



MACRAMÉ WAVES BRACELETS

By Leslie Rogalski

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Create a supple cuff with waves of waxed cord and beaded sections.

SKILL LEVEL: Intermediate

TECHNIQUE: Clove hitches, wrapping, stringing

MATERIALS:

4 grams size 8° seed beads

Mini Macrame Board

Brazilian waxed cord (Java Jive colors shown)

Flush Cutter

T-Pins for macramé

2 size 6mm jump rings

1 lobster clasp, large



NOTE: For clarity in knot instruction, this tutorial is mainly showing only one color of cord in step photos. Ombre effect is pictured where it may be helpful.

STEP 1. Cut two 6-inch pieces of cord, any color, and set aside for wrapping the ends of the bracelet.

STEP 2. Cut one 60-inch cord in each of the four colors and fold them in half, for eight strands. Keep the ends even. Line the folded ends with darkest on the left, lightest on the right.

TIP: Try to keep the order of colors lined up through Steps 3 to 10, the wrapping stages.

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BEADSMITH® PRESENTS WAVES WAX CORD MACRAME CUFF

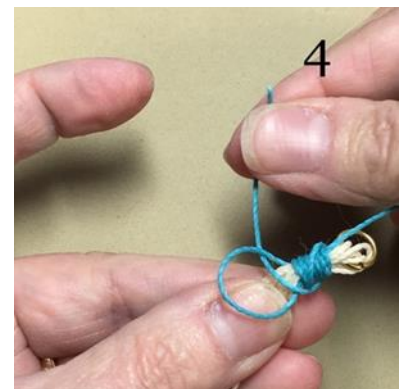
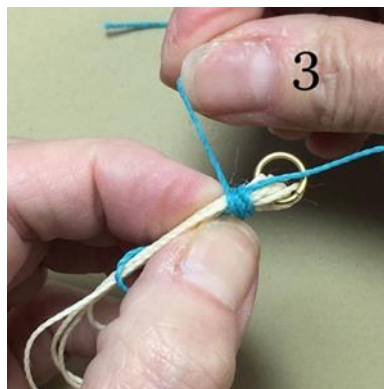
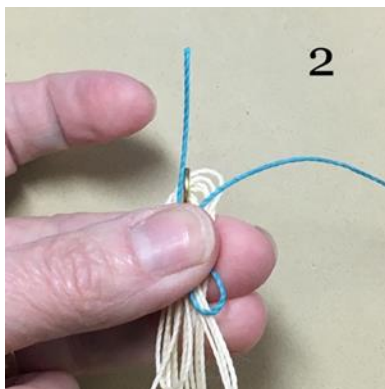
STEP 3. Bring the loops of the folded cords through a jump ring, keeping the ring opening out of the cords. Fold 1.5 inches of the looped ends over the long cords. [PHOTO 1]



STEP 4. Make a loop with one short cord keeping a short tail and long tail and hold it on the layered cords with the tails pointed towards the jump ring. [PHOTO 2]

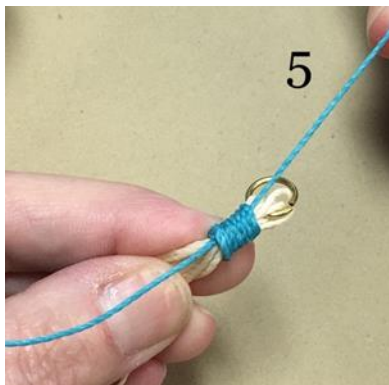
STEP 5. Working with the long tail towards the loop of the short tail, wrap over the short tail and around all eight main cords for a section at least ¼ inch. [PHOTO 3]

STEP 6. Bring the long tail through the loop to make a hitch. [PHOTO 4]



STEP 7. Pull the short tail to pull the hitch just made within the wrapped part. [PHOTO 5]

STEP 8. One by one pull the eight long cords so they snug against the jump ring, separating out the color in their ombre sequence. [OMBRE 5] Make sure the opening in the ring is not inside the cords.



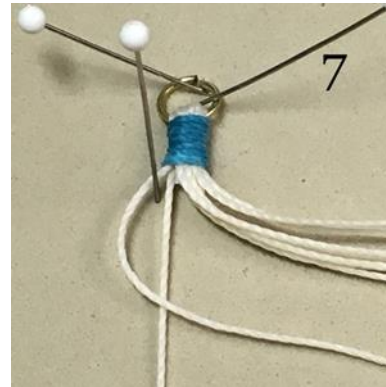
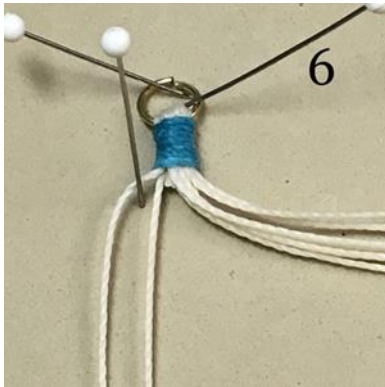
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STEP 9. Trim all wrapped tails.

