



Honeycomb Weave A Project by Janice Parsons

Using the new, 2-hole bead by The Beadsmith called Honeycomb beads, Janice introduces a new way to ladder using a needle. Instead of threading your string through from each side into the beads from opposite directions, this method is more like bead weaving on a loom; you thread your needle back and forth through the beads and around the leather in an infinity stitch. Using just a few ingredients, you can create a pattern that is fun and relaxing to do.



Your ingredients consist of:

- 1 Button
- 2 Feet of 1.5mm Leather
- 5-6 Yards of KO Thread
- 8/0 Seed Beads
- 2 Strands Honeycomb Beads
- GS Hypo Cement
- Size 10 Beading Needles
- Small Macramé Board
- Ultra Thread Zap
- Flush Cutters
- 2 Feet of Scrap Cotton Twine
- Measuring Tape (not shown)

We also used T-Pins to demonstrate macramé knots but they are optional.

Skill Builder: How to Macramé is very good to review, if you are new to this technique.

1.



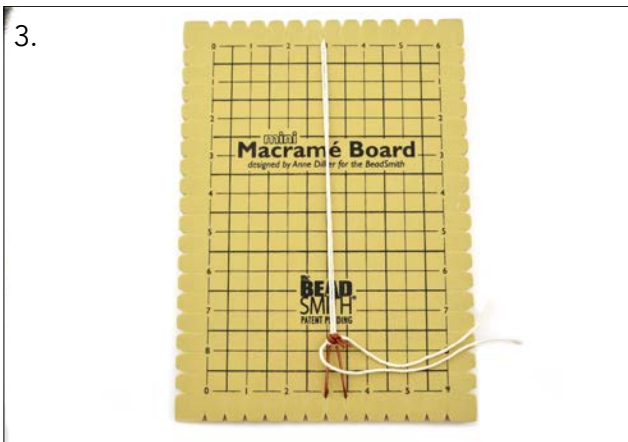
1. String your button to the middle of the leather. Tie a temporary overhand knot with the tails.

2.



2. Loop the middle of your cotton twine under the button.

3.



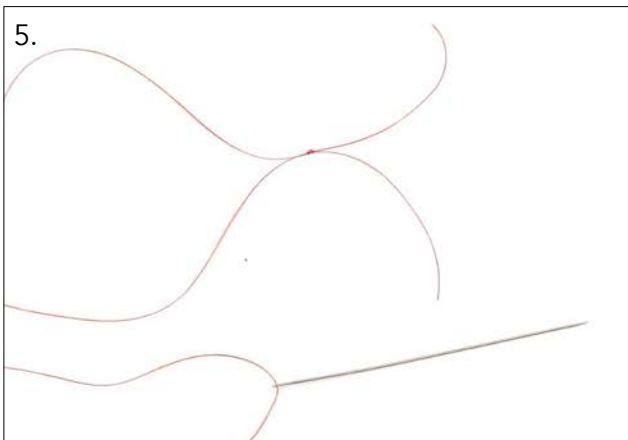
3. Tie the cord and the leather onto the board. This is normally the front of the board. We are going to work on the back.

4.



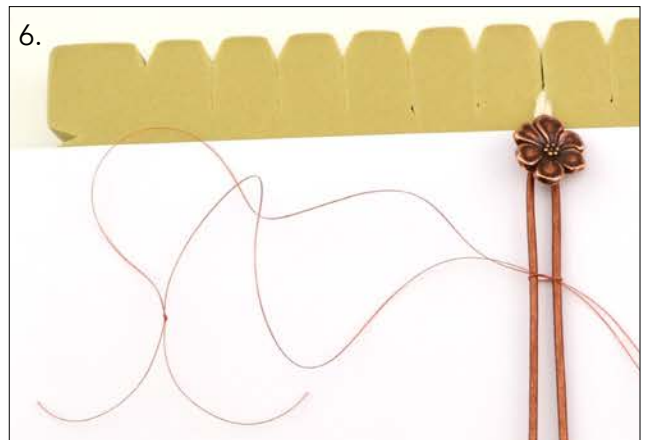
4. Using the back of the board is just a personal preference, if you want to see the grid marks while you work you can use the front.

5.

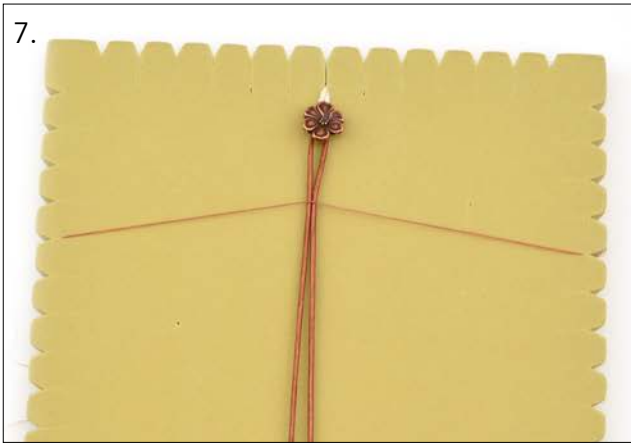


5. Measure and cut 5 yards of KO thread. Thread your needle and bring the needle to the halfway point of the thread. Tie a temporary overhand knot near the tails.

