

Reversible Belt



Description: The Reversible Belt features a decorative knot called the [Link Weave](#). That's its name here in Free Macrame Patterns. I found the knot on the Fusion Knot website, under the name KBK Bar.

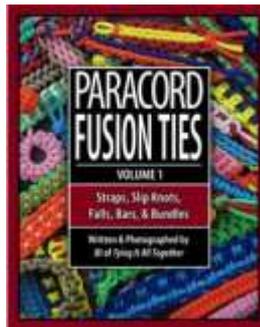
This interesting bar is flat and wide, so you can make this Macrame belt any width. I chose to tighten the knots completely, and the belt turned out to be slightly less than 1 inch wide.

On the front, one color stands out, in this case turquoise (color B). On the back it's the opposite color, which is black in the example (color A).

There is a loop at one end where the ends will pass through to form the closure. If you prefer, you can add a button or bead.

This Macrame project is easy to make, but people new to this craft should [practice](#) the knots before getting started.

Note: The cord measurements cannot be precise in this design, so you may have material left over.



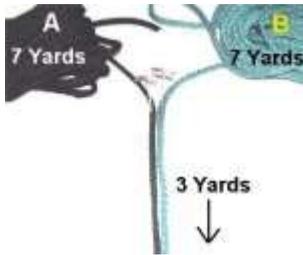
Click on the image to go to the Fusion Knots website.
Supplies Needed:

- 3mm to 4mm Cord Material (10 yards of each color)
- Project Board and Pins
- Beads for Fringe (optional)

Knots Used:

- [Link Weave](#)

- [Sailor Knot](#)
- [Square Knot](#)

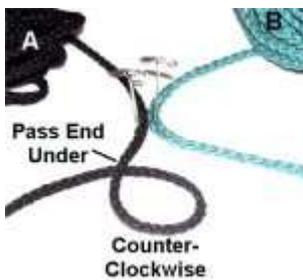


Preparation: Cut two cords, each 10 yards long. For a belt over 45 inches, cut the cords longer. Apply tape to the ends to prevent unraveling.

Secure each cord **3 yards** from one end. The remaining 7 yards should be at the top, rolled up. Mentally number the long working cords A and B.



Sailor Knot Instructions



Step 1: Make a **counter-clockwise** loop with the cord on the left (A).

Be sure you use the **3-yard** portion of the cord.

The end should pass **under** to make the crossing point.



Step 2: Move the second cord (color B) in a **clockwise** direction, **over** the first loop.

Bring it **under** the end, and **over** the segment near the pins, at the top.

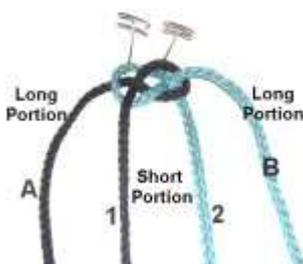


Step 3: To complete the second loop, use cord B again. Direct it **under - over - under** the three segments. The segment it goes over is color B.

Tighten and balance the Sailor knot, leaving a small space in the center of it (see next photo).



Link Weave Design



Step 1: To start the Link Weave design for your Reversible Belt, bring the long segments down, so they rest on the outside of the short segments.

Mentally label the short portions of the cords 1 and 2. The **long portions** are the working cords, and will be used to make the weave (A and B).

Wrapping Long Cords

I recommend you roll up the working cords to make them easier to work with.



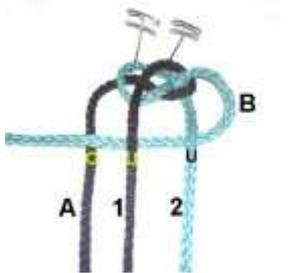
Wrap Cord Around Hand Several Times



Remove Roll. Wrap End Around Middle.



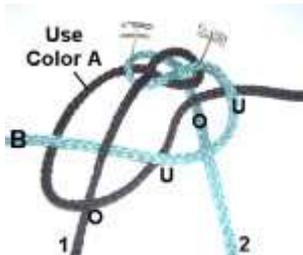
Tuck End Under Last Coil to Secure



Step 2: Move **working cord B** to the **left**, **under** the short segments (1 - 2)

Pass it **over** the left working cord (A).

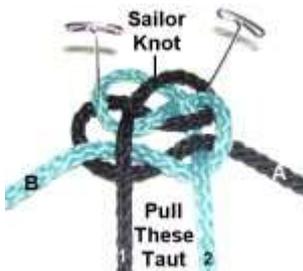
The cord should be horizontal (straight side to side).



Step 3: Bring **working cord A** **over** cord 1, and **under** the horizontal portion of working cord B.

Pass it **over** cord 2, further up, and **under** cord B again, on the far right.

Important: Make sure the cords for the Reversible Belt are spread out on the project board. You need to be able to move the rolled cord through, and keeping everything wide and open will make things easier.



Step 4: Tighten the knot slowly, pulling the **short** segments (1 and 2), so they have **tension**.

