

SKILL BUILDER:

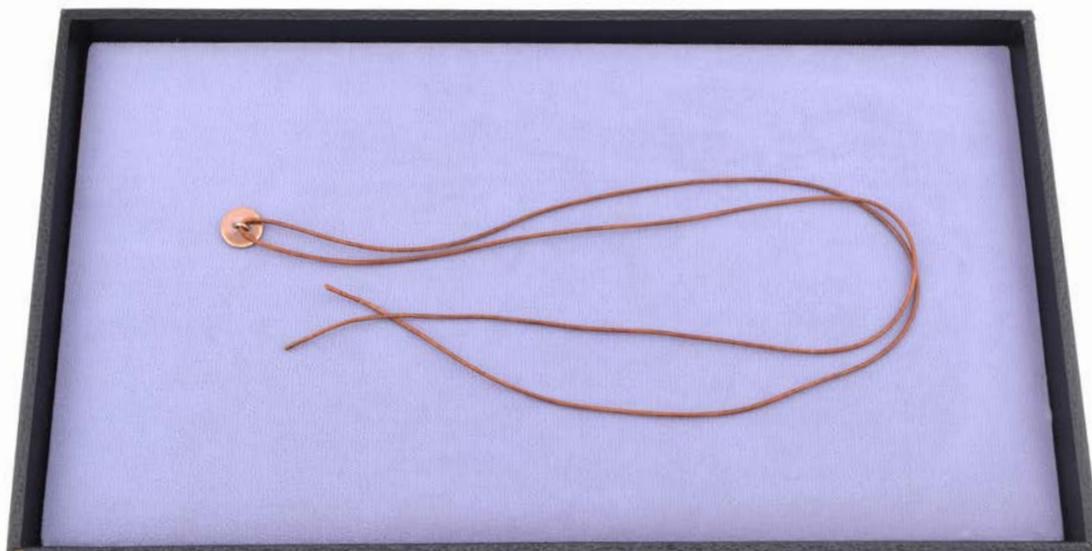
HOW TO SECURE YOUR PROJECT TO A BOARD

We are asked all the time how to begin a wrap project to a board to make laddering and macramé easy. It is quite easy to do and is adaptable to everything from a design tray to a macramé board to even a baking sheet. All you need is a rigid board of some kind. It can have sides or not. So let's begin...