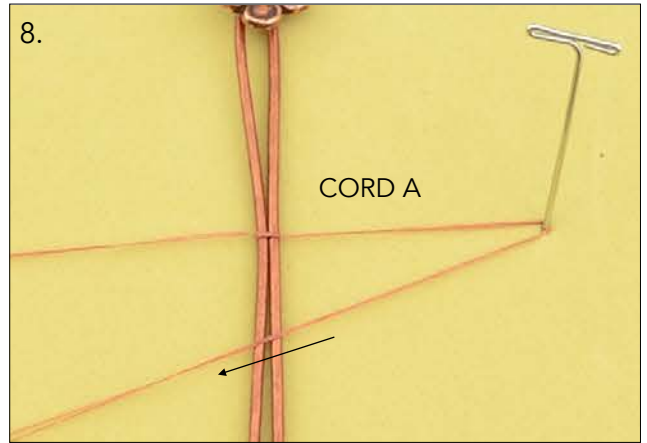
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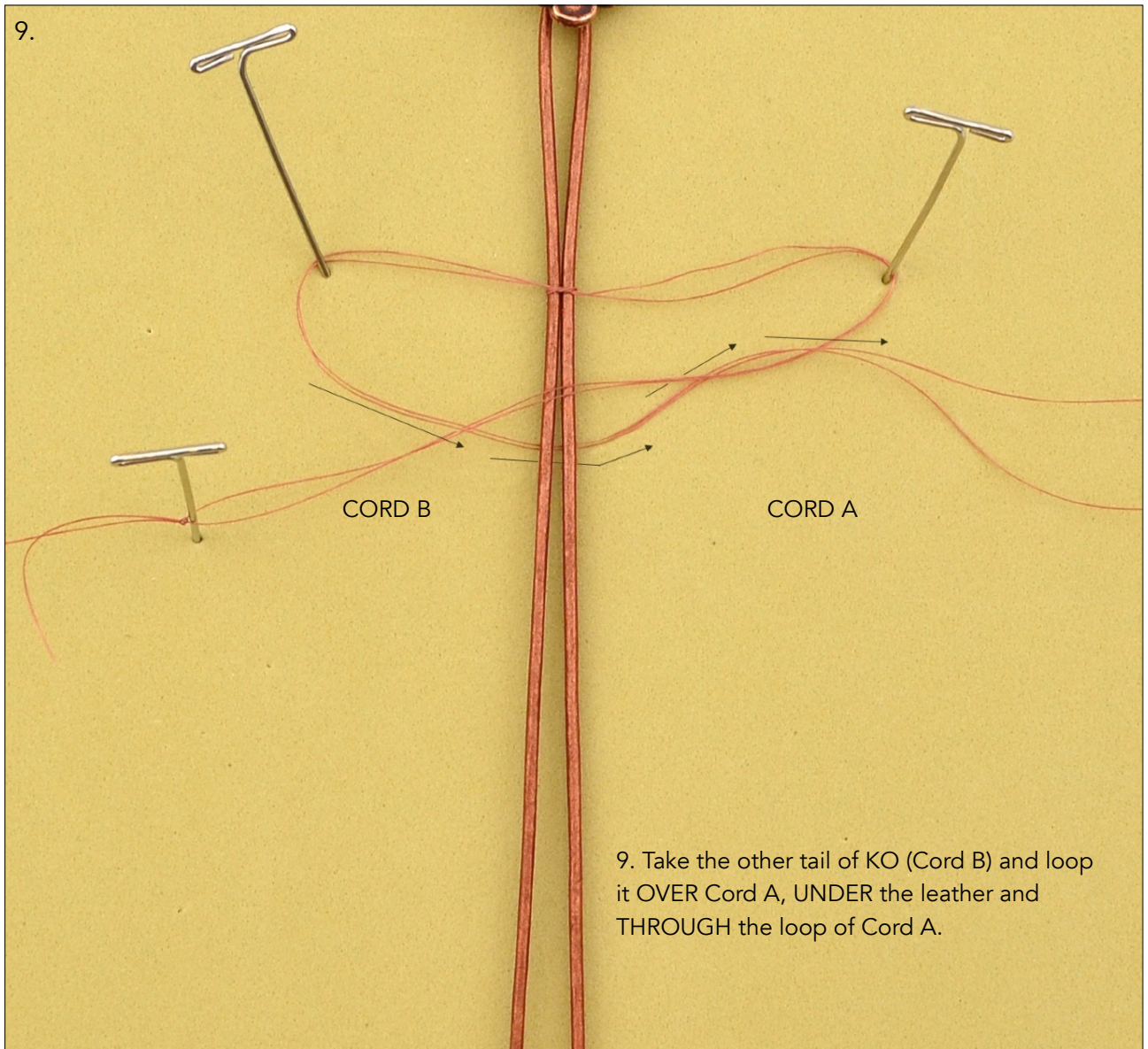
6. Leaving about 12 inches of KO on the tail, tie an overhand knot around the leather. We have inserted white paper in some photographs to help demonstrate step.



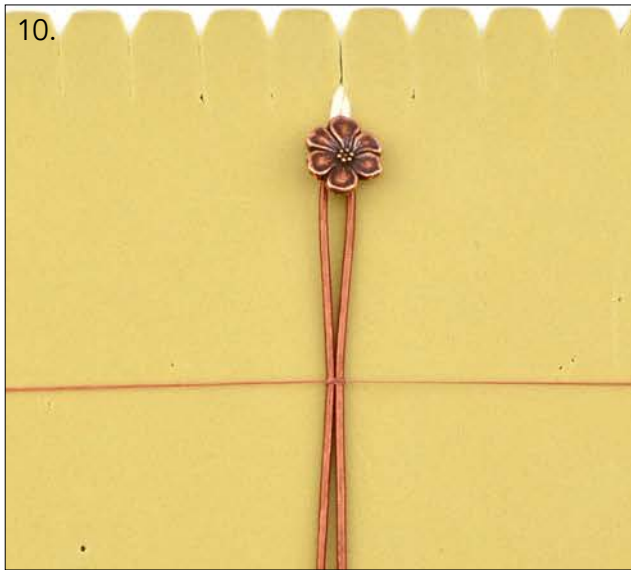
7. If you want to secure your threads for any reason, slip them into the grooves on the board and now you can leave and come back to it.



8. Make a loop on the right with your KO (Cord A) and over the top of the leather. Notice the thread is not close to the button yet. Right now it's not necessary.

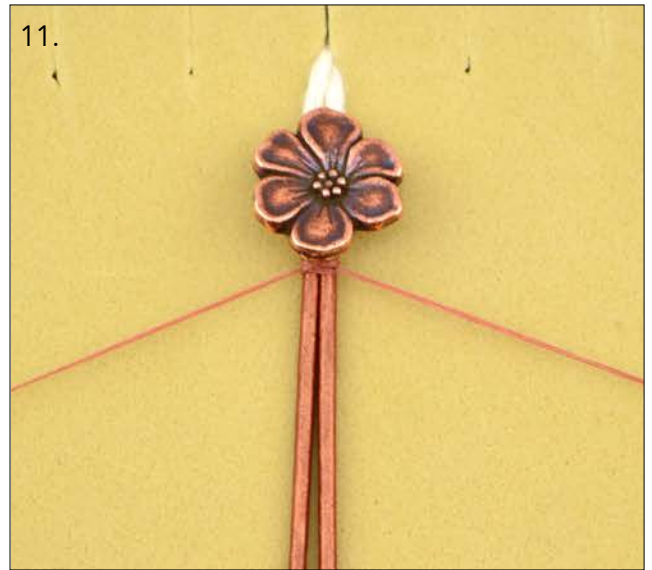


9. Take the other tail of KO (Cord B) and loop it OVER Cord A, UNDER the leather and THROUGH the loop of Cord A.



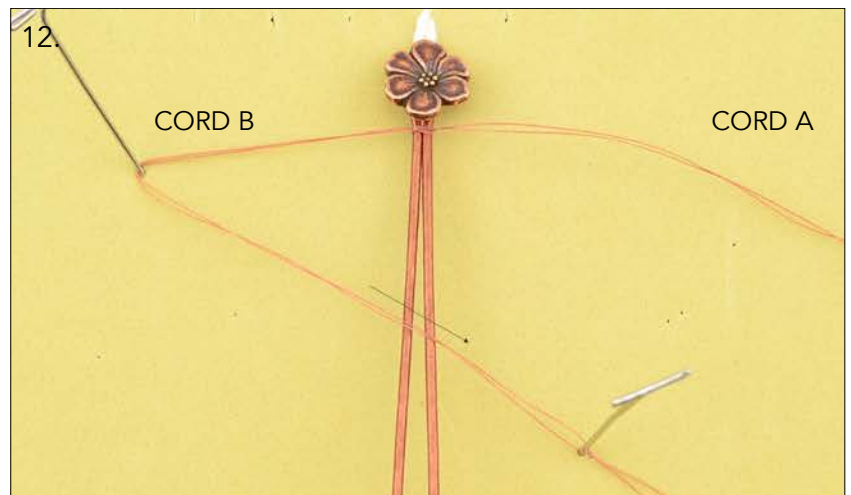
10.

