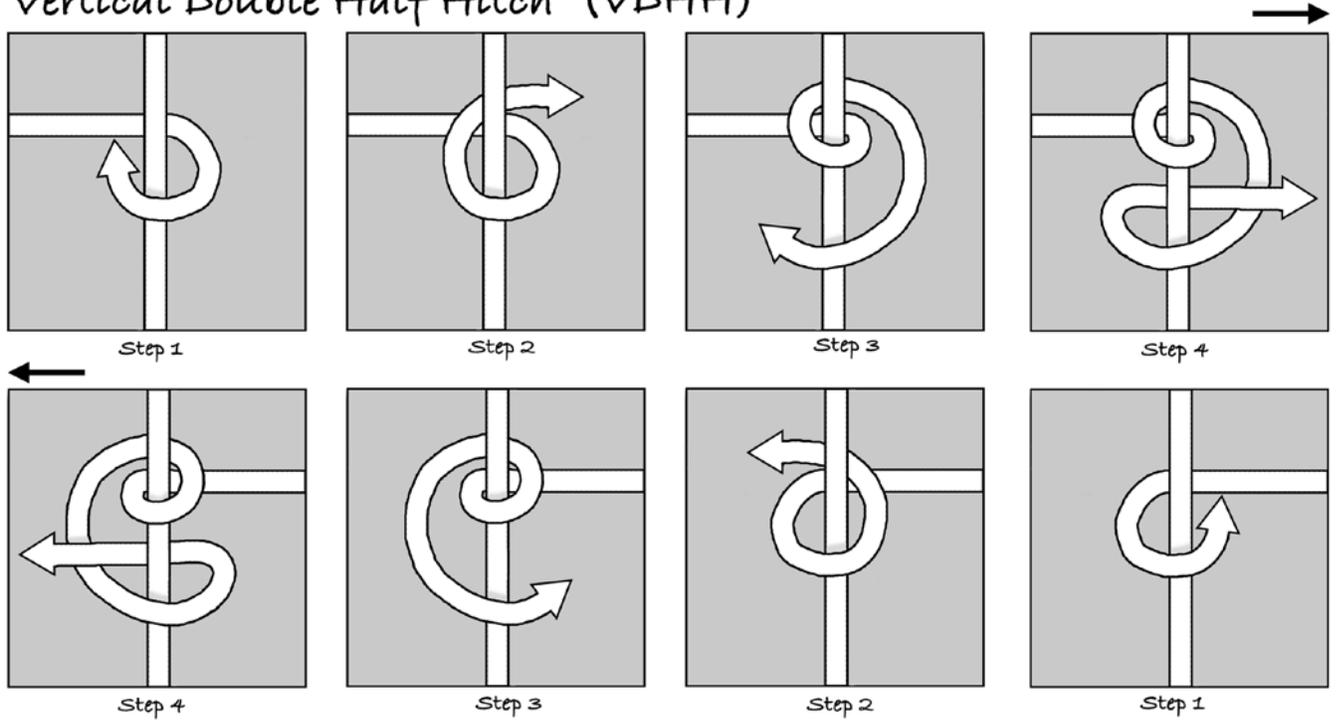
24. Using the 1-ply thread from the opposite side, sew in the beads for the remaining wings.