Hold those two cords in one hand, while tightening the working cords with the other hand. If you prefer, you can secure them to the board.

Design Tip: You can tighten the weave for the Reversible Belt all the way, or leave it a little loose. Just make sure you are consistent as you progress.



Step 5: The over-under pattern for the second knot is the **opposite** of the first.

Use **working cord A**, which is now on the right. Pass it **over** cords 1 and 2.

Bring it **under** working cord B on the far left.



Step 6: Bring **working cord B under** cord 1, and **over** the horizontal portion of cord A. Pass it **under** cord 2 further up, and **over** cord A on the far right.

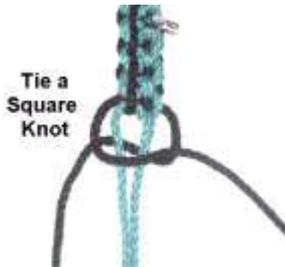
Now the cords are back to their original positions. Tighten the knot as you did the previous one.



Step 7: Repeat Steps 2 - 7 until the Reversible Belt is the size you need.



Finishing Touches



Arrange the two color B cords, so they are next to each other, with color A on either side.

Tie a tight Square Knot with the **color A** cords. The others are fillers.

Trim the ends so they are all the same length.



The ends for the Reversible Belt will pass through the Sailor knot at the opposite end.



Pass **one cord of each color** through the opening in the Sailor knot (from the top).

Tie an Overhand knot with all four cords, when you want to secure the belt.

You can add beads or other knots at the tips, to decorate them and prevent unraveling.

Western Belt



Description: The Western Belt pattern is a great project to help you learn the process of tying Chevrons and Diamonds.

To give this Macrame design a unique appearance, you can add beads or buttons to the cords inside the diamonds or chevrons.

The closure is made with a button (or bead) rather than a buckle, or you can simply pass the ends through the clasp and tie them to secure the belt.

The finished width is 1.5 inches, so be sure to choose the right size buckle if you decide to use one.

You can click on the icons below to see larger photos.

Supplies Needed:

- 4mm Cord Material (amount depends on size, see step 1)
- One 1.5-inch (or 2-inch) ring
- One large shank style button (or bead)
- Project Board and pins

Knots Used:

- [Larks Head Knot](#)
- [Double Half Hitch \(DHH\)](#)
- [Square Knot](#)
- [Double Buttonhole](#)

SECTION A: Chevrons

Step 1: Measure your waist or hip area, where you want the Western belt to rest. **Multiply that size by 4.**

Cut 5 cords, each the number you came up with.

To determine the amount to purchase for your Western Belt, multiply the length of the cords by 5, and divide by 36 to get the yards.

Step 2: Attach the cords to **one side** of the ring with Larks Head Knots, after folding them in half. Mentally number the cords 1 - 10, moving left to right.

Locate cords 5 and 6. These will be the **holding cords**.

Move holding **cord 6** to the **left**, and **cord 5** to the **right**, so they crisscross.

Secure both cords to your project board so they have tension.

Attach cords 4 - 1 to holding **cord 6** with DHH (left).

Attach cords 7 - 10 to holding **cord 5** (right).

Tighten all these knots firmly and evenly, so the bars are neat.

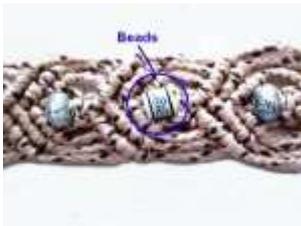
Step 3: Move **cord 4** to the **right**, and **cord 7** to the **left**, so they crisscross.

Secure both of them with tension, as they are the next set of holding cords.

Attach cords 3 - 1 to holding **cord 7** with DHH. Cords 8 - 10 should be attached to holding **cord 4**.

Step 4: For the next row, **cord 8** should be moved **left**, and **cord 3** to the **right**, as the final set of holding cords (crossed).

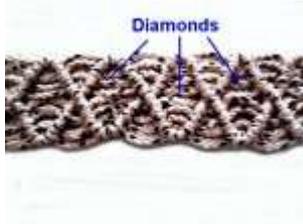
Attach cords 2 and 1 to holding **cord 8**. Cords 9 and 10 should be attached to holding **cord 3**.



Step 5: Re-number ALL the cords 1 thru 10. Add a bead to cords 5 and 6 (optional).

Step 6: Repeat steps 2 - 5 at least four more times, or until the belt design measures approximately 10 inches.

SECTION B - Diamonds



Step 7: Now you will make a series of **diamonds** for the Western Belt. Mentally number the cords 1 thru 10.

Move **cord 6** to the **left**, diagonally.

Do the same with **cord 5**, moving it to the **right**, so the two strands crisscross.

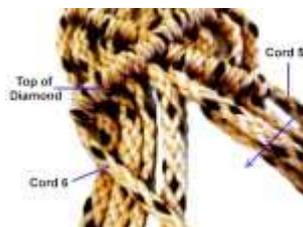
These are the holding cords, and should be secured with tension.