10. Gently pull the two tails tight.



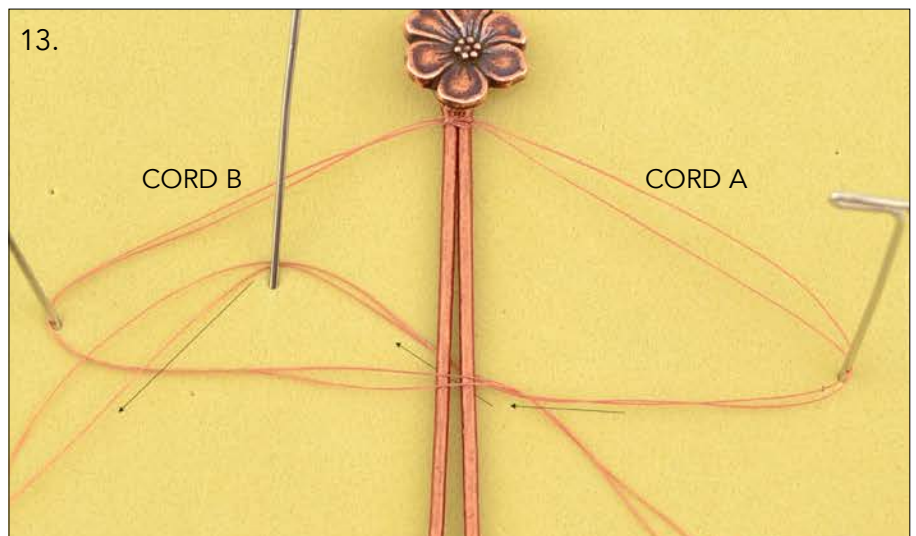
11.

11. Using your thumb nail, push the knot up towards the button to position it in its permanent place just below the button.



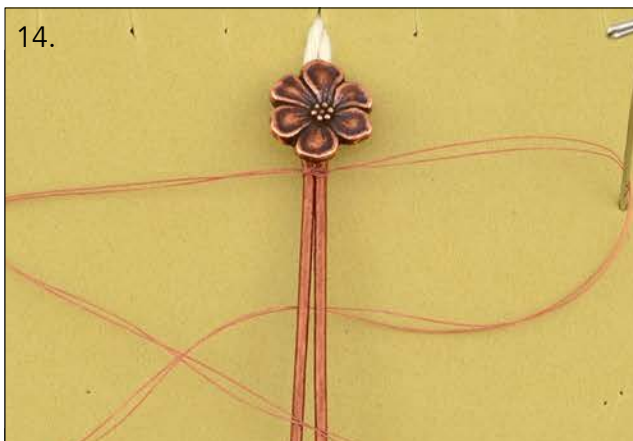
12.

12. Make a loop on the left with Cord B and bring it OVER and ACROSS the leather.



13.

13. Take the other tail of KO (Cord A) and loop it OVER Cord B, UNDER the leather and THROUGH the loop of Cord B.



14.

14. Pull both ends of KO tight to complete the first full macramé square knot.



15.

15. Add a thin line of GS Hypo Cement on the top and inside the two lines of leather for about 1/3 inch. Add a piece of paper under the leather to protect your board from the glue.

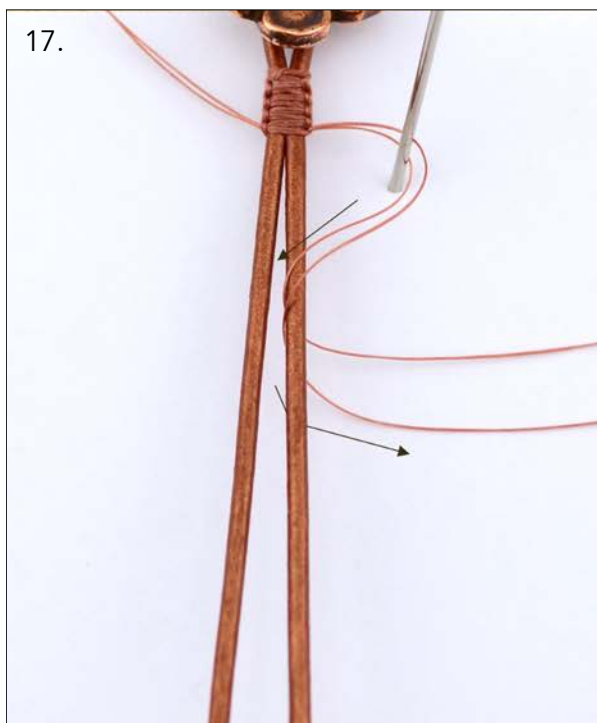


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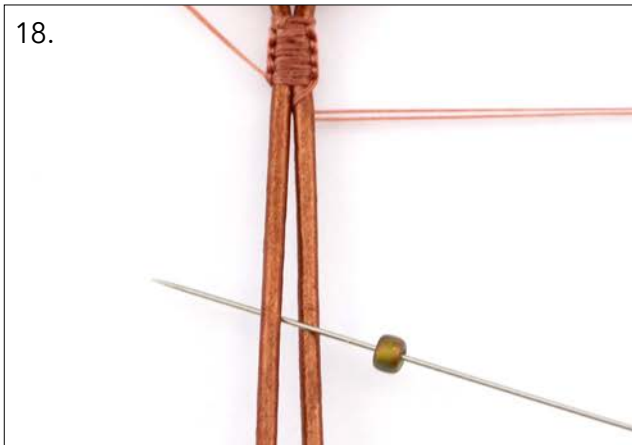
16. Repeat Steps 8-14 to complete 3 more full macramé square knots. You want to finish the knots with the short tail on the left side, so if you have to do a half knot to do that, go ahead.

17. Secure the short tail by slipping it into one of the notches on the board. We will cut it off later.

With your needle, wrap around the right line of leather. Thread it OVER the leather and then UNDER to the right.



17.



18.

18. Add one 8/0 bead and thread your needle OVER the right leather and UNDER the left.



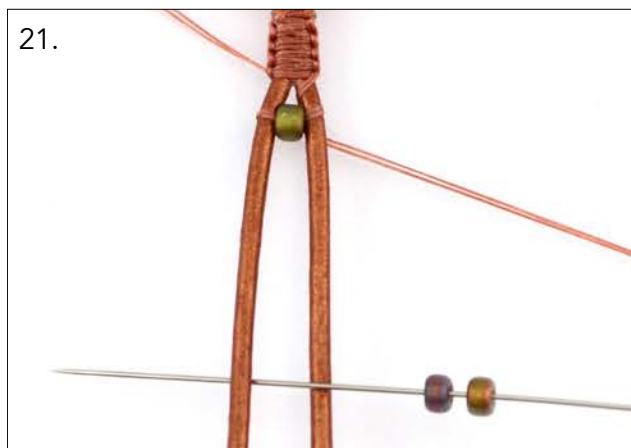
19.

