

Weaving a Friendship Bracelet

This project will demonstrate how fabric is created from warp and weft threads or yarns and the selvage is created as the yarns are woven.

Supplies:

Sugar and Cream® yarn in a variety of variegated colors

(Embroidery floss is often used to make friendship bracelets, but I recommend this cotton yarn instead. It doesn't separate and the weight of the yarn makes the project much faster to complete.)

Cardboard rectangle (12 x 6 inches) for each student

Yardstick or tape measure

Scissors

Directions:

1. Measure and mark the center of the 6 inch side of the cardboard rectangle. Cut a ½ inch slit to hold warp yarns during weaving. This will be the top of the weaving board.
2. On the opposite end of the rectangle, cut slits, ½ inch apart across the width of the rectangle. This will be the bottom of the weaving board.
3. Cut 6 strands of yarn, each about 24 inches in length.
4. Gather the 6 ends and tie an overhand knot, leaving a 6 or 8 inch tail. Slip the knotted end into the slit at the top of the weaving board.
5. Secure each individual strand of yarn in place by sliding them into the slits at the bottom of the weaving board. You are now ready to begin weaving your bracelet.
6. Beginning with the yarn furthest to the left, place it over the yarn next to it in the shape of a "4".
7. Then, bring it under that thread and pull it through. Do this twice. Pull to tighten.
8. Continue making the "4"-shaped knot over the rest of the threads until the thread that was originally on the left is not on the right. You have now completed one row of weaving.
9. Now repeat the steps above, always starting with the first yarn on the left. You will need to weave approximately 28 to 32 rows to form a bracelet 6 inches in length.
10. Tie ends of yarn in an overhand knot. Remove bracelet from weaving board and tie ends together to form a bracelet.