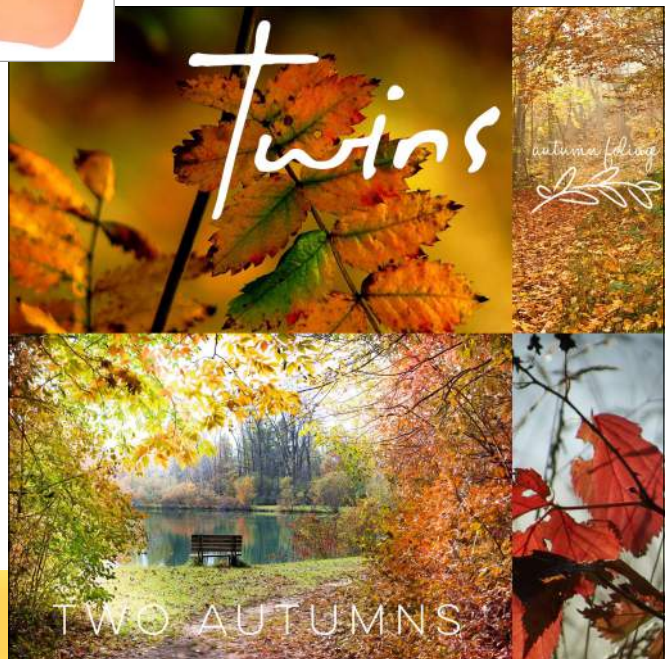




Twins by Janice Parsons

The dictionary defines twins as “forming a complementary, or closely connected pair. Something containing or consisting of two matching or corresponding parts.”

In this project, Janice created a two-part design that changes but is the same in many ways. “I wasn’t going for identical. I am intrigued by two parts that are similar but not exact. In Two Autumns, for instance, I was inspired by the foliage of fall.”



Twins is a 4-Wrap bracelet project that uses 2 techniques: Laddering and Macramé. It is for all levels and each bracelet takes about 6 hours for an Intermediate Level Beader to complete. We hope you enjoy and Happy Beading!

A special thanks to Savanna Hall for assistance with samples and editing, Karen Marshall and Grace Noland for photography and production.

Let's begin...

Choose a Twins Palette from one of our samples or create your own. The Ingredients are a combination of stones and glass seed beads, and the two stitching techniques are Macramé and Laddering. Please always begin by measuring your wrist. The average wrap bracelet for a woman is 6-1/2 to 7 inches per wrap. So, for a 4 wrap bracelet, the total length is 26-28 inches. As you build your bracelet, keep in mind the measuring for finished length begins at the middle of the button and ends at the beginning of the last macramé section of Step 20. In this handout, the Two Autumns sample was made for a 6-1/2 inch wrist and measures 26 inches in length. We have shown you how to adjust your design to fit the longer length by comparing it with the Two Oceans. Of course, we know you might want it even longer. In that case, please adjust by adding more beads to your design.

Before you begin, test your bead holes for consistency and adaptability to the Tuff Cord recommended in the Ingredients' List. Often stone beads will have small, inconsistent holes and they won't always be good for laddering. We try our very best to recommend thread that will work with our beads, but we can't promise they will fit every bead we sell or beads you have at home. You should definitely check the smallest stone beads (4mm) and not just one bead from a strand, but at least five beads. Make sure you can fit your cord through twice. If you find it's too tight a fit and using a needle doesn't help, we recommend going to Tuff Cord #1. It is always good to have several sizes on hand, just in case of situations like this. But overall, we love Tuff Cord for both laddering and macramé.

Twin One...

Begin by cutting 2 yards of leather. We used 1.5mm for all four samples, but you could give it a chunkier look with 2.0mm or go lighter with 1.0mm. We recommend a button with a shank no smaller than 12mm in diameter for this project.