19. Gently pull in your excess KO until the bead is sitting between the two lines of leather.



20.

20. Bring your needle back through the bead. Point your needle to come UNDER the right leather.



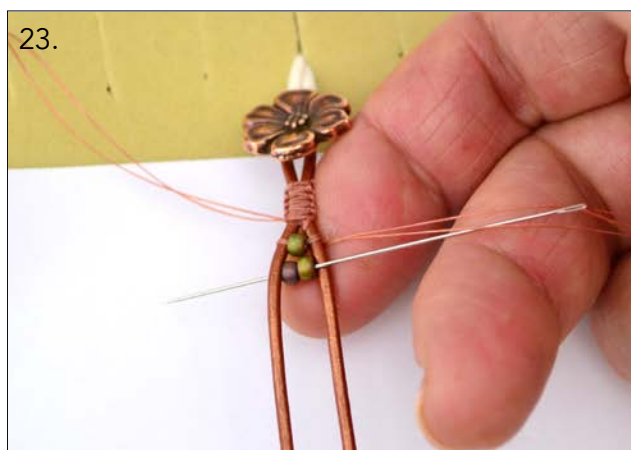
21.

21. Add two 8/0 beads and thread your needle OVER the right leather and UNDER the left.



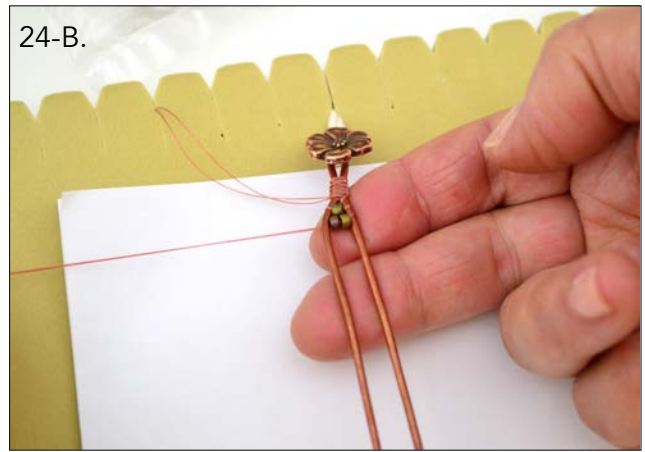
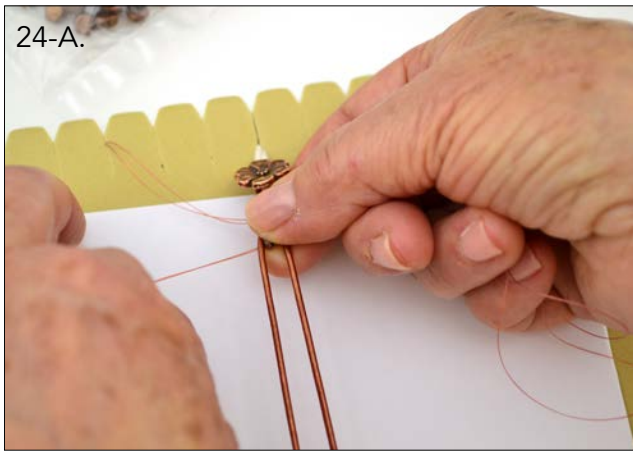
22.

22. As you weave through, you have to keep a certain amount of tension on your previous stitch so it continues to remain tight. Adjust as you go.

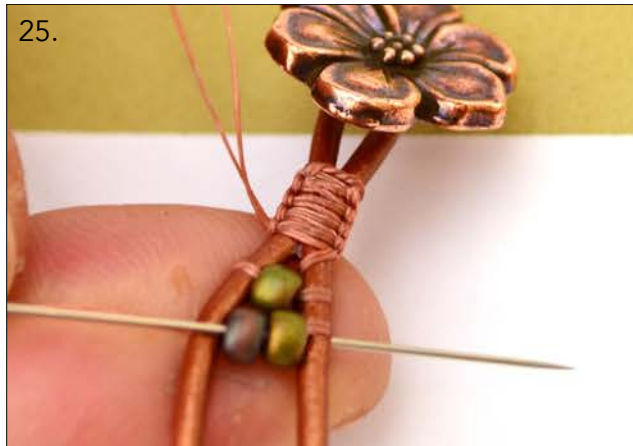


23.

23. This is also a way of continuing to keep tension; push the beads up from underneath. It will help keep the beads in place and the thread tense.



24 A and B. As you weave, holding the beads in position helps create even rows. Once you have several rows established, the need to do this lessens, but you always need to check that your KO is being pulled through evenly.



25. On each row going back, bring the needle and KO OVER the left leather. As you do this, it can be



26. Once you pull your excess KO in, bring your needle UNDER the right leather and then you are ready to add your next row of beads.

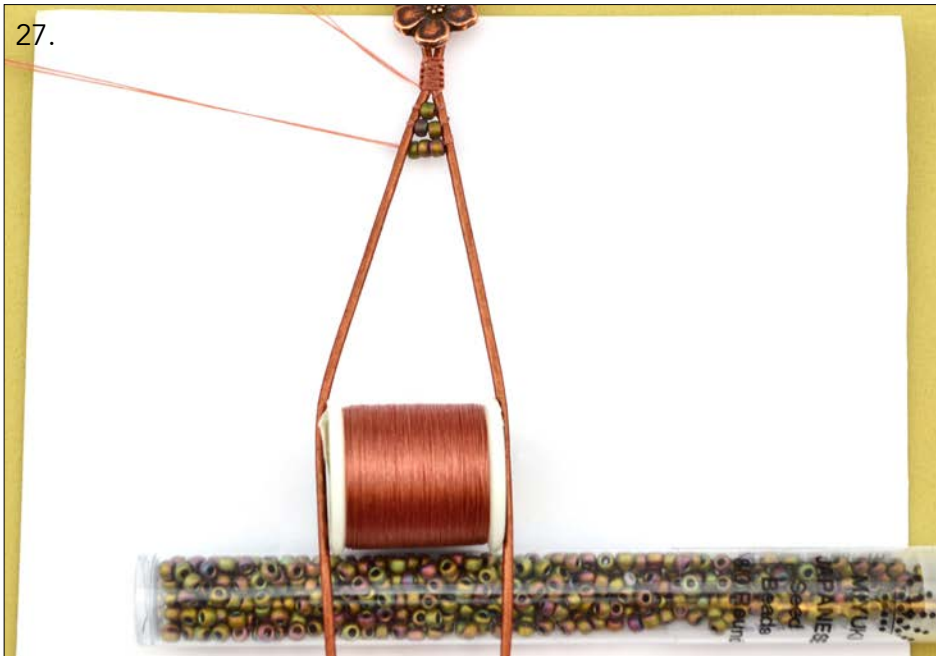


As you begin to build your pattern, remember:

Beads are ONLY added when your needle and KO are on the right side.