Attach cord 4 - 1 to the holding cord on the **left** (6).

Cords 7 thru 10 should be attached to the holding cord on the **right** (5).

This is the place you can add beads or other knots inside the diamond. For adding knots, used only the working cords, **not the holding cords.**

See [Vintage Diamonds](#) for ideas on how to decorate the Western Belt.



Step 8: Use the **same** holding cords, and move them towards the **center** of the diamond (**towards each other**).

Attach the cords to them as you did in step 7. You will need to rotate the opposite direction to make each Half Hitch.

Step 8, continued: Attach **one holding cord to the other** with a DHH, to complete the first diamond of the Western Belt design.

Step 9: Repeat steps 7 and 8 at least **four more times**, until this portion of the belt measures approximately 10 inches, too.

SECTION C

Step 10: Measure the Western Belt against yourself to see how close you are to completing the **first half**.

The ring should be in the center of your back when you measure.

Make as many additional **Diamond** designs as needed to reach the front, where the clasp should rest (**steps 7 - 8**).

Step 11: When the first half of the belt is the right size, mentally number the

CORDS 1 - 10.

Move cord 1 diagonally, towards the center of the belt.

Do the same with cord 10. Both should follow the angle of the lower edge on the last Diamond tied.

Attach cords 2 - 5 to holding cord 1. Attach cords 9 - 6 to the other holding cord.

Important: Pull the cords firmly when tightening, so the bar formed is against the lower edge of the diamond.

Move the holding cords out of the way, and **don't use them in the next row.**

Step 12: Mentally number the remaining cords 1 - 8.

Cords 1 and 8 are the holding cords for this row.

Tie another row of DHH, attaching cords 2 - 4 to holding cord 1. Cord 7 - 5 should be attached to the other holding cord.

Move these holding cords out of the way, and **don't use them for step 13.**

Step 13: Mentally number the remaining cords 1 - 6.

Cords 1 and 6 are the holding cords, so move them diagonally, as you did the others.

Attach cords 2 and 3 to holding cord 1, and 4 and 5 to holding cord 6.

Move the holding cords out of the way again.

Step 14: For the final row, simply attach cord 2 to holding cord 1.

Do the same with cord 3, attaching it to cord 4.

DOUBLE BUTTONHOLE CLASP

Note: This type of clasp requires a **button** or large bead.

Another option is to not add the button at all, and just slide the ends through the Buttonhole design that you will now be making.

Step 15: Organize all the cords into 2 groups of 5. Mentally number the cords moving left to right (1 - 10).

Use cord 1, and tie 4 Vertical Larks Head knots onto cords 2 - 5.

Step 16: Use cord 10 as the next working cord, and tie 4 Vertical Larks Head Knots onto cord 6 - 9.

Before you complete the next step, make sure the button you chose for the

closure will fit through the buttonhole design you just made. You can add or subtract knots as needed until it fits.

Step 17: Bring all the cords together, and use the same working cords (1 and 10), to tie a tight Square Knot. The rest of the cords are the fillers.

Step 18: Cut all the cords to 2 inches. You can either make Barrel Knots in the tips of each cord, or add beads, followed by a Barrel knot. Apply glue to the last SK as well as the ones at the tips.

SECOND HALF OF BELT

Step 19: Repeat steps 1 - 14 to make the the other half of the Western belt.

FINISHING TOUCHES

Step 20: Pass cords 5 and 6 through the shank in the button used for the clasp.

Tie a Square knot just below, using 5 and 6 as the **working cords**, and all the others as fillers. **Apply glue to the inside of the knot, as you tighten it.**

Trim the ends and weave them through spaces in the **back** of the Western belt.

Another option here is to simply trim the ends and omit the button entirely. You can then pass the ends through the buttonhole clasp and let them dangle.

Chain Belt



Description: The Chain Belt is similar to one of the Macrame belts that Elvis wore in the 1970's. He was famous for both his music, and his interesting clothes, which included handcrafted belts.

I've seen image of him wearing a belt like this. It was made with yarn, but you can make this belt with regular nylon cord, metallic cord, cotton embroidery cord, or similar materials.

You will be using the [Chain Sennit](#) to make this belt. Both the front and the back are appealing, so this belt is reversible.

Here are other types of sennits that can be used to make this type of belt:



The [Bugle Braid](#) is similar to the Chain Sennit.



The [Zipper Sennit](#) is also similar, but has an alternating pattern.