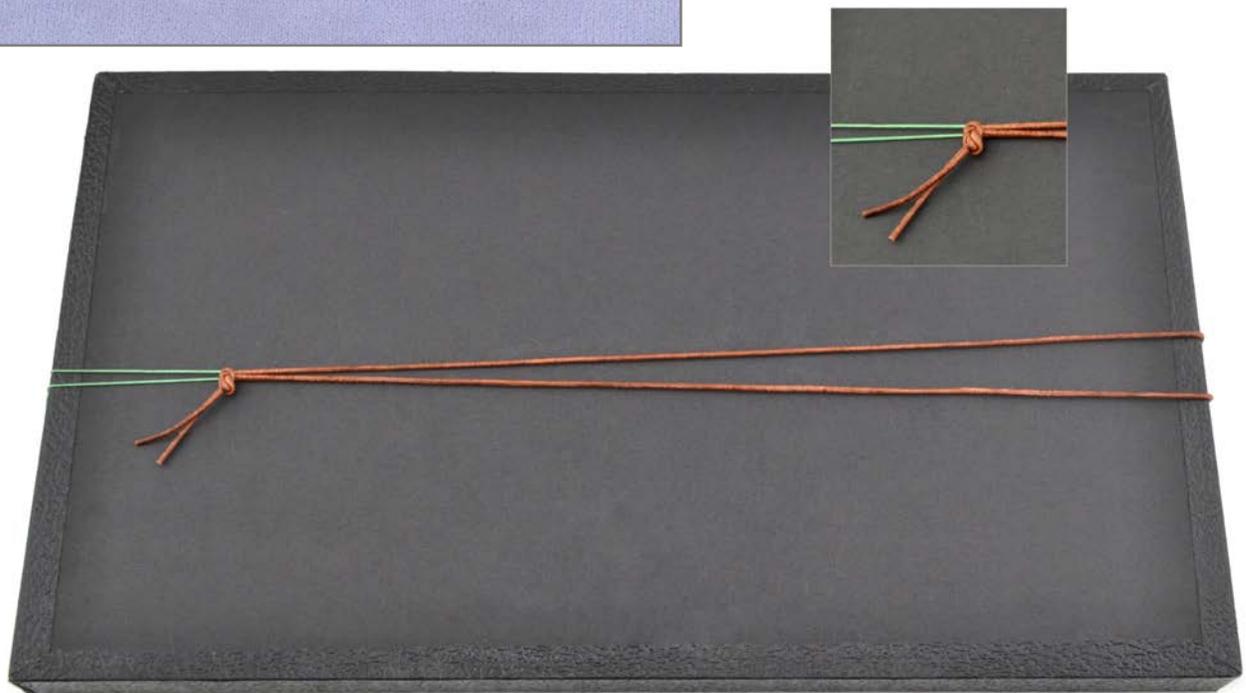
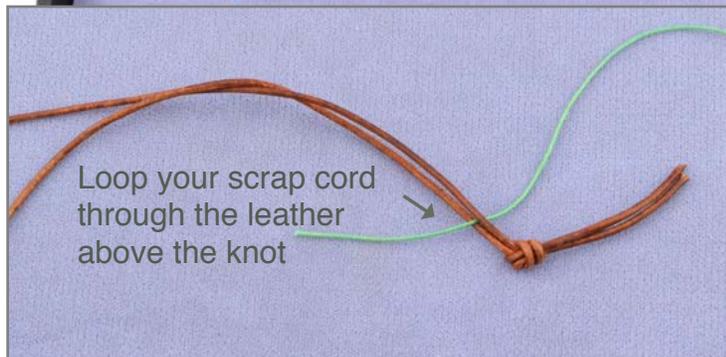
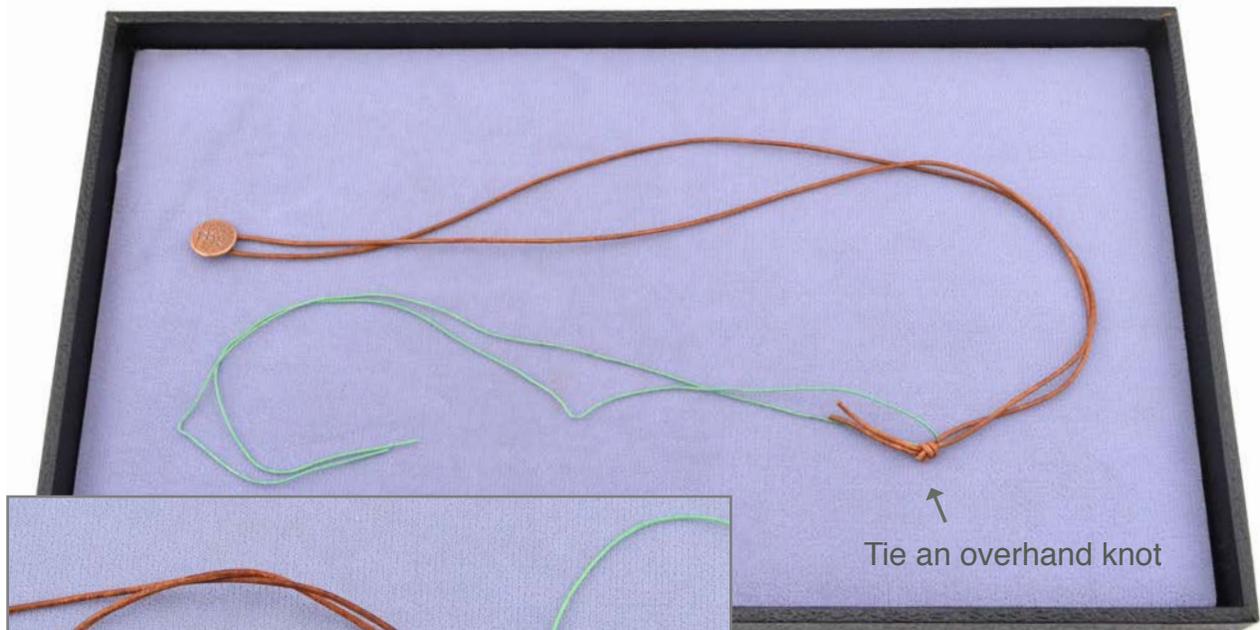


Most wrap projects are done on leather using a button for a closure instead of a clasp. In this handout, we are using a Design Tray with Insert, several yards of leather and a scrap length of knotting cord about 1 yard in length. It can be anything you have around your bead studio from cotton twine to ribbon leftover from the holidays.

