

Instructions for a Flat 10-Warp Braid

Any cord, or group of cords, that are placed in a single notch on the braiding board is referred to as a warp. In this braid, the 10 warps are placed onto the board in sets of 6 and 4.

Cut 10 pieces of cord in your choice of color (use one or several) and tie them together at one end in an overhand knot. Holding the board face up, place the knot into the center hole. Spread the cords and place one in each of the notches from 3-8 at the top and 14-17 at the bottom as shown in Illustration 1. Turn the board over and wind each cord into a no-tangle bobbin. For your first few braids you may want to add a weight to the bottom of the knot in the center to provide some downward tension on the braid. Twenty-five pennies in a plastic bag are a good choice for a weight. The braid will feed downward out of the center hole as you work it.

Braid Sequence:

Step 1: Move warp from notch 5 and move to notch e; move warp from notch 6 to notch E.

Step 2: Move warp in notch 15 to 5; 4 to 15; 14 to 4; 3 to 14

Step 3: Now repeat the same "weaving" pattern with the right half of the board—move 16 to 6; 7 to 16; 17 to 7; 8 to 17

Step 4: Now the side warps need to return to the top: move e to 8; move E to 3. This completes one full sequence.

Repeat the sequence (Steps 1 - 4) until you've made enough braid for your desired project.

Use of the colors shown in these illustrations results in the sample braid shown in the photos below.

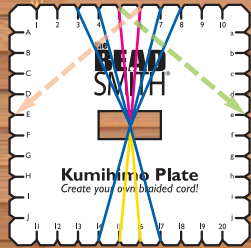


Illustration 1

Warp set to begin braiding.
First moves: 5 to e & 6 to E

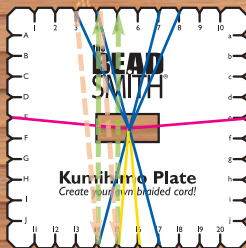


Illustration 2

15 up to 5; 4 down to 15;
14 up to 4; 3 down to 14

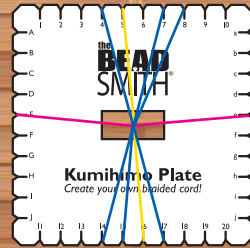


Illustration 3

Warp set after Step 1

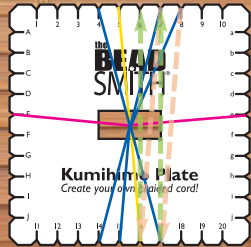


Illustration 4

16 up to 6; 7 down to 16;
17 up to 7; 8 down to 17

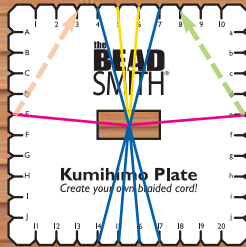


Illustration 5

Warp set after Step 3.
Next moves: e to 8 & E to 3

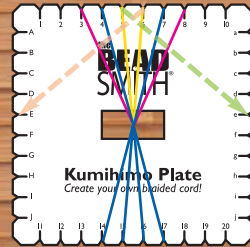


Illustration 5

Warp set after Step 4.
Repeat Steps 1-4.

Sample Braid



Front

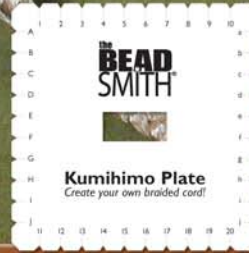


Back

Kumihimo braiding plate



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Tips for Successful Braids

- For most projects: pull 2" of cord per warp for every 1" of FLAT braid; pull 3" for every 1" of ROUND braid.
- Use your left hand to move the left hand warps and right hand to move the right hand warps.
- Use a 25 penny weight to help you get started, weight can be removed if it becomes cumbersome as you braid.
- Be sure to set each warp firmly into the notch.
- When you want to take a break from working on a braid, just complete a full sequence and return warps to "home" position before stopping. That way you'll know to always resume with step 1.



Item Number: KD601

Made in China

Jewelry designs and instructions by Anne Dilker. For more techniques and useful information about Kumihimo braids for jewelry design, see Anne's book "Braiding for Beaders" (BeadSmith Item #BK1953) available at www.beadsmith.com • Cartret, NJ 07008





Flat Braid Celtic Bracelet

Flat Braid Stargazer Choker

You'll need:

- 12 yards of 2mm Rattail™ (#1 lightweight), Tan color
- One 30mm Mother-of-Pearl donut, Bronze
- One Large Star Face charm in Antique Gold color (BeadSmith #TC94-2081-26)
- One 4" headpin or wire, Gold color
- Two 3/8" ribbon crimps, Gold color
- Three oval jump rings, Gold color
- One toggle clasp, Gold color

Step 1: Cut ten 40" pieces of rattail.