25. Pendant Option - Cut off all of the grouped cords just below the lower wings.

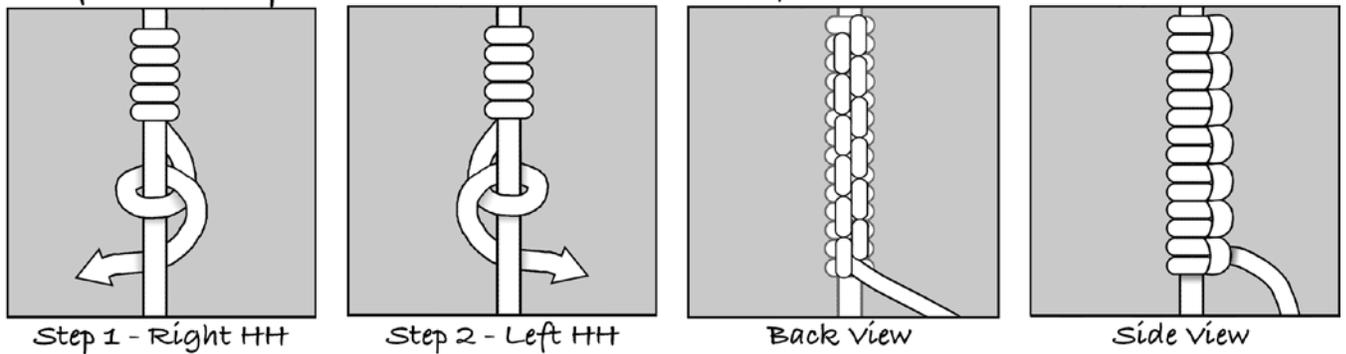


26. Pin Option -Separate a 1-ply cord from one of the grouped cords to use as thread for attaching the pin backing (see Fig. 20). Cut off all of the other grouped cords just below the lower wings. Sew the pin backing to the back of the dragonfly body (see Figures 21 & 22).

Vertical Double Half Hitch (VDHH)

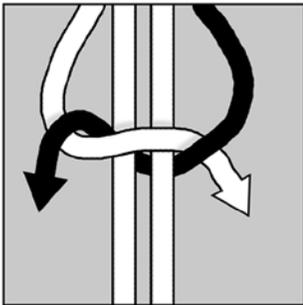


Half Hitch Rope Chain (HHch) Alternate steps 1 and 2

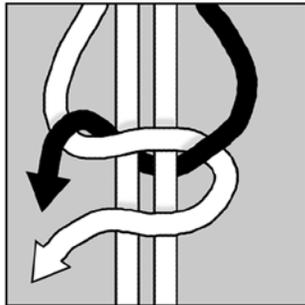


Knot Diagrams

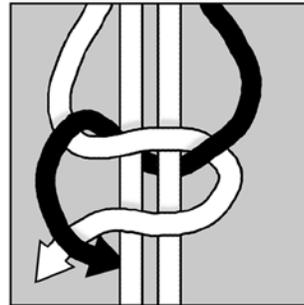
Square Knot (SQK)



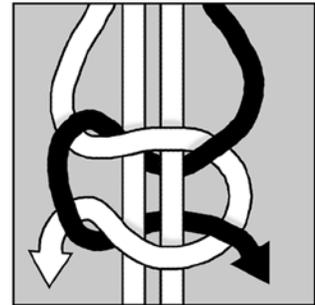
Step 1



Step 2

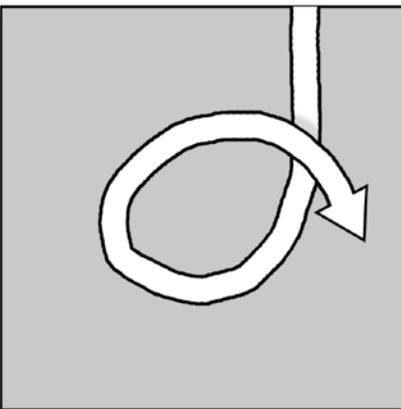


Step 3

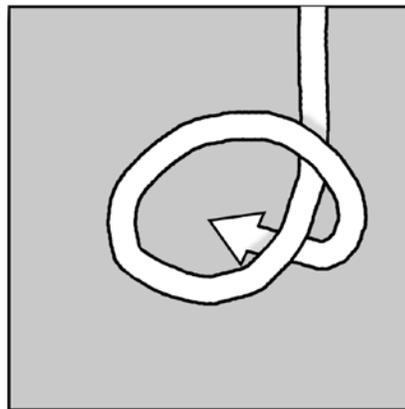


Step 4

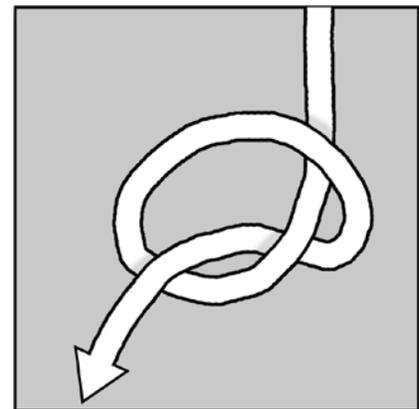
Overhand Knot (OVK)



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3

Terms of Use

Please be aware that this project is the copyrighted property of Joan Babcock Designs and intended for your personal use only. Any unauthorized reproduction and/or distribution of the downloaded materials is prohibited. Use of the jewelry design(s) for commercial or teaching purposes is also prohibited.