1. Thread your button onto your leather and bring it to the halfway point of the 2 yards. Secure the project to the board, as demonstrated in [Skill Builder: How to Secure your Project to a Board](#).
2. Cut a length of Tuff Cord 4 yards and find the midway point. Make sure the lengths of Tuff Cord are even and then secure your cord to the leather just below the button. I like to do this with a half square knot.
3. Macramé 3 full square knots. If you need a technique review, please see [Skill Builder: How to Macramé](#). See Step 4 on next page to see the square knots.

4.



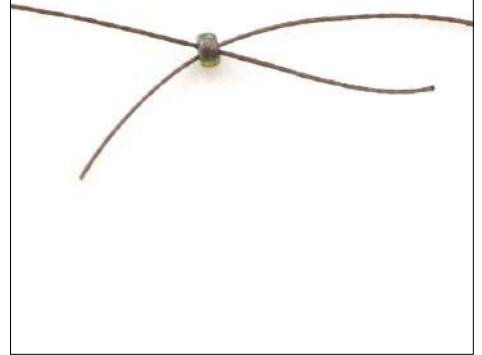
4. Your macramé should look like this after your 3 full square knots.

5.



5. Before you ladder your first bead on, be sure to take your cords: **OVER, UNDER** and **AROUND** the leather. This insures the first bead you ladder will sit between the leather rather than pop out.

6.



6. Ladder your first row, which is just one 8/0 bead. A needle isn't required as the holes are generous on the seed beads. If you need a technique review, please see: [Skill Builder: How to Ladder](#).

7.



7. Once you ladder the bead, pull the ends of Tuff Cord fairly tight, the bead will sink into position between the two pieces of leather. Maintain the same ladder stitch for each row:

- A. Through the bead in opposite directions.
- B. Under the leather on each side.
- C. Over the leather and
- D. Through the next bead in opposite directions.

8. Your second row is 2 seed beads and then five 4mm stone beads in single file. If you are using stones that are variegated in color, think about seeing how much you have of each color and spreading them out across the entire pattern.



If you're having trouble threading your small stone beads with the #2 Tuff Cord, we recommend trying a collapsible eye needle. Thread the eye of your needle and leave a short tail of Tuff Cord. Bring the bead down the thread far enough that it clears the excess tail of cord. With another needle and the second piece of Tuff Cord, bring the needle and cord through the bead from the other side. If you still can't get your cord through the bead, you will have to set this bead aside and use it in another project.



9. Once you have your 4mm stone beads laddered, ladder 3 rows of 3 seed beads, a stone dice, 3 rows of seed beads (3x3), a dice, etc. For Two Autumns, the pattern was 6 dice. For Two Oceans (because it needed to be longer) it was 7 dice, which helps give it extra length if needed. Please refer to last page for full project maps of each sample.

After you finish with the dice, ladder 3 rows of seed beads, repeat your five small stone beads and then taper down to what you started with: a row of 2 seed beads and then a row of 1 seed bead.

After the last row of 1 seed bead, bring the Tuff Cord tails under the leather and over to tie a half square knot. Then macramé for 3 full square knots.

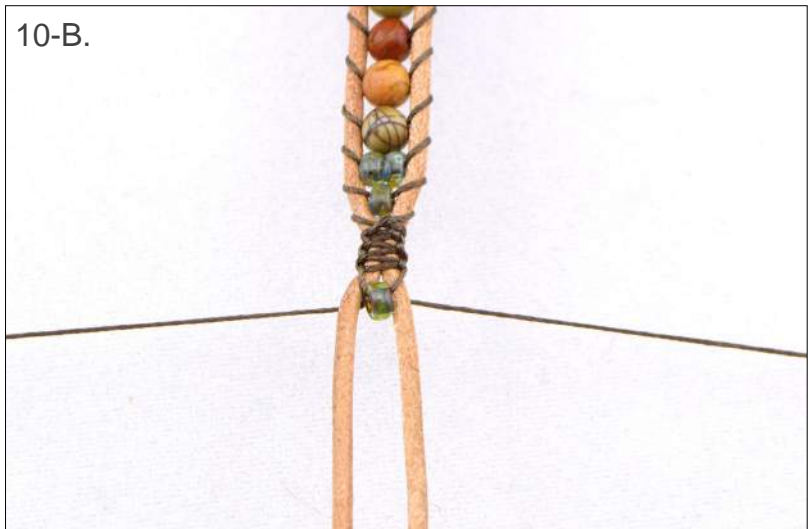
10-A.