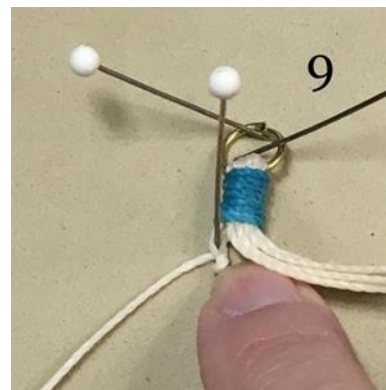
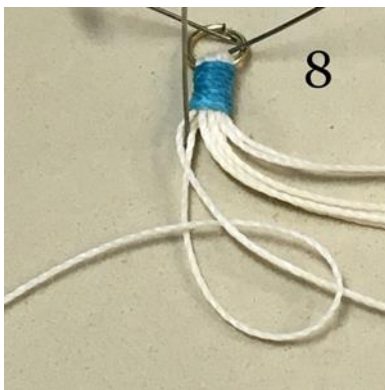
STEP 10. Press with your fingers around the wrapped area to seal the waxed cords nicely.

STEP 11. Pin the jump ring at the top of your macrame board. Separate out two cords (dark for the ombre design) on the left. Place a pin between the first and second cords. This gives you something to pull against with the first cord when it functions as the holding cord. [PHOTO 6]

STEP 12. Use the first cord as your “holding cord” around which you will make horizontal clove hitches. Bring the holding cord over the “working cord” to form a “4”. [PHOTO 7]



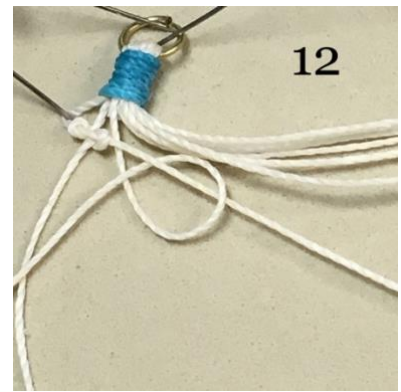
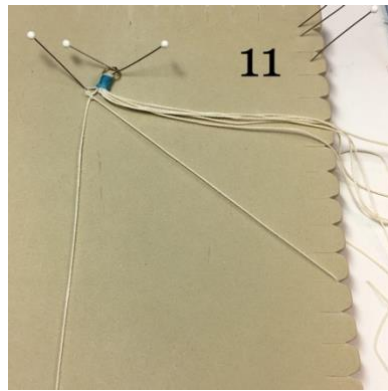
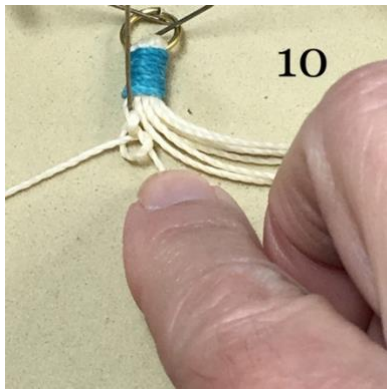
STEP 13. Bring the working cord from under the holding cord, up and over the holding cord, and down through the loop over the working cord. [PHOTO 8] Pull it snug against the holding cord. [PHOTO 9]



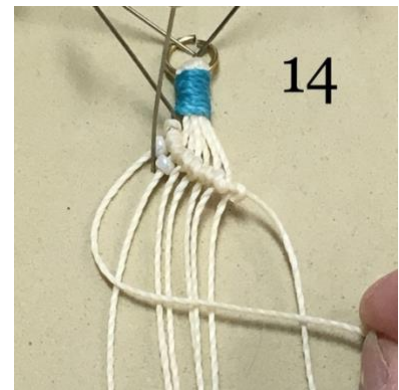
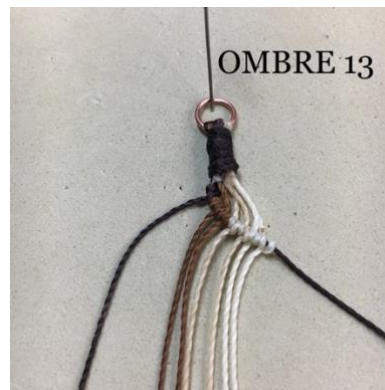
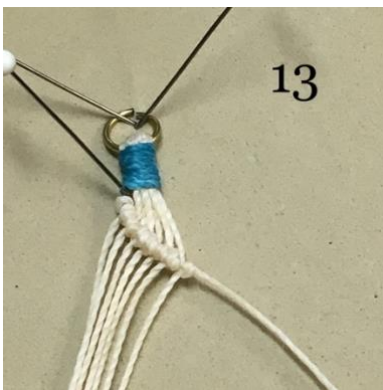
STEP 14. Complete the clove hitch with another hitch. Pull snug to the holding cord. [PHOTO 10]