Supplies Needed:

- **4mm Cord material**
- **Project Board and pins**
- **Tape Measure**
- **Glue**

Knots Used:

- [Double Half Hitch](#)
- [Chain Sennit](#)

Cutting and Mounting Cords

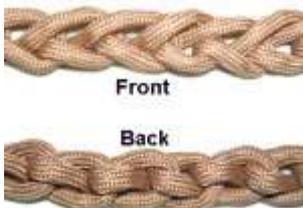
Measure the area just above your hips. That is where the Chain belt should rest. Don't pull the tape measure too tight. Decide which size belt you need, and cut the cords as follows:

- **Small (28 inch) Belt = 5 yards per cord x 3**
- **Medium (35 inch) Belt = 6 yards per cord x 3**
- **Large (42 inch Belt) = 7 yards per cord x 3**
- **Extra Large (49 inch Belt) = 8 yards per cord x 3**

For sizes between those listed, it's best to use the next size up, so you have extra cord, rather than risk running short. If you wish to make the belt wider, cut 4 cords instead of three.

Prepare the ends with glue, wax, or tape. See [Cord Preparation](#) for more details.

Designing the Chain Sennits



Step 1: Make a Chain Sennit with the first cord. Start it **15 inches** from the end.

Make sure you always keep the working end on your **left**, so the loops don't get twisted. Also, tighten the loops as you make them, by pulling firmly.

Stop when the belt is the size you want.

Step 2: Create a Chain Sennit with the second cord. Place the second chain to the right of the first one.

To link the sennits, pass the end of the working cord (2nd chain) through a

space at the **right edge** of the first chain.

It's best to direct the cord through the space **from below (back to the front)**. Repeat this process every 5 - 7 inches.

Step 3: Make the next sennit for your Chain Belt, placing it to the **left** of the first Chain Sennit.

Link it to the first one, as you did in the previous step. This pattern looks best if both linkage points are next to one another.

Creating the Fringe

Step 4: Match up the ends of the Chain sennits, and secure them to your board, so they rest **vertically**.

Cut two pieces of material, each double the size of the sennits. Add an extra two inches as well.

Place the center of one of the cords next to the end of the middle sennit, which should be the first one you made. It should rest **horizontally**. Secure it well, because it will be a holding cord.

Attach each of the three cords used to make the sennits, with a Double Half Hitch. Pull it tightly, so these knots rest **against** the last knots tied in the Chain sennits.

Direct the ends of the **holding cord** to the **back** of the belt, and use tweezers to pull them through the **back** of one of the knots in the **middle** sennit. All five ends can now be used to make the fringe. It's a good idea to put tight Barrel knots at the tips, to prevent unraveling.

Step 5: Repeat Step 4 at the other end of the Chain Belt. Make sure the fringe is the same size at both ends.

Basic Belt



Description: The Basic Belt is an easy Macrame pattern, since it requires you to know only one knot, the [Bush Bar](#).

Normally this decorative knot is tied so that each one is close together. However, I recommend you add some space between the knots to give it a more woven appearance. The clasp is a simple loop with a button or bead on the other end.

Listed in the Micro-Macrame section is a [Bush Bar Bracelet](#), which looks great with this Macrame belt.

You can also use this basic belt design to make a guitar strap. Just leave a small loop at each end to attach to the screws in your guitar.

Supplies Needed:

- 4mm Cord Materials
- Shank Button
- Project Board and Pins (highly recommended)

Step 1: Cut one cord, 8 times the length you need for the belt. For example: If you are planning to make a 36-inch belt, cut the cord to a length of 8 yards.

Prepare the ends with tape, glue or wax to prevent unraveling.



Match up the ends and locate the center of the cord.

Slide the cord through the button shank and let it rest at the center for now.

Turn the cord around so the ends are near the top of your board. The button needs to be **face up** before you get started.



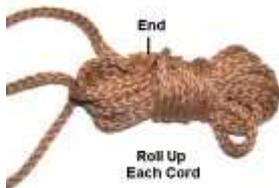
Step 2: The size of the large loop you will now make determines the overall size of the Basic Belt. So for a 36-inch size, move up 36 inches, measuring from the center.

Cross the ends right over left. Secure the crossing point to your board.



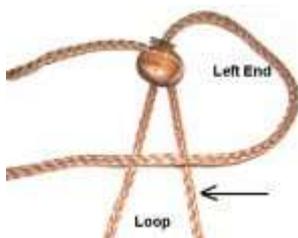
Step 3: Slide the button up to the crossed area, so it rests against the pin.

Secure the loop, making sure the cord has tension and both halves are straight.



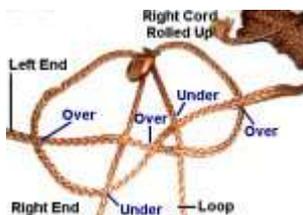
Wrap one end of the the cord around your hand several times. **Start about 12 inches from the button.**

Step 3, continued: Stop wrapping when you have about an arm length left. Remove it from your hand, and wrap the end around the middle of the bundle. Tuck the end under the last wrap. As you progress, just pull to get more material.



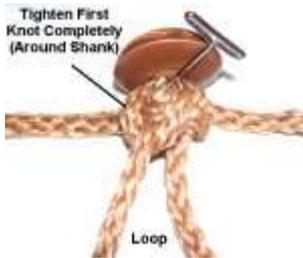
Step 4: Use the **left end** first, which is now on the right, since you crossed them.

