

BEADED WAXED CORD FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS



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This popular method of making adjustable, beaded friendship bracelets is fast, fun, and full of potential for your colorful ideas!

SKILL LEVEL: All.

TECHNIQUES: stringing, square knots, using open flame

CAUTION: Assist young beaders with flame

MATERIALS for one 9-strand bracelet

Waxed cord in three colors:

Color A: 1 yard, 3 strands, 2 closure cords

Color B: 1 yard, 3 strands, knotted slider

Color C: 24 inches, 3 strands

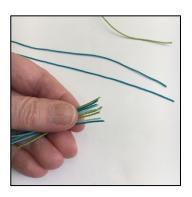
Assorted size 8° and 6° single hole beads

Scissors

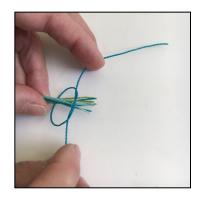
Little Hottie™ or butane lighter

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- **1.** Cut two 10-inch (26cm) lengths of Color A and an 8-inch piece of Color B. Set aside.
- **2.** Cut nine 8-inch (20cm) strands of cord, three each Colors A, B and C.
- **3.** Lay out the nine strands and bring the ends even on one end. The wax will help hold them together.

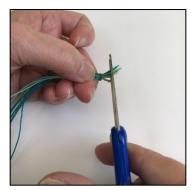


4. Take one 10-inch cord and tie an open overhand knot about an inch wide. Slide the bundled strands into the open knot and pull the knot tight $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the ends of the strands.



5. Make another secure knot on top of the one you've made. Trim the strand ends to about $3/8^{th}$ inch—do not cut the cord you just knotted.



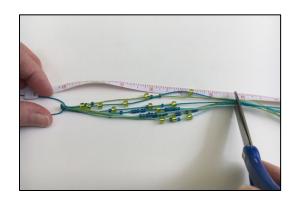


6. CAREFULLY avoiding the other cords and the knot just made, use heat to SLOWLY melt just the strand ends together into a little mushroom shaped bump. This prevents the knot from sliding off the strands. Some discoloration is expected.

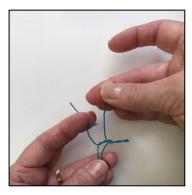


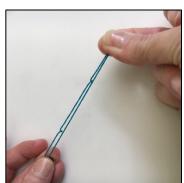
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- **7.** String beads as desired on any or all the other loose strands. Trim to 5.5 inches.
- **8.** Repeat Steps 4-6 to knot off and seal the other side. You're left with a nine beaded strands fused together at each end plus two long cords at each end.

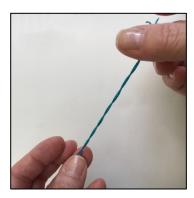


9. Work with one pair of long cords: Twist one of the cords in the direction of its coil until it kinks up into itself. Hold it to prevent it from untwisting, and twist the other cord the same way. Hold both cords ends together and pull the cords to straighten and unkink them as much as possible. Don't let them untwist.





- **10.** Twist both cords <u>together</u> in the other direction so they form a single twisted cord.
- **11.** Make a secure overhand knot with both ends leaving about 3 inches to the beaded section. Trim ends to $3/8^{th}$ inch.





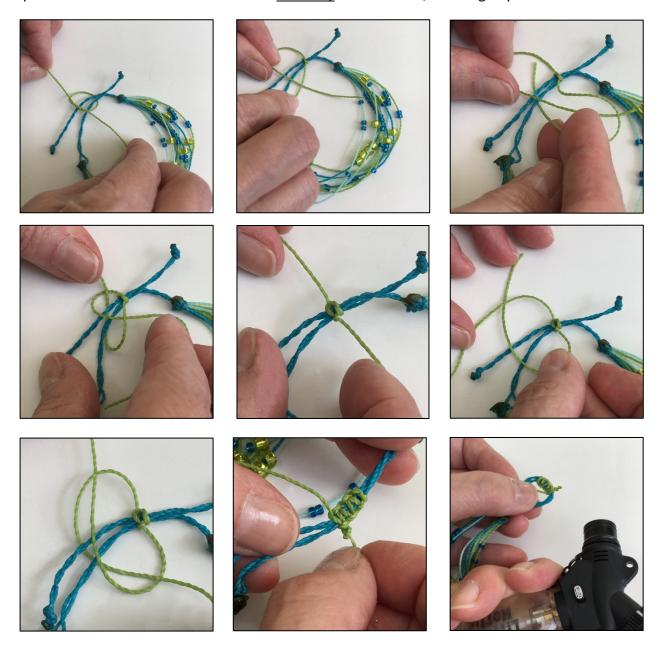
12. Seal the ends with heat. Avoid the knot.

Repeat Steps 9-12 for the other end of the bracelet.



MACRAME SLIDING CLOSURE

- **12.** Bring the twisted cords side by side facing opposite directions. Take the 8-inch cord and center it under both overlapped twisted cords. Make five or six complete square knots around them forming your sliding closure.
- **13.** Make an overhand knot in each loose end of the closure, as snug as possible up to the last square knot. Trim ends to about ¼ inch. <u>Carefully</u> melt the tails, avoiding any other cords.



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