TIP: Notch your holding cord at an angle into the right side of the macrame board to preserve the angle of the row. You will still hold it with your fingers when you make knots. [PHOTO 11]

STEP 15. Make a second clove hitch: Bring the next working cord under the snug holding cord. Bring it up and over, then down through the loop just formed. Pull snug to the holding cord. Repeat to complete the knot, and make sure it is pushed against the previous knot. [PHOTO 12]



STEP 16. Continue making clove hitches along the working cord following Steps 13 to 15 allowing for the slack in order to have the row at an angle. [PHOTO 13] Reposition pins as needed so the jump ring end remains in the middle of the work; the left side moves out slightly, so reposition that pin.

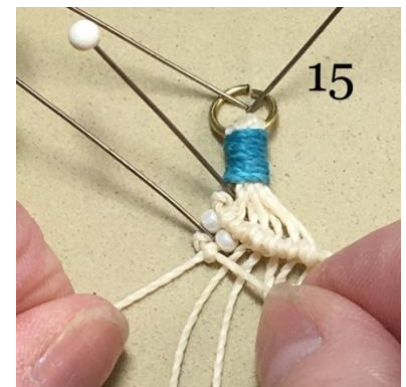


STEP 17. String a bead on each of the first two cords on the left side and slide them up to the row of hitches. [PHOTO 14]

STEP 18. The first cord becomes your new holding cord.

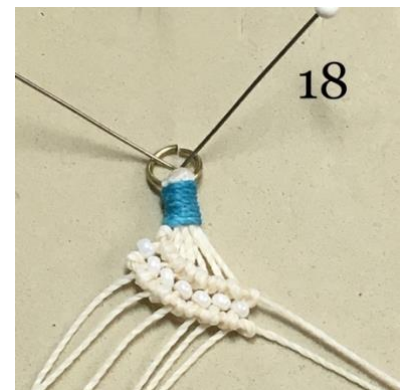
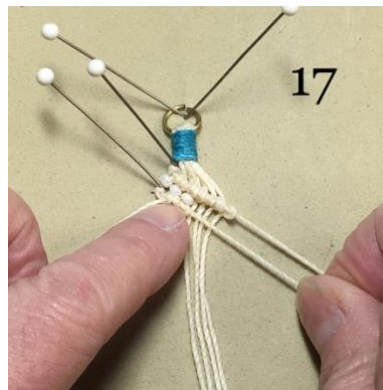
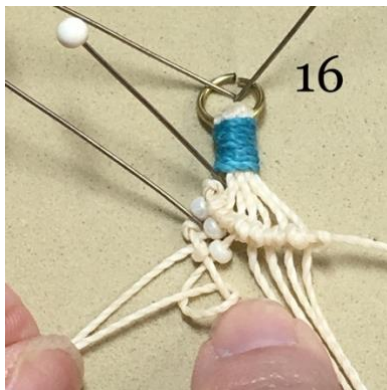
TIP: Remember that bead rows are worked at an angle pointing down, from left to right or right to left.

STEP 19. Make a clove hitch to hold the beads against the previous row of hitches: Bring the working cord up and over, then down through the loop just formed. Pull to snug the beads to the holding cord. Nudge the two beads to sit side by side parallel to the hitches. Repeat again to complete the knot, and make sure it is pushed against the previous hitch. [PHOTO 15]



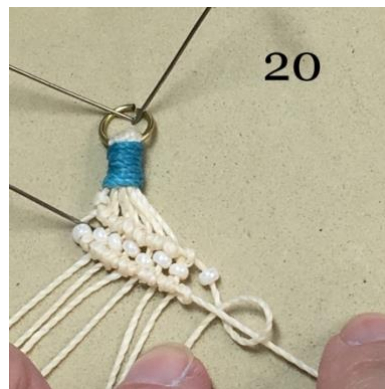
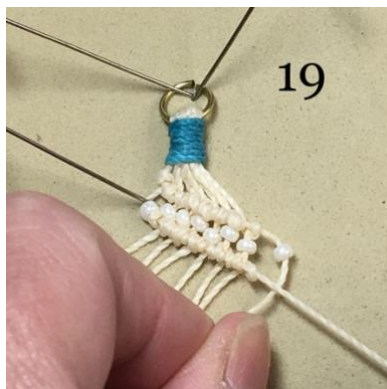
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STEP 20. On one working cord at a time, string a bead up to the row of hitches keeping the holding cord below the bead and over the working cord. [PHOTO 16] Continue to string beads and make clove hitches for seven beads. Keep nudging the beads to remain parallel. Adjust tension to have a bit of slack if you find them overlapping. [PHOTOS 17 and 18]