Bring it towards the left horizontally, passing **over** both parts of the loop.



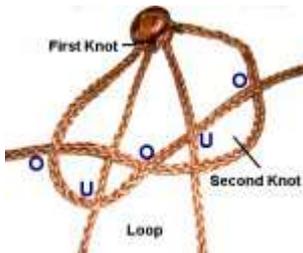
Step 5: Bring the right end (now on the left) **over** the left end, and **under** the left part of the loop. Move it upward and **over** the left end that rests inside the loop. Pass **under** the right part of the loop. Finally, go **over** the left end on the far right.

Important Tip: Another way to view this step is that the right end will pass **over three parts** of the left end, and **under both parts** of the large loop.



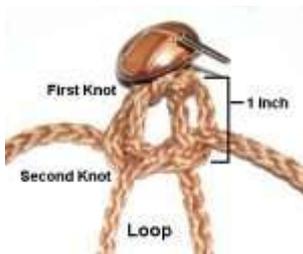
Tighten the first knot completely, so it **wraps around the shank** of the button.

If it bunches up, pull on the loop to make it as flat as possible.



Step 6: Repeat steps 4 and 5 to make the next knot.

Make sure you always use the cord on the right first, followed by the left one, which does the weaving.



Step 7: As you tighten the knot, leave 1 inch of space between it and the first knot.

Pull on the loop to keep the knot flat and to avoid twisting.

Design Tip: The Bush Bar can be made with **less space** if you prefer a more closely woven design. You will need to tug on the loop more as you tighten the knots, to keep the belt as flat as possible.



Repeat steps 6 and 7 to make the rest of the Basic Belt.

Secure the knots as you progress, and move the design as needed, so the newest knots are always on your board.



Step 8: When you reach the center, make sure that the loop is the size of the button.



Step 9: Tighten the last knot **completely**.

Tie one final knot, also tightening it as much as possible.

Be sure the loop can still go around the button easily. Make adjustments to the size if needed.

Step 10: Turn the Basic Belt **upside down**. Cut off the extra material, **but leave 2 inches for the final step**.



Use pliers to pull the ends through spaces in the **back** of the belt, where the last two knots are tightened completely.

Apply glue to the ends to hold them in place.

Contrast Belt



Description: The Contrast Belt features the use of two colors, along with knots that change direction. What's unique about this belt design is that two sets of working cords are used to alternate the colors.

Try to choose one light and one dark color if you can. In the example shown, color A is turquoise and color B is navy blue. I used brown for the fillers, just to help with instruction. I recommend you use the dark color for the fillers.

This is a great beginner's project, since only two decorative knots are used for the entire belt design. The Square knot is featured, and this Macrame project will teach you how to tie them in opposite directions.

In the example shown, I used 4mm Polypropylene cord, and the width of the belt was 1-inch. To make it wider, use 6mm cord materials.

Supplies Needed:

- 4mm cord material, 2 colors (total amount depends on size -- see below)
- Project Board and pins
- Fabric Glue that dries clear
- Tape Measure

Knots Used:

- [Square Knot](#) (right and left facing)
- [Barrel Knot](#)



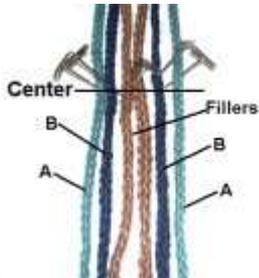
Preparation

Use the chart below to determine the lengths to cut the cords. Prepare the ends by applying tape to the tips.

To determine the total amount you need to purchase, add all the lengths together (Color A, B and Fillers), and then divide by 36 to get the yards.

<u>Length of Belt</u>	<u>Color A</u>	<u>Color B</u>	<u>Fillers</u>
Under 30	4 yards x 2	4 yards x 2	40 inches x 2

inches			
30 - 35 inches	5 yards x 2	5 yards x 2	45 inches x 2
35 - 40 inches	6 yards x 2	6 yards x 2	50 inches x 2
Over 40 inches	Length x 5, divided by 36 (for yards)	same as color A	Length + 10 inches



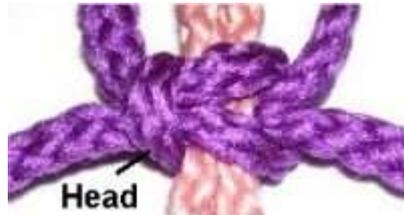
Step 1: Secure all the cords to your project board at the **center**. They should be arranged vertically, in this order:

1 Color A - 1 Color B - 2 Fillers - 1 Color B - 1 Color A

The two sets of working cords for the Contrast Belt are labeled A and B.