String your button onto the midway point of your leather as shown here:

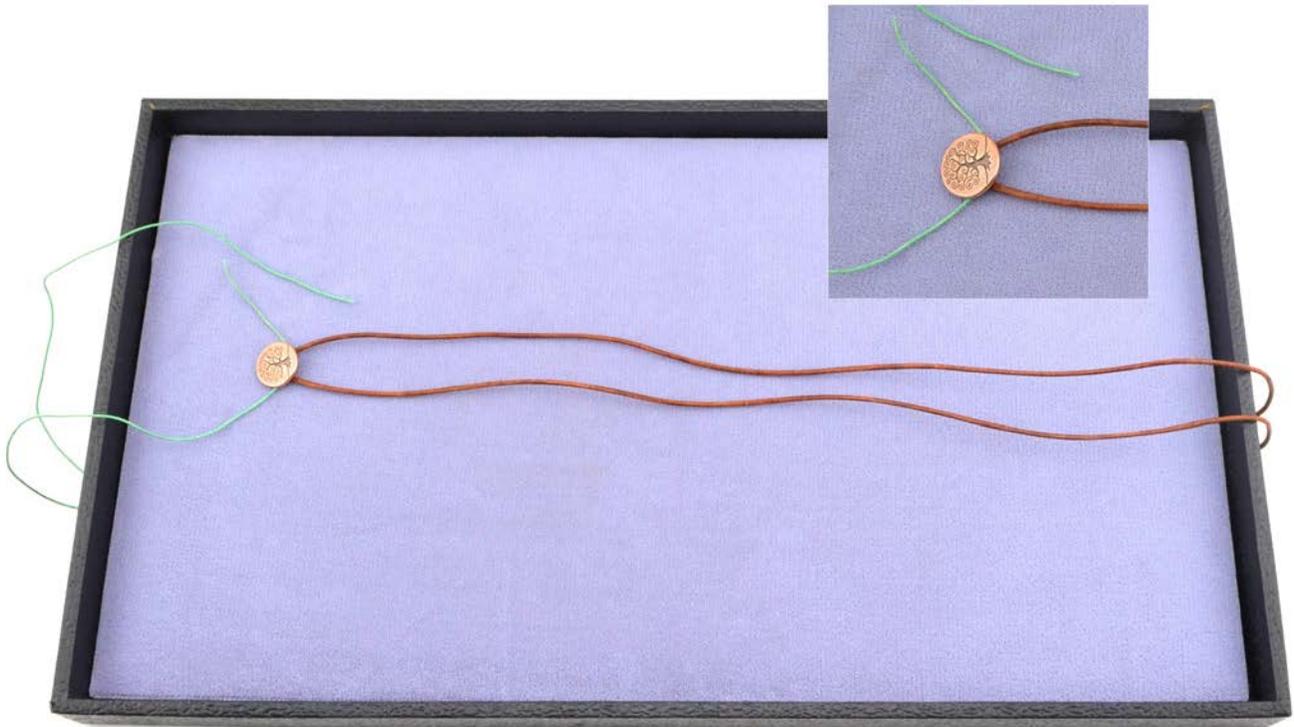


Tie an overhand knot at the end of your leather. This is just a temporary knot, so don't make it super tight. Loop your scrap cord through the opening of the leather just above the knot. Bring the two ends of scrap cord together