10. After you macramé your 3 full square knots, begin repeating your Twin One section starting with that first row of 1 seed bead. The Twin One pattern is used for wraps one and two.

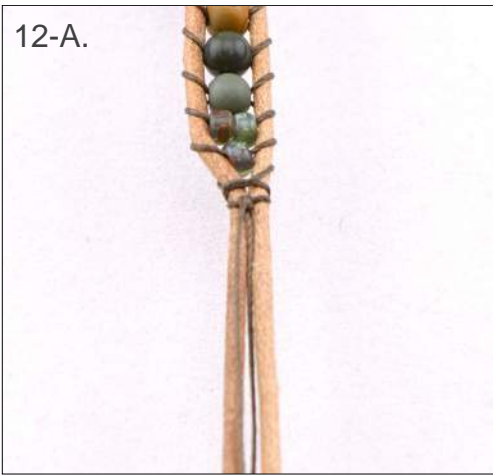
Note: In the photo on the left (Step 10-A), the bead is sitting on top of the leather. It is essential to bring the cords inside and under the leather, if you want the bead to find a nice home between the lines of leather (shown below in Step 10-B).

10-B.



11. Even though your second section is a repeat of your first, it is not essential you mirror the placement of your stone colors if you do have beads that vary in color. We recommend trying to keep the assortment random to make the pattern more interesting.

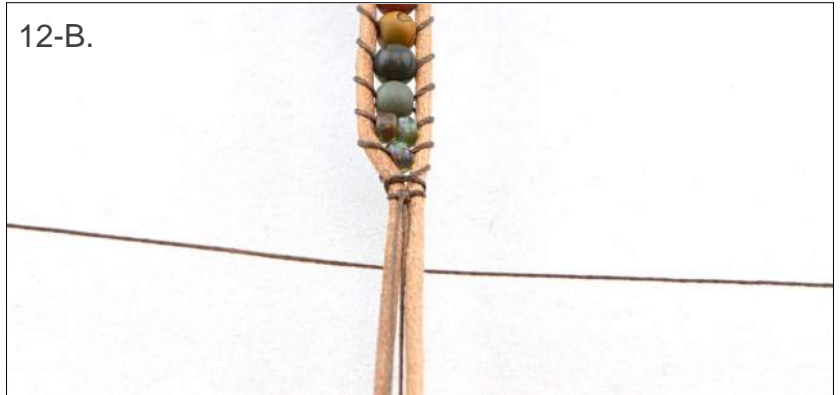
12-A.



12. As you come to the midway point of your 4 wraps, you will notice you're running low on Tuff Cord. It may seem like you still have quite a bit, considering you cut 4 yards, but it goes pretty fast and at this point it's a good idea to add new cord and drop the old one. Here's how:

- A. Tie the old Tuff Cord into a full knot and lay the tails between the leather. Add a dot of glue on the knot and give it a few minutes to dry.
- B. Cut a new 4 yard length of Tuff Cord, find the middle and lay that under the leather.

12-B.



12-C.



C. Add a thin line of glue along the top of the leather and a bit between the two pieces of leather... only about a 1/4 inch. Macramé over the glue with the new piece of Tuff Cord for 3 full square knots.

12-D.



D. Allow the glue a bit of time to dry and then with flush cutters, cut away the old tails of Tuff Cord.



13. Depending on the charm you've chosen, you might have to attach a jump ring, as we did with our Tree of Life Charm. For a technique review, see our [Skill Builder: How to Open and Close a Jump Ring](#). Use chain nose pliers to open and close the jump ring securely.