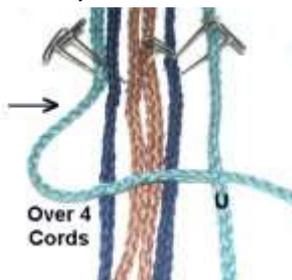
Left Square Knot Instructions



Step 2: The first Square knot you tie at the center should have the head facing **left**, so here are the instructions for making the knot in that direction.

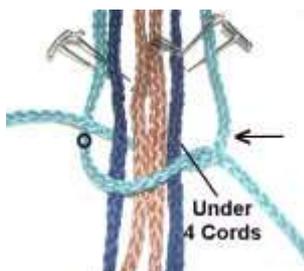
The first knot is tied around **4 fillers**. The knots following the first one will be tied around **2 fillers**.

When making Square knots in two directions, just remember that the cord you **start** with determines the direction. In this case, the working cords are color A and you start with the one on the left.



Step A: Move the **left** working cord (color A) to the right, passing **over** the next 4 cords. This includes both color B and filler cords.

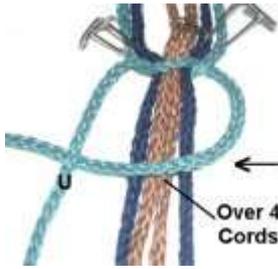
Pass it **under** the right working cord (color A).



Step B: Move the **right** working cord (color A) to the left, passing **under** the 2 color B and filler cords.

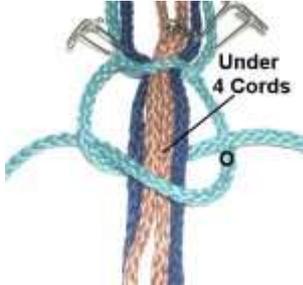
Bring it out on the left, passing **over** the left working cord.

Pull the ends to tighten the knot **firmly**, so it rests next to the pins.



Step C: Now you repeat these steps, in the opposite direction:

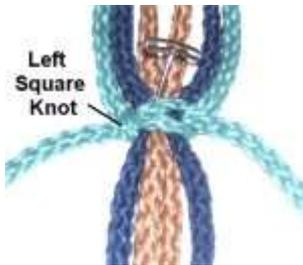
Move the working cord on the **right** over the next 4 cords. Pass it **under** the working cord on the left.



Step D: Move the working cord on the **left** **under** the color B and filler cords.

Bring it out on the right, passing **over** the right working cord.

Tighten the second half of the knot **firmly**.



This is the completed knot. Only here, in the center of the Contrast Belt, will the Square knot be tied around 4 other cords.

The following knots are all to be tied with 2 fillers, unless otherwise directed.

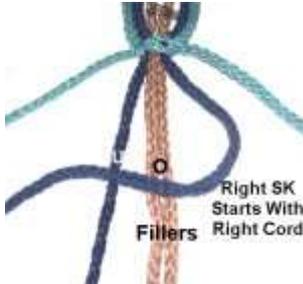


Right Square Knot Instructions



Step 3: For the next Square Knot in the Contrast Belt, you change to the **Color B** cords. The knots need to face **right**, so you start with the right working cord.

Important: Remember that this knot will only have **2 fillers**. Also, the two cords you just used (color A) are not part of this knot.



Step A: Move the **right** working cord (color B) **over** the two fillers and **under** the left working cord.



Step B: Move the **left** working cord **under** the fillers.

Bring it out on the right, passing **over** the right working cord.

Tighten it firmly, so it rests close to the previous SK.



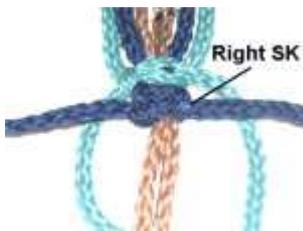
Step C: Move the working cord now on the **left** over the fillers and **under** the working cord on the right.



Step D: Move the **right** working cord **under** the fillers.

As you pull it out on the left, pass it over the left working cord.

Tighten the knot firmly.

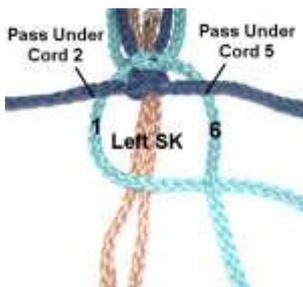


For the first half of the Contrast Belt, when using the **Color A** cords, you tie **left SK**.

When using **Color B**, they face **right**.



Alternating Pattern



Step 4: Mentally number the cords 1 - 6. The fillers are cords 3 and 4.

Move cords 2 and 5 to the sides (color B).

Pass the color A cords (1 and 6) **under** them, and then tie a **left SK**.



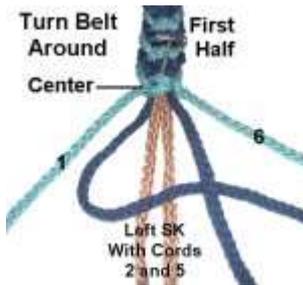
Step 5: Move cords 1 and 6 off to the sides, and switch to using cords 2 and 5 (color B).