Needle and KO are always threaded back through the bead(s) to complete that row from the left side. So no new beads are added from this side.

Start a new row of beads from the right with the needle and KO coming OVER the leather from the outside and under the left leather.

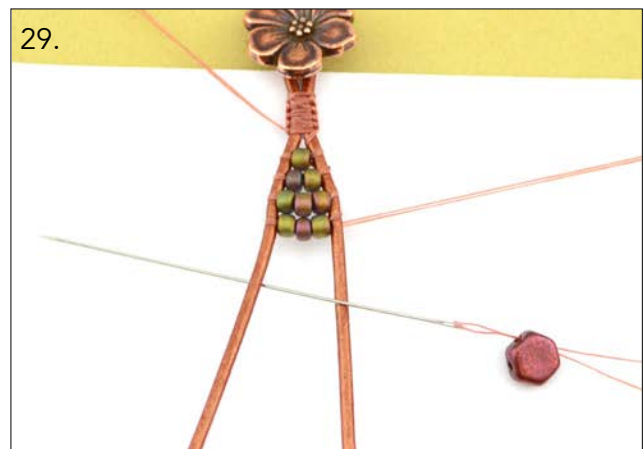


27. As you add beads, you will want to widen the lines of leather to accommodate the honeycomb beads. Positioning your spool of KO between the leather helps with this.

Also, laying your tube of seed beads under the leather helps lift the project off the board to make weaving easier.



28. Add another row of 8/0's making sure you weave back through the same row to reinforce it before moving on.

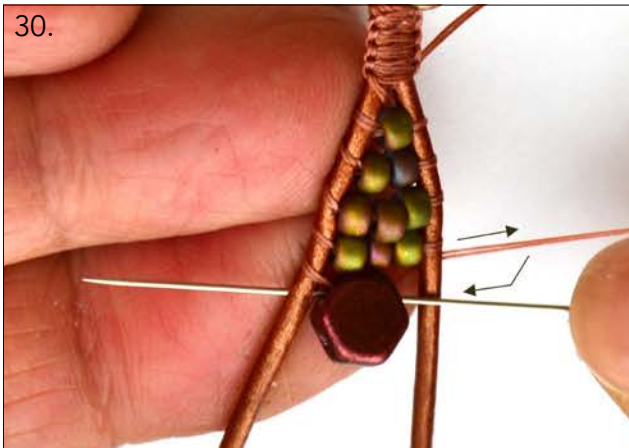


29. Your next row will be a 2-hole Honeycomb bead.



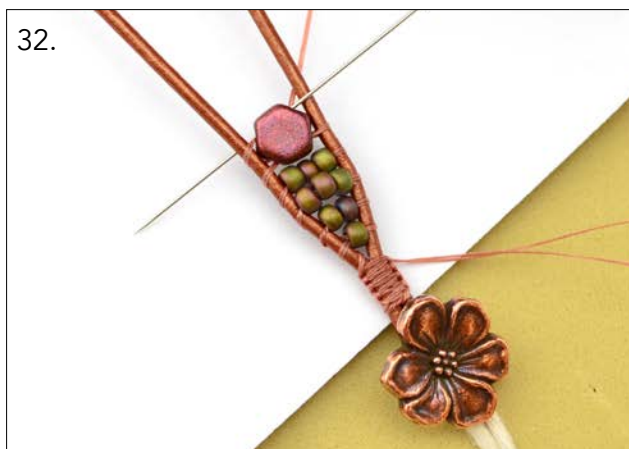
Honeycomb beads are Czech glass 2-hole beads. It's easy to think they have 4 holes because the hexagonal shape confuses the eye. But, they really only have two holes!

The colors can vary, depending on the finish or if you're combining more than one color to make a pattern. It might be helpful to separate your colors so as you build your bracelet, you have enough of each to finish your design. Or try free-form pebbling (that's where the pattern is not a pattern, but a tapestry of mixed colors).



30-31. When you bring your needle and KO back through the bead, remember to go through the same hole! Don't be lured into going through the second hole.

Make sure to bring your needle back under and over the right leather before you string through the bottom hole.



32. Having a small macramé board allows you to rotate it so you can easily come from another angle to hold your threads and position the needle.



33. After the first Honeycomb bead is completed, add:

One row: 4- 8/0 seed beads

One row: 5- 8/0 seed beads

One row: 1- 8/0, Top Hole of Honeycomb B, 1- 8/0

One row: Top Hole of C, Bottom Hole of B and Top hole of A.

34.



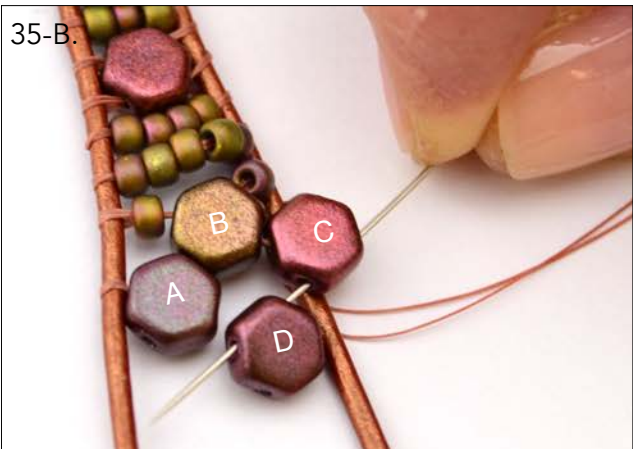
This is a view of it in "slow motion", so you can see how the KO goes through the holes of the beads.

34. When you are ready to come back, be sure to tighten up all the KO and then go back through the same holes. Remember, don't go through a new hole or add any new beads until you get back to the right side.

35-A.



35-B.



35-A. The next row gets a bit trickier, but practice will make perfect. Always remember that beads **ONLY** get added when your needle and KO are positioned on the right. And if there is an empty space, it more than likely needs a bead!

35-B. This row is: Bottom Hole of C, Top Hole of D, Bottom Hole of A.

36.



