

1506-3

Lisa Crone shows how to combine seed beads and wooden beads with macramé in her “Florida Palms” bracelet.

Please continue to page 2 for project instructions.

For more information about Lisa visit <http://www.abeadaday.blogspot.com>

Guest:



Lisa Crone

Florida Palms

During a winter snowfall in Ohio, I was pining for sunny Florida and the lovely palm trees blowing in the breeze. I remember thinking, "If I had a palm tree in my front yard, I would hug it every day!" I went through some photos from a stop-over in Hollywood, Florida, and, remembering the beauty of the palms, started feeling more cheerful.

I settled on working with hemp cord and macramé knots to mimic the palm trees and to give the piece a natural, textural feel. The beads and crystals were added for a little sunny sparkle.

MATERIALS

35–40 6/0 metallic green iris
Czech glass E beads
35–40 4mm chrysolite green
Swarovski crystals
5 palm wood beads
1mm–2mm green hemp cord
1 silver-tone lobster claw clasp
2 medium-sized split rings
Fireline or embroidery thread

TOOLS

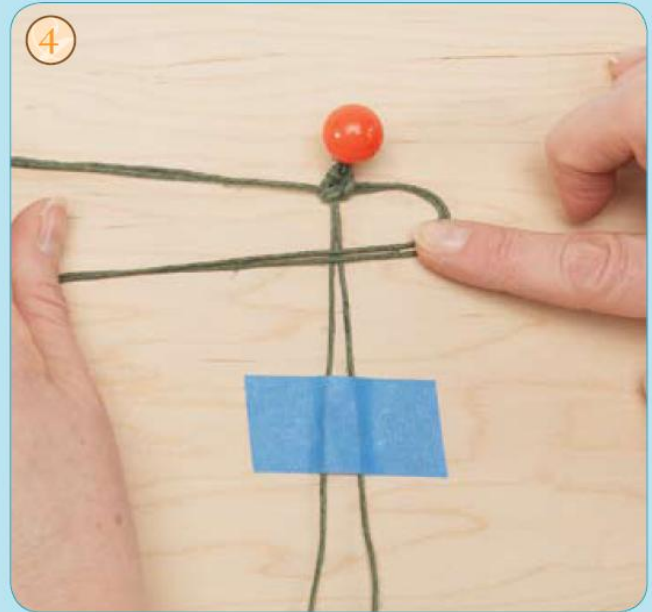
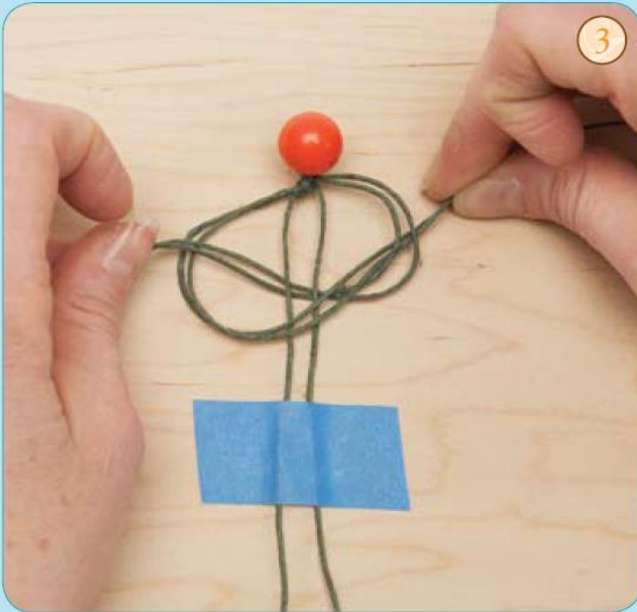
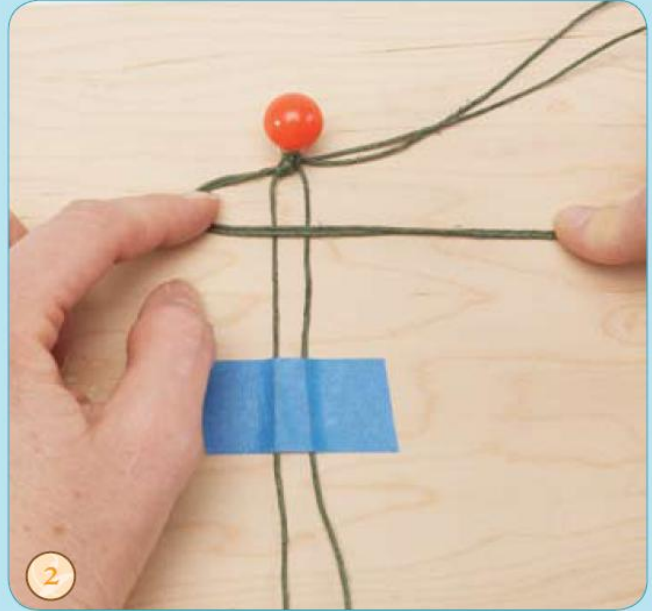
scissors or cutting tool
beading needle
bead reamer
masking tape
push pin