Use them to tie a **right SK**, after you bring them **under** cords 1 and 6.

Alternate between steps 4 and 5, until the Contrast Belt is **half** the size you plan to make. So for a 40-inch belt, stop at 20 inches.

Design Tip: As you progress, make sure you tighten all the knots firmly, so the

belt stays the same width.



Step 6: Turn the Contrast Belt around, so you can work on the second half. In order to maintain the pattern, you need to make the following changes:

When using cords 2 and 5 (color B), tie **left** Square Knots. Those are the cords you start out with, since you are again working from the center towards the ends.



Step 7: When shifting to cords 1 and 6 (color A), make sure you tie **right** Square Knots.

Continue on, repeating step 6 and 7, until both halves of the belt are the **same size**.

Add or remove knots from **each end**, if the belt is not the right size.



Finishing Touches



Step 8: Place one end of the Contrast Belt in front of you, making sure it lies flat and is not twisted.

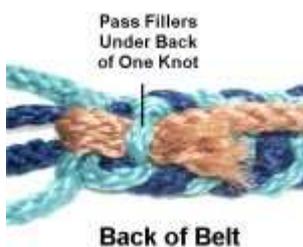
Tie the **first half** of a Square Knot with whatever cord was next to be used (steps A and B).

Tie the knot around 4 cords as you did the one in the center (step 2).



Step 9: Apply glue on the fillers. Then tie the second half, so it's resting on the glue. Tighten it as much as you possibly can.

Repeat steps 8 and 9 at the other end of the belt. Make sure the belt is not twisted and you are working at the **front** of it.



Step 10: Flip the Contrast Belt **upside down**, so you are working in the **back**.

Pass the **filler** cords under the back of one knot.

Apply glue below the two cords, so they stick to the back of the belt. Place something heavy on the area while the glue dries.



Step 11: After the glue is dry, trim the two filler cords and apply more glue to the tips.

Repeat steps 10 and 11 at the other end of the belt.

Important: Make sure the belt is not twisted, and you are still working at the back.



Step 12: Trim the four working cords at each end, so they are even. The length will depend on how much material is left, but they should be at least 8 inches.

Tie Barrel Knots at the ends. If you prefer, you can tie an Overhand knot, but make sure you use plenty of glue.

Cotton Belt



Description: The Cotton Belt features material typically used in Crochet designs. I encourage you to try any form of cotton material for this belt.

The primary decorative knot is called the **Double Buttonhole Stitch**, which is a vintage technique. It's simply a series of Vertical Larks Head knots. Two sennits are combined to make a loop.

This Macrame belt looks best if you use two colors. You can make a button clasp, which is described below, or you can simply tie the ends together so the belt has a fringe.

This Macrame project is suitable for beginners who have some experience with the knots used in the design. I rated it moderate, since you are using fine cords, which are harder to control. Be sure to use a project board and pins.

Supplies Needed:

- **2mm Cotton Cord -- Two Colors (See Amounts Below)**
- **One Button, with a large shank**
- **Fabric Glue that dries clear**
- **Project Board and pins**

Knots Used:

- [Double Buttonhole Stitch](#)
- [Square Knot \(SK\)](#)
- [Overhand knot](#)



Preparation

Use the chart below to determine the amount of material needed for your Cotton Belt. You need to cut the cords of **both colors** to the sizes in the chart.

Should you decide to make a fringe, instead of a clasp, cut the cords for the core to 4 yards long.

<u>Belt Size</u>	<u>Working Cords</u>	<u>Core</u>	<u>Total Amount of Material</u>
30 - 35 inches	2 x 17 yards	6 x 3 yards	52 Yards of each color
36 - 40 Inches	2 x 20 yards	6 x 3 yards	58 yards of each color
41 - 45 Inches	2 x 23 yards	6 x 3 yards	64 yards of each color

Working With Long Cords



The key to handling the long working cords used in this Cotton Belt is to wrap them up in **small bundles**.

Start about 12 inches below the level where the cord is attached to the board. Wrap the cord around your hand several times, until you have about 10 inches left.



Slide the bundle off your hand carefully, and wrap the end around the bundle several times.



Pass the end of the cord under one of the coils, preferably the last one. As you work, you should be able to pull from the middle of the bundle.

First Half of Cotton Belt

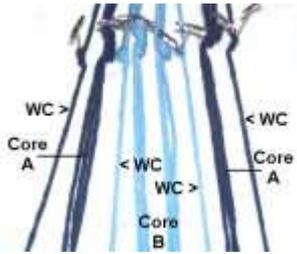
Start the first half of the Cotton belt by cutting the cords to the lengths in the chart above. Tie Overhand knots at the tips of each cord.

Step 1: Find the center of each cord, and place it on your board vertically as shown below. The best method is to wrap each cord around a pin several times. You can tuck the cords **under the board** to hold them steady, or use tape.