STEP 21. After the seventh bead, remove pins and massage the work to even it out and nudge beads and knots to behave. Place the pin back on the left side again. The top string on the right—the holding cord above the beads—becomes the last working cord, and the bottom cord becomes the next working cord for the row of hitches beneath the beads. String a bead and work a clove hitch with the second holding cord. [PHOTO 19 and 20]

STEP 22. Keep the piece centered under the jump ring. Place a new pin on the right side between the first and second cords. Pull the holding cord down at an angle down right to left. [PHOTO 21]



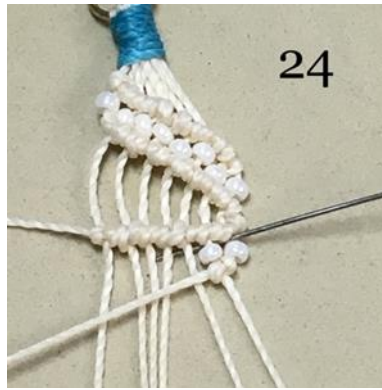
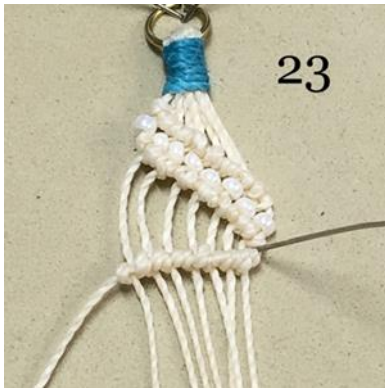
STEP 23. Bring the holding cord across the first working cord making a letter “P.” Bring the working cord up, over and down through the loop as shown in Photo 20. Snug against the holding cord. Complete the hitch. [PHOTO 22]

TIP: Tuck the holding cord at an angle in a notch on the left side of the macrame board to help preserve the angle.

TIP: Allow for the “waves” as slack in the working cords as you work the row. Keep your angle spacing consistent between rows.



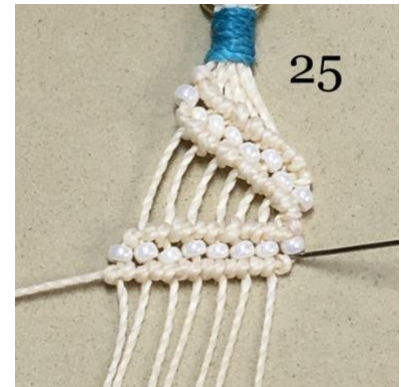
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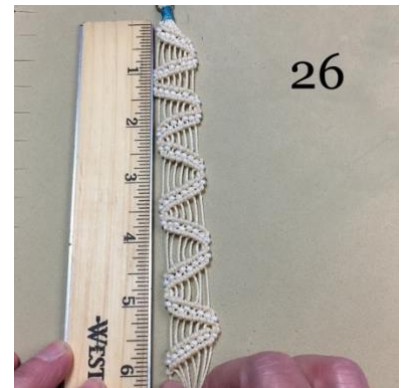
STEP 24. Repeat from Step 13 to work a zig zag of beaded rows sandwiched between rows of hitches, alternating the direction of the rows to form the zigzag. [PHOTOS 23, 24, Ombre of Photo 24, 25]

TIP: New holding cords and working cords always start from the same side of the piece.

TIP: Always start a new row of beads with two beads strung, one on the new holding cord (coming from the same side as the one just worked) and one on the new first working cord.



STEP 25. Work a bracelet until the length measurement from the furthest tip of the first beaded row to the furthest tip of your last beaded row is your desired length LESS one inch for the ending wrapped sections and your clasp allowance. Example: six inches of macramé plus an inch of closure plus a half inch clasp equals a desired 7.5 inch finished bracelet. [PHOTO 26]



STEP 26. Repeat the ending using the other short cord, as in Steps 4 to 10, to wrap the cord *ends* onto a jump ring. (There are no loops at this end.) Remember to pull the tail ends against the jump ring BEFORE trimming the tails. Attach your clasp with two jump rings to the bound end jump rings.

Leslie Rogalski (also known as Sleepless Beader™) is the creative director for The Beadsmith® and a Beadsmith Inspiration Squad designer. Specializing in (but not limited to) beadwork, she has been an editor for leading bead magazines, a designer for leading bead companies, and is widely recognized for videos and TV appearances in the US and UK. Leslie is a Master Artisan of her local chapter of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and sells her work, kits and tutorials at leslierogalskibeadworks.com.

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