FINISHED LENGTH: 7" (18cm)

GET INSPIRED!

Palm trees make me feel happy and peaceful, most likely because they are associated with sunshine and beaches! For some, that feeling might be associated with a pine tree in the middle of a forest. For others, a weeping willow tree leaning peacefully over a pond in summer may conjure up fond memories. Challenge yourself to create a piece of jewelry that translates that feeling.





1. PREPARE CORDING

Cut two 6' (2m) pieces and one 7' (2m) piece of hemp cord. Pull all three strands through a split ring and bring the ends together. Make a single overhand knot to tie all the cords together at the split ring (see Tying an Overhand Knot on page 12).

2. BEGIN SQUARE KNOT

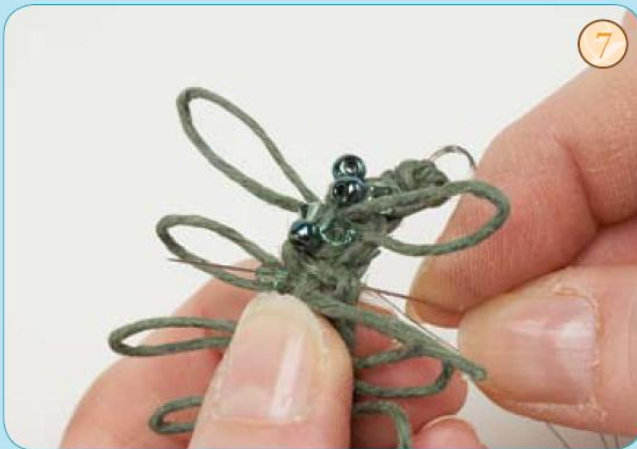
Using the push pin, secure the split ring to the work surface. Separate the six strands by pulling two 3' (91cm) strands to the left, and two to the right. Using the masking tape, secure the two 3½' (107cm) strands to the work surface in the middle. Make the first half of a square knot by placing the two left strands over the inner strands.

3. CONTINUE SQUARE KNOT

Bring the two right strands under the inner strands and up through the loop made by the left strands.

4. REPEAT BEGINNING WITH RIGHT STRANDS

Pull the left and right double strands with even pressure until the knot rests firmly at the initial overhand knot. The second part of the square knot is made the same way, but starts on the right side.



5. FINISH SQUARE KNOT

Pull the left and right double strands with even pressure until the knot rests firmly against the first part of the square knot.

TIP

Use a bead reamer to enlarge the palm wood bead holes as needed.

6. CREATE BOW

Remove the tape from the inner strands and make a bow using just those two strands. Pull the two loops until they are even.

7. ADD BEADS

Smooth the loops, place a finger on the knot, pull both strands downward and re-tape them to the work surface. Continue this pattern until it reaches the desired length.

Thread the beading needle with Fireline or embroidery thread. Make an overhand knot at the end of the thread and take the needle up through the first square knot. Sew on the beads, alternating between the crystals and E beads.

8. FINISH BRACELET

Alternate sewing E beads and crystals along the full length of the bracelet. Make a few knots with the needle and thread to secure the beads when finished.

Place the lobster claw clasp on the split ring. Pull all six strands through the split ring. Tie an overhand knot.

Make the dangles by placing one or two palm wood beads over each pair of strands. Knot the strands near the ends and trim. Secure the knot with glue if needed.