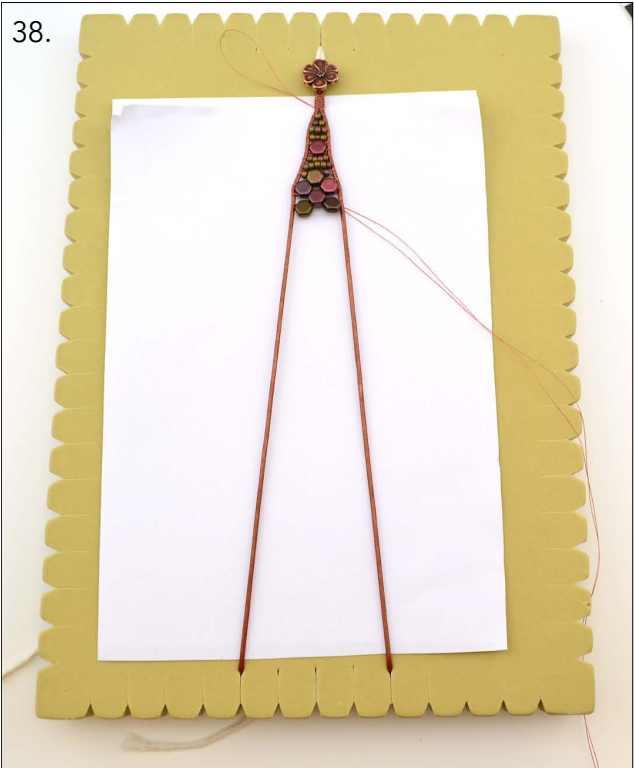
36. Once you thread all of your beads onto the needle, bring your KO completely through and tighten up the thread so your beads are sitting snugly in between the lines of leather.

37. When bringing the needle back through, it is sometimes easier to turn the board around to find the holes of the beads. Be sure to feed the needle **UNDER** the leather before you begin the next row.

37.



Note: Because The Beadsmith has plated special finishes on to the glass beads, the holes are sometimes clogged. Rarely does it mean it's permanently clogged, and you may be able to use a needle to push whatever is clogging the hole out. It's good to check all the beads before you begin using them, since it's frustrating to ladder a bead that has a good hole and then when you go to do the next row, it's not

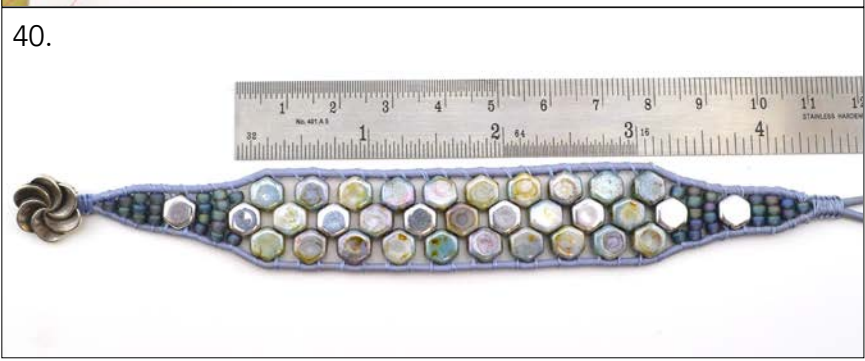


38. As you graduate up to the widest part of the bracelet, you want to move the leather ends to notches further apart on the board. And when you start to narrow again, reposition the leather in the original, closer notches.

39. The honeycomb section of your design is about 3-1/2 inches in length, depending on your wrist size. If you're finding you didn't calculate the length correctly and need more or less rows to fit, either adjust the number of rows of seed beads at the end or the rows of Honeycomb beads.



40. If your design is a set pattern of Honeycomb beads, it helps to lay it out and measure it so you can complete the design in the allotted length needed.



41.



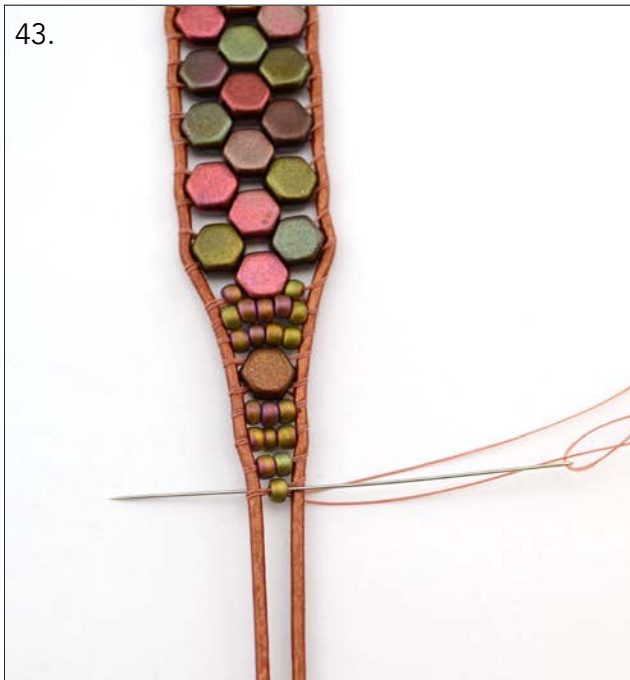
41. When you are ready to narrow your pattern to the seed beads, make sure your needle and KO are on the right side.

42. Mirror the pattern from the beginning of the bracelet, unless you have to modify it to get a different length. Move the lines of leather closer together as you graduate back down.



42.

43.



43. Your last row will have one seed bead, just as you did in the beginning. We recommend going back through it a second time to reinforce it. Make sure you repeat the over and under steps.

44. Thread your needle and KO back through the rows above. Make sure you repeat the over and under as you go along. You are only backtracking through a couple of rows.



44.



45. Thread your way back to the last row of seed beads before the single Honeycomb bead. Pull in all of the excess KO.

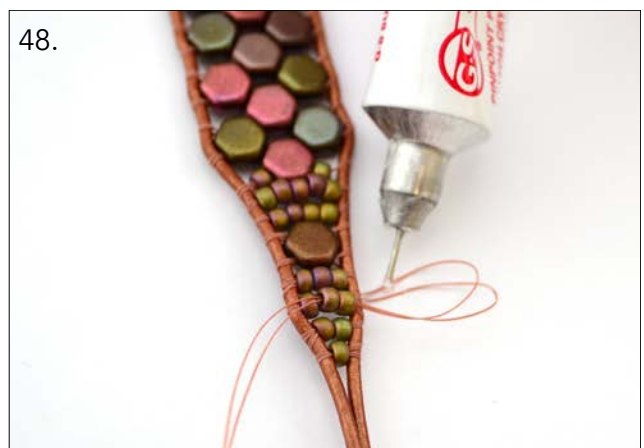


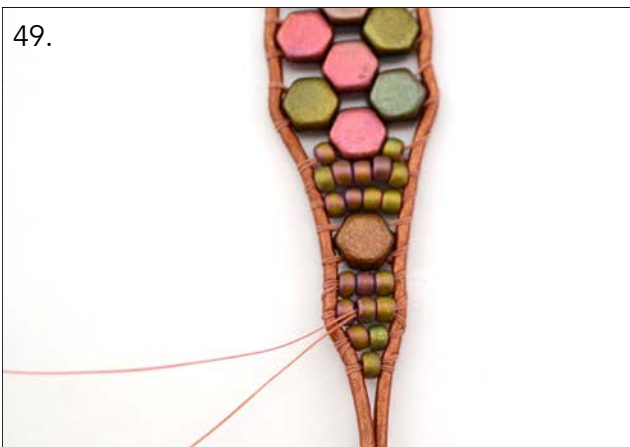
46. Bring your needle and KO under the right leather. Pull in any excess thread. Go back through the row below.