NOTE: This project can also be made with multiple colors rather than one, which will highlight the chevron shape in the braid structure.

Step 2: With five strands of rattail, make a lark's head knot around the donut, center the rattail, and pull tight. This will give you ten strands coming off one side of the donut.

Step 3: Put the donut on the bottom of the board and pull the 10 strands up through the center hole. Then set your board according to Illustration 1 under the Flat 10-Warp Braid instructions on the other side of this sheet.

Step 4: Follow the instructions to make a flat 10-warp braid (approx. 7" long). When finished, secure end with a piece of tape.

Step 5: For the other side of the choker, repeat steps 2-4, starting by attaching the remaining rattail to the other side of the donut.

Step 6: Measure braids to desired length & sew a stitch through each end to hold in place. Then cut, & attach ribbon crimps.

Step 7: Use a headpin or wire to secure the star charm to the donut.

Step 8: Link two jump rings and the bar section of the clasp to one crimp, and attach the ring side of the clasp to the other end with the last jump ring.



Making a Lark's Head Knot

You'll need:

- One package, On the Surface Ribbon Yarn, Assortment 1
- One Celtic-look toggle clasp, Gold color
- Three oval jump rings, Gold color
- Two 3/8" ribbon crimps (also called terminators or fold-over clasps), Gold color

Cut ten 18" strands (6 green and 4 gold-sage). This braid begins Tie the ends into a knot and place into the center hole of the board. Load your warps as in the 1st illustration below and attach a weight if desired. Work the braid in the sequence illustrated below, then remove the braid from the plate.

Start with 5 alternate color warp threads at the top in slots 3-7 and in slots 13-17.

Step 1: First move 3 to f; 13 to e.

Step 2: Move 14 to 3; 4 to 13; 15 to 4; 5 to 14; 16 to 5; 6 to 15; 17 to 6; 7 to 16

Step 3: Move e to 7; f to 17. Notice that the warp placement in Illustration 4 is the same as Illustration 1. This completes one full sequence.

Repeat the sequence (Steps 1 - 3) until you reach the desired length.

Sew a stitch through the ends of the braid to hold them in place while you add a ribbon crimp to each end. Link two jump rings and the bar section of the toggle to one crimp, and attach the ring side of the toggle to the other crimp with the last jump ring.

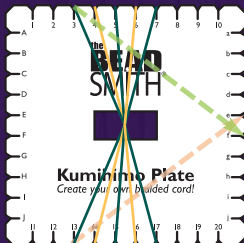


Illustration 1
Warp set to begin braiding.
First moves: 3 to f; 13 to e

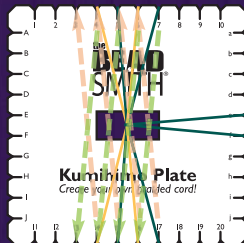


Illustration 2
14 to 3; 4 to 13; 15 to 4; 5 to 14;
16 to 5; 6 to 15; 17 to 6; 7 to 16

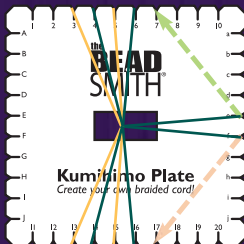


Illustration 3
Move e to 7; f to 17

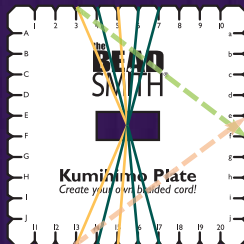


Illustration 4
Warp set at end of sequence.
Repeat sequence.



Round Braid Beaded Necklace

You'll need:

- One package, On the Surface Ribbon Yarn, Assortment 1
- Four 12 x 8mm end caps, Silver color
- One toggle clasp, Silver color
- Three oval jump rings, Silver color
- Your choice of beads (& pendant if desired)
- Two 2mm crimp beads, Silver color
- .012" diameter Flex-rite beading wire

In this project you will use eight 36" warps. Follow the instructions for making an 8-Warp Round Braid about 12-13" long. Remove it from the board and relax the tension by stretching it and running your hand from the bottom to the top, then tie a knot in the open end. You need two pieces of braid for this project so it will need to be whipped in four places in preparation for the cord caps. Whip both knotted ends according to the whipping instructions. Then whip the braid in two more spots — once on either side of the center point — to prevent it from unraveling when you cut it. Leave a section about a quarter inch long in between the center two whips, then cut the braid in the center, between the whips, and trim ends if needed. Glue all four end caps in place. Link two jump rings and the bar section of the toggle to an end cap on one section of braid, then attach the third jump ring and the ring portion of the toggle to an end cap on the other braid.