For the other samples, the charms used already have a bail. Untie your project from the board and thread your leather and Tuff Cord through the bail of the charm. Continue to macramé 3 full square knots around the leather.

A.



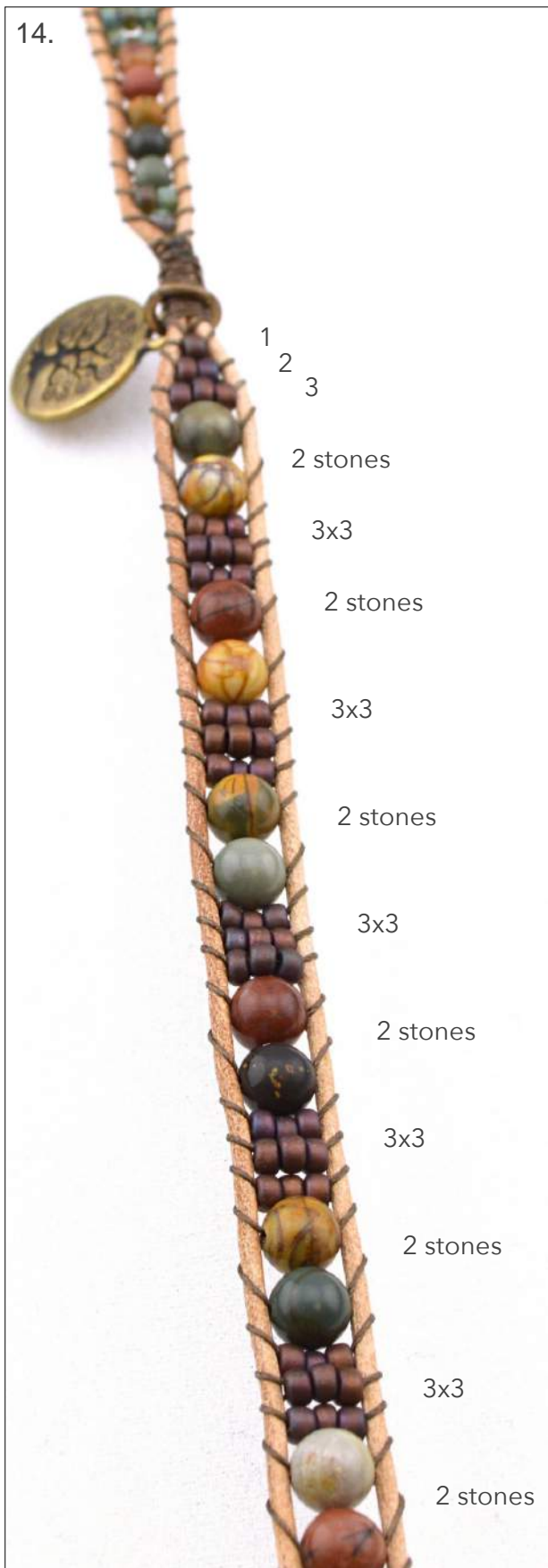
- A. Two Oceans
- B. Two Nights
- C. Two Earths

B.



C.





14. Twin Two...

For the next two wraps, the mood changes with the introduction of a new seed bead and a shift in the pattern. It's interesting how the beads change but the relationship between the two variations is still obvious.

Start this section with:

- 1 row of one seed bead
- 1 row of two seed beads
- 1 row of three seed beads

Then the pattern becomes:

- 1 row one 6mm stone bead
- 1 row one 6mm stone bead
- 3 rows of three seed beads per row (3x3)

Continue this until you have 7-8 stations of your two 6mm stone beads.

Then graduate down to:

- 1 row of three seed beads
- 1 row of two seed beads
- 1 row of one seed bead

16. Complete the first section of Twin Two with 3 full macramé square knots. Begin laddering your last section starting with your seed beads.