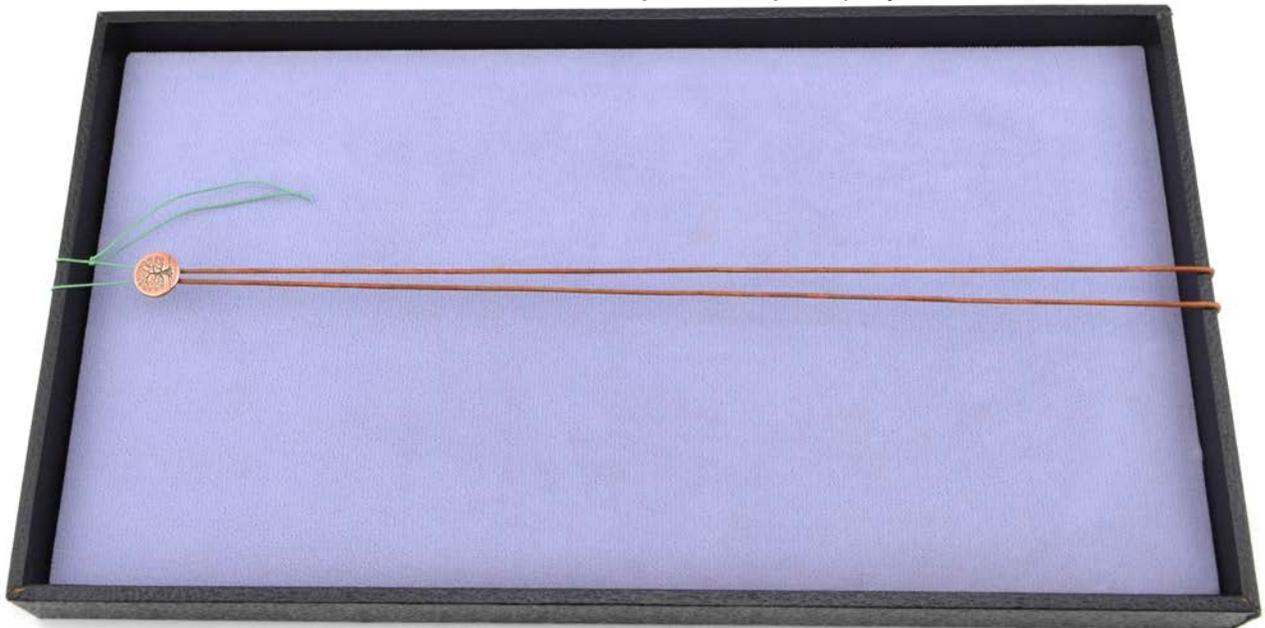


Holding onto the button on the front of the board, bring your leather and scrap cord around to the underside of the board.

Turn your board over and loop one end of your scrap cord under the button.



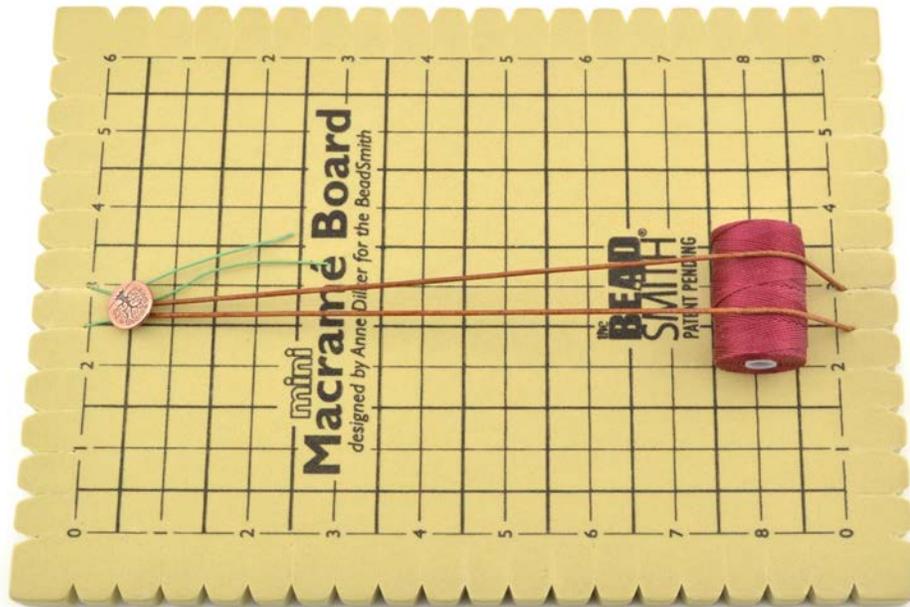
Tie a square knot of the two ends of scrap cord. This will tighten the leather to the board and create tension. You are now ready to start your project.



Helpful hints: If your wrap design takes you longer than the length of the board, you can actually slide your project around the board to create more room to ladder. Just do it with care. You can also untie and retie your project so it is in a new position. If additional space is needed between the leather and the board surface, sometimes propping up the leather with a spool of cord, will give it a bit of extra distance to make beading easier.

Using a Beadsmith Macramé Board is similar to the set up on a design board. The main difference is this board's real purpose is for knotting macramé and kumihimo. However, it can also be adapted to laddering. This sample is done on the mini, travel-size but can be applied to the regular size. The notches on both boards help position your cords and leather, but you will still need to secure your leather around the underside of the board using scrap cord.

In order to create space under the leather to bead (this board has no sides to lift the project up from the work surface), it is helpful to position a spool of thread which will lift the leather up away from the board so your hands can pass thread underneath as needed.



Back of board

