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On Location with Stephanie Eddy
Viking Knit Tool



About Viking Knit

Viking Knit chainwork is a centuries-old form of weaving a single length of wire into a tubular mesh form that can be refined into a smooth symmetrical wire chain with the use of a draw plate.

In modern times the weave is usually created around a stationary form such as a dowel or allen wrench or can be woven freehand.

The Lazee Daizee™ Viking Knit Tool brings the ancient art of Viking Knit into the 21st Century by eliminating the need for any set-up, cumbersome vises, or makeshift forms. You can also make decorative end caps with the Lazee Daizee™ Shaper tool.

Steps by Steph™

1. Simply insert the Easy Start Daizee Head into the top of the hex-shaped rod. The flat-sided tool design makes weaving fast, easy and uniform.
2. Add a length (24"-30") of 26 gauge craft wire or precious metal wire into the pre-formed Anchor Hole extending about 1 inch. Place your middle finger over the wire to hold in place and use your forefinger to steady the Daizee head from turning.
3. With the remaining wire, form the base row by bringing the wire down through the Daizee head openings one at a time. There are six openings on the Daizee head and six sides on the rod. Form one loop on each side of the rod just below the head. Construct the next row by weaving the wire under the first row of loops. Continue to build row upon row, adding additional lengths of wire as needed at the Anchor hole, until the desired length is reached.
4. If the stitches become too tight, remove the weave from the rod. Using the opposite end of the rod, which is cone-shaped, insert the Shaper into the woven tube to stretch and reform stitches during construction. You can also use a pin tool to loosen individual stitches.
5. With practice you can achieve 3 to 4-inches of raw weave per hour.
6. The resulting irregular raw wire weave can be reduced in diameter, increased in length and refined in symmetry by means of a draw plate.
7. To prepare the raw wire weave for the draw plate, add several short lengths of wire into one end of the tube to use as a handle. Roll the wire weave a few times in a conditioning clothe which helps reduce resistance when pulling the weave through the first draw hole. Always start at the hole closest to the diameter of the raw wire weave. Draw through each hole several times, reducing the diameter and adding length to the wire weave until the desired result is achieved.

The wire weave can be finished in several ways

Insert a 20-gauge wire through the entire length of the wire weave extending 3-4 inches on each side. Add end caps on each side and make a wire wrap loop at each end. Add a clasp.

You can also substitute a flexible nylon-covered wire and use crimp beads at each end. Add a clasp.

About end caps: You can buy commercial end cap findings or use the Shaper end of the Lazee Daizee™ tool to form decorative wire end caps to compliment each project. These are constructed with the aide of a .055 coiling tool.

Insert an 8-inch #20 gauge wire into the end hole of the shaper extending about ½". Add a 3-inch spring coil made with the coiling tool. Twist around the cone to form the end cap.

About the Lazee Daizee™ Viking Knit Tool

The all-inclusive kit contains the patented Lazee Daizee™ rod and Daizee head, along with a draw plate, practice wire, conditioning cloth, pin tool, end cone Shaper, a free coiling tool and a cutter. Steps by Steph™ color photo instructions are included. Everything to get started - all you need is additional wire. It retails for \$49.95. Viking Knit project kits are also available. Order at StephanieEddy.com or call 208-853-7988.