TIP: If you close the toggles and lay the piece down in a straight line, you can then measure the length to determine how long of a beaded section you will need to achieve the desired length of the finished necklace. For example, if the piece measures 14" and you want an 18" necklace, you need to string a 4" long beaded section.

Secure one end of a piece of flex wire onto one of the open end caps with a crimp bead, then string beads and the other crimp bead onto it. Put the other end of the wire through the ring on the last end cap and secure the crimp. Add a pendant if desired.

Instructions for an 8-Warp Round Braid

Cut 8 pieces of cord in your choice of color (use one or several) and tie them together at one end in an overhand knot. Holding the board face up, place the knot into the center hole. Spread the cords and place them into the following notches: 2, 9, b, i, 19, 12, l, & B (Illustration 1). Turn the board over and wind each cord into a no-tangle bobbin. For your first few braids you may want to add a weight to the bottom of the knot in the center to provide some downward tension on the braid. Twenty-five pennies in a plastic bag are a good choice for a weight. The braid will feed downward out of the center hole as you work it.

In this braid, Steps 1 & 3 move the warps into position to begin the sequences that move the warps across the board. Steps 2 & 4 move the warps across the board, and Step 5 returns all warps to their "home" positions.

Step 1: Move warp from notch 9 to notch 3; move warp from notch 12 to notch 18.

Step 2: Move warp in notch 2 to notch 12; move warp in notch 19 to notch 9.

Step 3: Move warp in notch l to notch C; move warp in notch b to notch h.

Step 4: Move warp in notch B to notch b; move warp in notch i to notch l.

Step 5: Move warp in notch 3 to notch 2; C to B; h to i; and 18 to 19. Notice that the warp placement in Illustration 6 is the same as Illustration 1. This completes one full sequence.

Repeat the sequence (Steps 1 - 5) until you've made enough braid for your desired project.

Using the colors shown in the illustrations below will result in the pattern shown in the sample braid.

Sample Braid

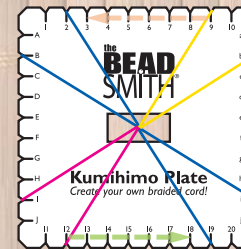


Illustration 1
Warp set to begin braiding.
Move 9 to 3; 12 to 18

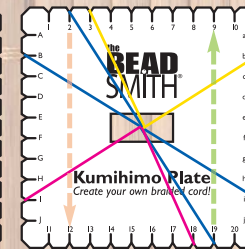


Illustration 2
Move 2 to 12; move 19 to 9

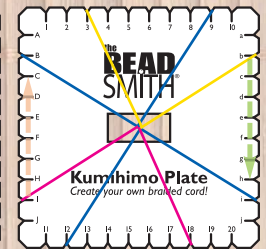


Illustration 3
Move l to C; move b to h

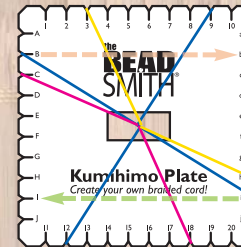


Illustration 4
Move B to b; move i to l

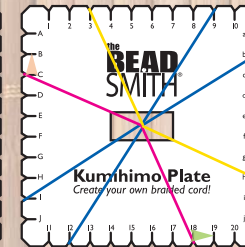


Illustration 5
Move 3 to 2; move C to B;
move h to i; move 18 to 19

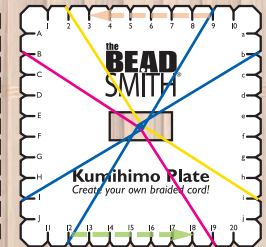


Illustration 6
Warp set at end of sequence.
Repeat Steps 1-5.



Whipping & Finishing Braid Ends

Here's how to keep braids from unraveling when they're cut:

- 1) For round braids, WRAP a piece of thread (S-Lon size D works well) around the end of the braid 2 or 3 times, leaving a small gap between the whip and the braid knot. Then tie the thread off tightly with a square KNOT. Or, you can first knot the end of the thread and sew the thread through the braid before wrapping and knotting. For flat braids, it's best to run a stitch or two through the braid. Remember to keep the whip area small & tight.
- 2) TRIM the thread ends close to the knot so they won't stick out, then CUT the braid close to the whip. It's important to get a good clean cut, especially for flat braids.
- 3) When the braid is ready to be finished: For round braids, GLUE an end cap into place so that it covers over the whip thread. For flat braids, GLUE ends and use pliers to secure & cover the ends with a ribbon crimp/foldover clasp. (See Celtic Bracelet photo for example.)