47. Thread your needle up through two of the seed beads. Pull in almost all of the excess KO. Make sure to leave a little bit out.

48. Add a line of GS Hypo Cement on the very last bit of KO since it is the part of the thread that will live inside the seed beads.





49. Before the glue dries, pull the remaining KO.



50. Use your flush cutters to snip off the excess KO. Get as close as you can to the beads without cutting anything else.



51. Cut a new piece of KO 1 yard in length. Thread your needle with the KO and bring the needle to the halfway point.

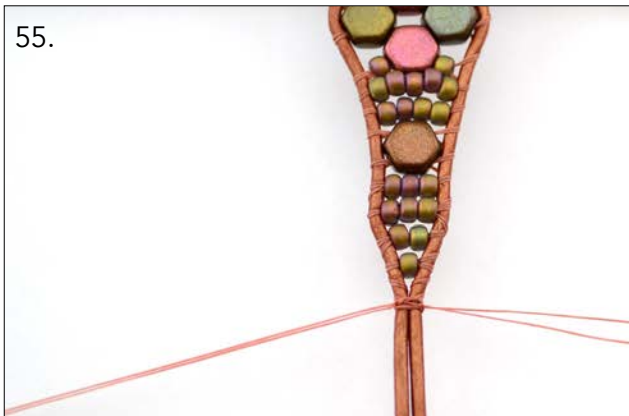
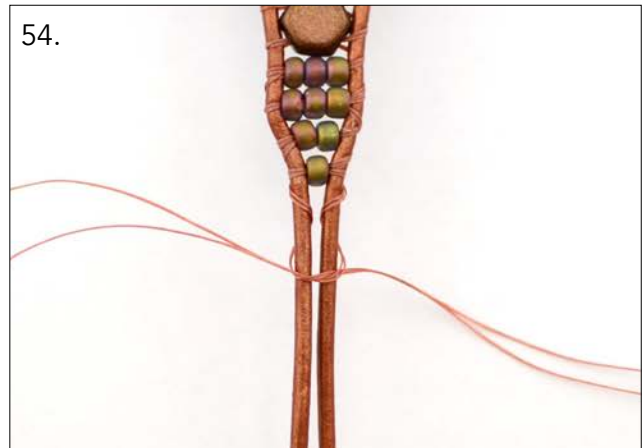
52. Even the KO on both sides of the bead and cut the needle off. You don't need it anymore.





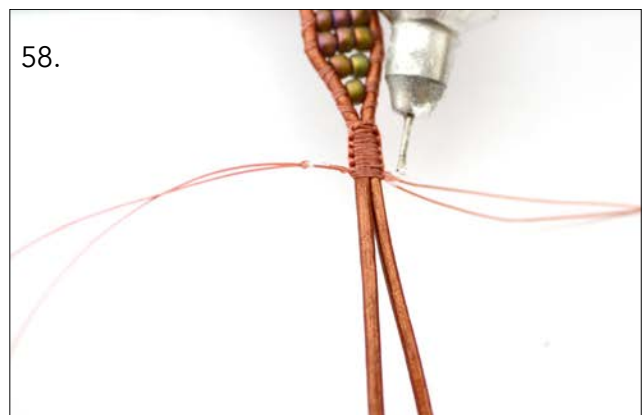
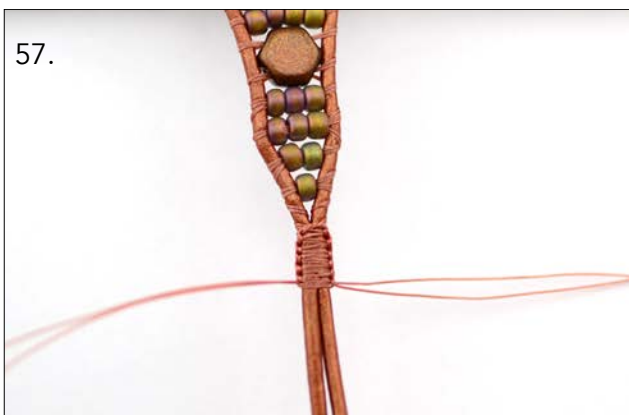
53. Wrap the pieces of KO thread AROUND and UNDER the leather on the corresponding side.

54. Tie the two ends into an overhand knot. Pull gently but firmly to make the knot tight.



55-57. Repeat Steps 8-15 to add glue and macramé 5 full square knots.

58. Add glue to the ends of the KO after your last macramé knot.

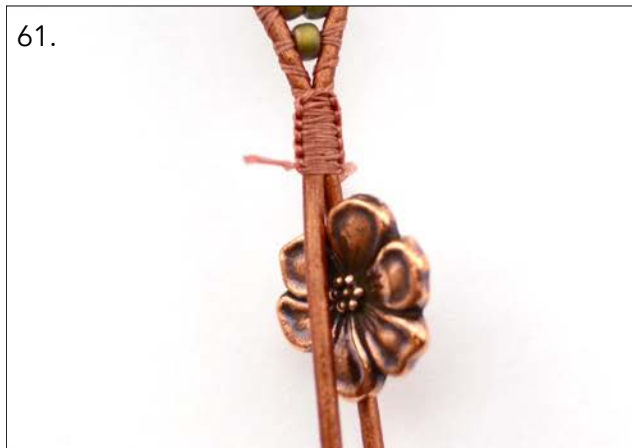




59. Cut away the excess KO leaving about 1/3 inch.



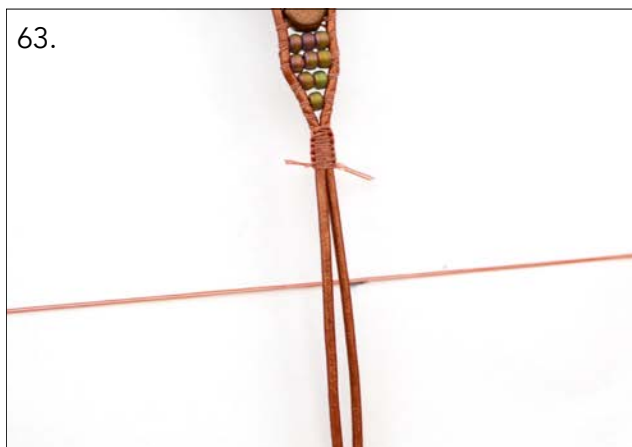
60. It should look like this for now.



