## Instructions for a Simple 8- Warp Braid



A single cord that is placed in a single notch on the braiding board is referred to as a warp. In this braid the 8 warps are placed onto the board in 4 sets of 2. Notice that one warp is placed into the notches on each side of the positioning dots (starting position).

**Step 1:** Cut eight strands of cord to the appropriate length for your project. Open a bobbin (it pops open) and place the end tail of one piece of cord into it. Tape this end in place. Wind the cord onto the bobbin until you have approximately 15" sticking out. Close the bobbin. Repeat with your other 7 strands and bobbins.

tarting Position

**Step 2:** Gather all 8 cord ends and tie a simple overhand knot at their ends to keep them all together. Holding the board facing up, thread this knot downwards through the center hole.

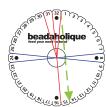


Step 3: Spread the cords and firmly place one in each of the notches on each side of the 4 positioning dots (starting position). Once your cords are placed, make sure your knot is centered in the central hole, and attach a weight to the bottom of the knot to keep an even tension on the braid you will make. For a weight, you can use a binder clip with a small object attached to it with a rubber band or cord (such as a heavy pen or a bag of 25 pennies) or you can use a specialized Kumihimo weight that has a gator-style clip (not included).

**Step 4:** Hold the board so that Dot 32 is at the top. Remove the warp in the bottom left notch (16+17) and move it across the board and place it in the notch to the left of the 2 existing warps. (30+31) This will put 3 warps at the top and only one at the bottom (Illustration 1).

Uustration 1

**Step 5:** Since we're working in sets of 2 and there are now 3 at the top and just 1 at the bottom, take the warp in the right-hand position at the top (32+1) and move it across the board and place in the notch to the right of the bottom warp (14+15) See Illustration 2. Now we're back to 4 sets of 2, but the top and bottom sets are no longer surrounding the dots. This is correct—this braid will "travel" around the board as we continue.



Step 6: Rotate the disk counter-clockwise a quarter turn (90 degrees), so Dot 8 is at the top and Dot 24 is on the bottom (Illustration 3).

Repeat steps 4-6: The only difference is that the dot numbers will be different. You're going to move the bottom left warp to the top left; move the top right warp down to the right of right of the bottom warp; then rotate the disk a quarter-turn counterclockwise, so the next set of warps is at the bottom (See Illustration 4-6). You'll notice that the warps will move away from the dots as you braid. Continue to work the braid until you run out of cord. It's possible, especially if you are using cords of differing thickness or weight, that one cord will be used up more quickly than the others.

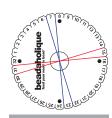




**Ill**ustration 3



Mustration 4



**W**ustration 5

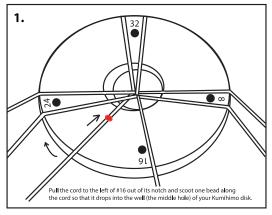


**Nustration 6** 

## Tips for Successful Braids

When you return, you'll know to put the 3 cords at the top to begin braiding again.

## Beaded Kumihimo

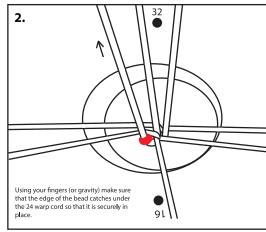


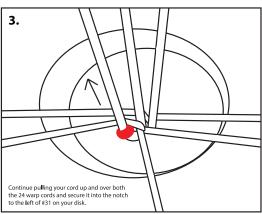
## A couple tips for Beaded Kumihimo: The technique for Beaded Kumihimo is

the same as for regular 8-warp Kumihimo. You are not changing the sequence of the cords, how or when you pull them, where you place them, or the rotation. You are just adding beads as shown in the diagram.

Periodically check your work to make sure that your beads are "catching" under the cords as shown in diagram 2. If they do not "catch" securely under the cord, your work will not look right. Use your fingers to push the beads into place if need be.

Never allow more than 1 bead at a time to drop along a cord on the top side of the Kumihimo disk. Keep all the other beads either wound in your bobbins or stacked on the cord hanging below the disk near the bobbin.







<sup>\*</sup>For most jewelry projects, allow 3" of each of the 8 cords for every 1" of braid you want to make.

<sup>\*</sup>Use your left hand to move the left hand warps and the right hand to move the right hand warps.

<sup>\*</sup>Be sure to set each warp firmly into the notch each time you move it.

<sup>\*</sup>When you want to take a break, leave 3 warps at the top.