

Tied in knots

by Linda Augsburg

I had so much fun making the polka-dot necklace for the July issue that I wanted to do another, but the challenge was to make it look completely different. Sleek cording and cube-shaped Hill Tribes silver beads offer a contemporary combination, much different from the free-spirited bright beads in the first version. I like to twist the three strands together for a unified statement.



1. Cut three 6-ft. (1.83m) lengths of cord. Apply a thin layer of Fray Check to a ½-in. (13mm) section on the ends of each cord and let dry.

2. String 14 or more beads on each cord. Set two cords aside.



3. Fold the cord in half. Tie an overhand knot 3 in. (76mm) from the cut ends.



C

4. Slide a bead along one cord to the knot. Tie both cords in an overhand knot next to the bead, allowing space between the bead and the knots. Continue until the distance between the first and last knot is 6½ in. (.17m) short of the desired length of your necklace (my necklace is 19½ in./ .50m long).

5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the remaining cords. Cut each cord at the fold and slide off any extra beads. Tie a knot 1¼ in. (44mm) from the last knots on each end. Apply Fray Check to the cut ends.



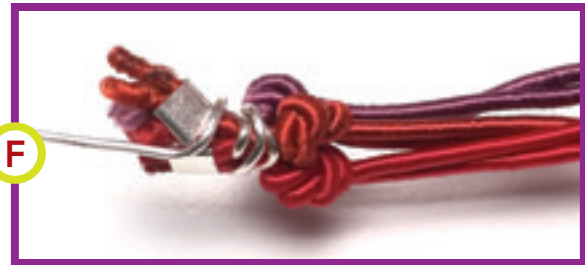
D

6. On one end, slide the cords in pairs through a crimp bead and flatten each crimp bead (Basic Techniques) ¼ in. (6.4mm) from the knot. Trim the cord near the crimp bead and apply Fray Check to the ends.



E

7. Cut a 4-in. (.10m) piece of wire. Form a hook at one end and loop it around the cord as shown.



F

8. Holding the tails with one pair of pliers, use the other pair of pliers to wrap the wire snugly around the tails. Bend the wire so it is parallel to the tails.



G

9. String a cone and a round bead onto the wire, hiding the tails of the cord in the cone and nestling the round bead in the cone's smaller opening.



H

10. Make the first half of a wrapped loop ¼ in. above the bead. Slide the clasp on the loop and complete the wraps. Repeat steps 6 through 10 on the other end, using the soldered jump ring in place of the clasp. ❖

SupplyList

- 42 or more 8mm silver cube beads
- 6 ft. (1.83m) each of three colors of 1mm-diameter cord (Mokuba New York, 212-869-8900, item number 0925, colors 9, 50, 57)
- 2 15 x 11mm beading cones (Dog and Dragon Imports, 831-338-9309)
- 2 4mm round beads
- lobster clasp and soldered jump ring (Rio Grande, 800-545-6566, riogrande.com)
- 8 in. (.20m) 22-gauge wire
- 6 3mm x .082 in. crimp tubes (Rio Grande)
- Dritz Fray Check
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters
- scissors