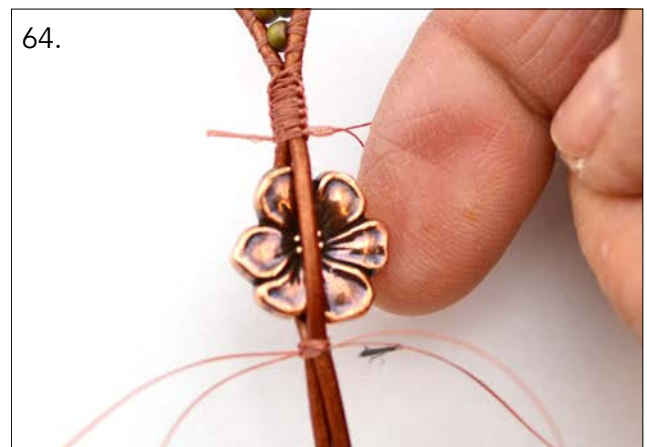
61. Insert your button between the lines of leather to estimate the button loop you will need to make.



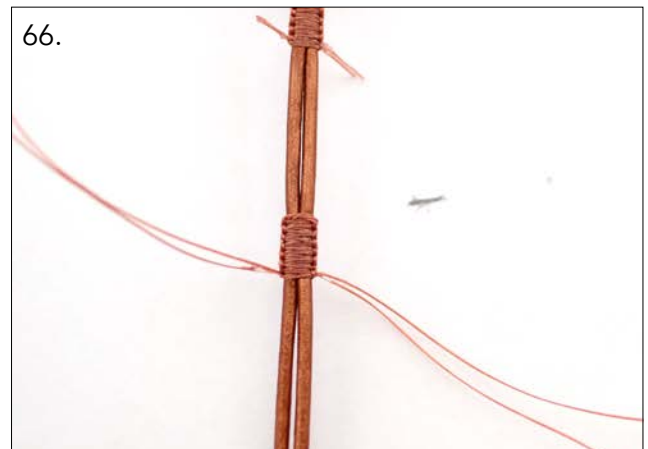
62. Mark either your leather or the board with a small mark.



63. Cut 2 new pieces of KO 2 feet each (24 inches each). Match them up and center them under the leather.



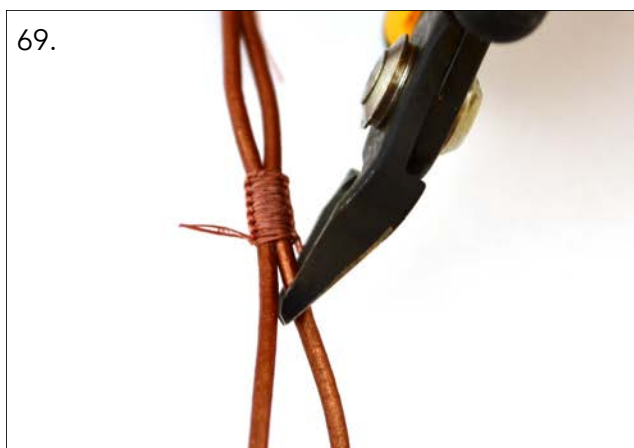
64. Tie an overhand knot close to the mark you made for your button loop. Make one full macramé



65-66. Repeat Steps 8-15 again: add glue and macramé 4 more full square knots. Add glue to the ends of the KO after your last macramé knot. Cut down the excess KO leaving about 1/3 inch on each side.



67-68. You're almost done! Before removing the project from the board, add a bit of glue on the tail of KO that was secured up by the button. After adding glue, cut the KO leaving 1/3 inch.



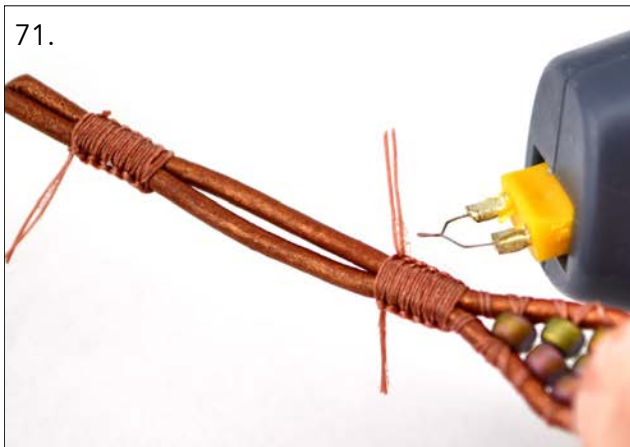
69. Untie your project from the board. Using flush cutters, angle-cut the tails of leather just below the button loop. Be careful you don't cut your macramé knots.

70.



70. The tails should look like this.

71.



71. Before you singe off the short ends of KO, please practice using your Ultra Thread Zap on a scrap piece of KO to make sure you know how hot it gets and how quickly it burns. This is especially important to know before you singe off the KO to the main portion of your project.

72.



72. It takes a quick on and off of the element to heat up and burn off the excess KO. Repeat this on all KO tails of your project.

73. You're done! We hope you have enjoyed Honeycomb Weave and that you will send us pictures of your results. Happy Beading!
xoxo janice

73.



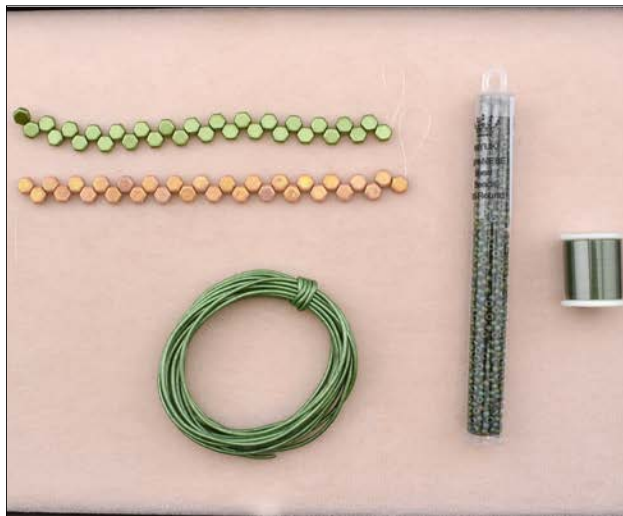
PS... Here are a few recommended palettes to try but please feel free to create your own!



Ingredients:

- 1 Silver Button
- 1 Spool Black 1.5mm Indian Leather
- 1 Spool Black KO Thread
- 1 Tube Black Opaque 8/0 Miyuki Seed Beads
- 1 Strand Jet Matte Honeycomb Beads
- 1 Strand Gunmetal Honeycomb Beads

We suggest making a pattern with this palette.



Ingredients:

- 1 Copper or Brass Button
- 1 Spool Metallic Green 1.5mm Indian Leather
- 1 Spool Dark Olive KO Thread
- 1 Tube Metallic Teal Iris 8/0 Miyuki Seed Beads
- 1 Strand Pastel Olivine Honeycomb Beads
- 1 Strand Chalk Red Luster Honeycomb Beads

We suggest making a pattern with this palette.



Ingredients:

- 1 Silver Button
- 1 Spool White 1.5mm Greek Leather
- 1 Spool Ivory KO Thread
- 1 Tube Pearl Ceylon 8/0 Miyuki Seed Beads
- 1 Strand Pastel White Honeycomb Beads
- 1 Strand Chalk Beige Honeycomb Beads

We suggest pebbling with this palette.