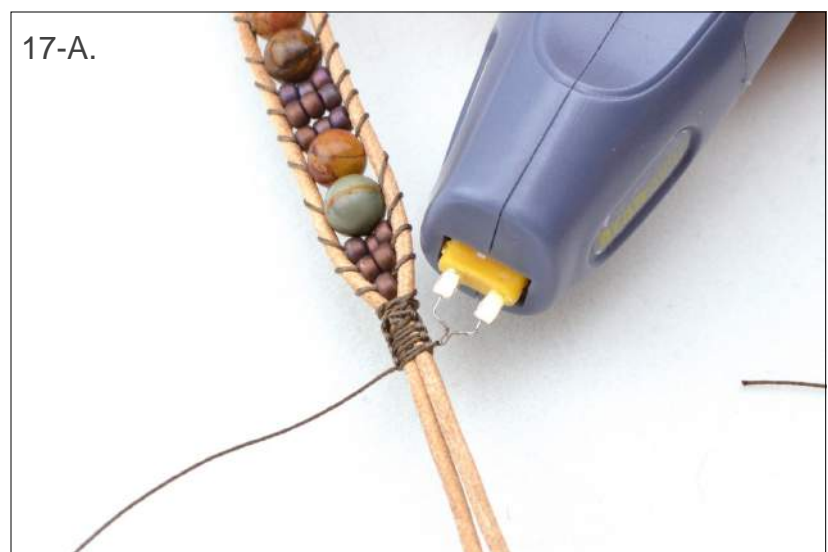


16. In Two Autumns, the last section is the same pattern and length as the first Twin Two section you just completed. Please refer to the Project Maps on the last page for the variations made in each sample.

When the pattern is complete, knot the Tuff Cord in a half square knot. Add a thin line of glue along the top and inside of the leather for 1/4 inch. Complete 4 full macramé square knots over the glue. Allow to dry.



17-A. Once glue is dry, use either flush cutters to cut off remaining Tuff Cord tails or your Ultra Thread Zap to singe off the tails. Be very careful burning off the tails. Make sure to burn one side at a time.



17-B. Repeat on the other side.

If this is your first time using a thread burner, please refer to our [Skill Builder: How to Singe Using a Thread Zap](#) and please practice on a sample cord, before trying on your project.



18.



18. Remove your project from the board. It's time to make the button loop.

19.



19. Position your button between the two pieces of leather to give you a close approximation of how large an opening you need for your button loop.

We recommend pinching both pieces of leather and trying the opening to see if you are making it the right size.

Lightly mark the leather with pen to help guide where to start your macramé. Re-strap your project back on the board.

20. Repeat Steps 16 and 17 to macramé this last section to complete your design. Do NOT forget to lay down a thin, small bit of glue along the top and inside of the leather which lives under the 4-6 full macramé square knots, especially that last knot. Allow the glue to dry. Cut or singe the tails of Tuff Cord away. Use your flush cutters or thread snips to angle cut the ends of the leather about 1/2 inch from the macramé knots. That's it! Congratulations! You've just made an awesome 4 Wrap!

20.



Two Autumns



Two Autumns, made by Janice Parsons, is a total of 27 inches in length including the button loop.

Twin One is 13-1/4 inches from the middle of the button to the charm and Twin Two is 13-3/4 inches from the charm to the end of the button loop.

Two Oceans



Two Oceans, made by Janice Parsons, is a total of 29-1/4 inches in length including the button loop.

Twin One is 14-1/2 inches from the middle of the button to the charm and Twin 2 is 14-3/4 inches from the charm to the end of the button loop.

Two Oceans



Two Earths, made by Savanna Hall, is a total of 28-1/4 inches in length including the button loop. Twin One is 14-3/4 inches from the middle of the button to the charm and Twin Two is 13-1/2 inches from the charm to the end of the button loop.

Two Nights



Two Nights, made by Savanna Hall, is a total of 29-1/2 inches in length including the button loop. Twin One is 14-1/2 inches from the middle of the button to the charm and Twin 2 is 15 inches from the charm to the end of the button loop.