Color A is dark blue, and **Color B is light blue** in this design.

The long working cords are used to tie all the knots onto the shorter cords, which are called the **core**. Each sennit is tied with one working cord and three cords for the core (total of 4).

Arrange the cords for the Cotton Belt as follows:

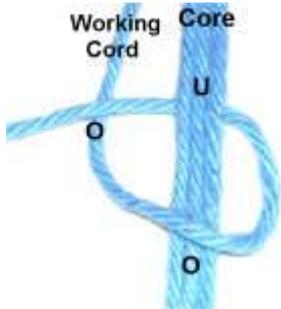


Working Cord (A) - 3 Core (A)

Working Cord (B) - 6 Core (B) - Working Cord B

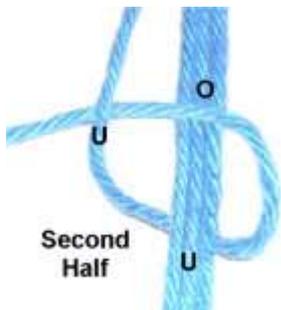
3 Core (A) - Working Cord (A)

Step 2: Each sennit for the Double Buttonhole Stitch is created with a series of Vertical Larks Head knots. They are tied in **two parts**. The images show the **leftfacing** knot, tied with the left working cord.



Step A: For the first half of the vertical Larks Head, pass the working cord **over** and then **under the core**. Rotate **counter-clockwise**.

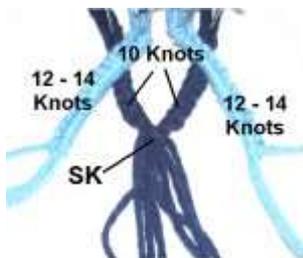
Bring it **over** the **working cord** as you pull it back to the left.



Step B: To tie the second half, direct the working cord **under** and **over** the **core**.

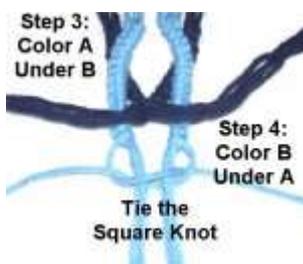
Pass it **under** the **working cord**, as you bring it to the left.

NOTE: When using the working cords on the right, the over - under process is the same, but you rotate **clockwise**.



Step 3: Tie 2 Double Buttonhole sennits for **each color**. **Color A** should consist of 10 knots. **Color B** needs to have 13 knots.

Bring the right and left **Color A** sennits together, passing **under** Color B. Tie a tight Square Knot with the two working cords, around **all 6 short cords**.



Step 4: Bring the **Color B** sennits together, passing them **under** the Color A cords.

Tie the Square knot with the two working cords, around **all 6 short cords**.

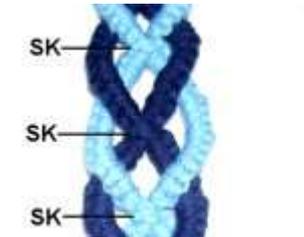
Design Tip: The **Color B** sennits need more knots, so they are longer. When you tie the Square knot, it needs to rest **below** the SK from the other color.

(Move down two photos to see clearer details)



Step 5: Repeat steps 3 and 4. For the first half of the Cotton Belt, it's easier to tie all four sennits, and then position them. (This image shows step 3)

Once they are resting **under** the opposite color, tie the Square Knots to complete the designs.



This is a closer view of the placement for the Square knots. Notice that each one is near the **center** of the oval Buttonhole designs.

You may need to tie more knots periodically, so the SK line up properly.

Step 5, continued: Repeat steps 3 and 4 over and over, until the first half of the Cotton Belt is 1/2 the size you need. So if you are making a 40-inch belt, stop at 20 inches.

Each Buttonhole design should consist of 10 - 13 knots, so the design looks like the image above.

The last Buttonhole design you tie should be **Color B** (so these instructions make sense). You can make adjustments to the size in the second half if necessary.

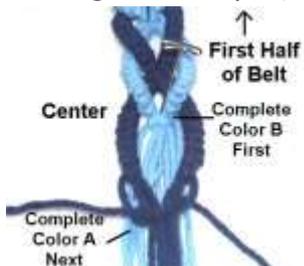


Second Half of Cotton Belt

Step 6: Go back to the **center** and remove the pins. Turn the entire board around if you can, otherwise just turn the belt.

Make sure you do not flip the belt over. Turning the whole board around prevents this from happening.

You should still be working on the **front** of the Cotton Belt, with the ends heading towards you, and the first half of the belt heading away from you.



Complete the Buttonhole design of **Color B** first, by tying the Square knot. Make sure it's resting **over** the Color A sennits.

Bring the **Color A** sennits **over** the Color B cords, and tie the Square knot.

Design Tip: In order for the Cotton Belt design to work out properly, you will bring the sennits together **on top of (over)** the opposite color

For the first half, you positioned them **under** the other color.

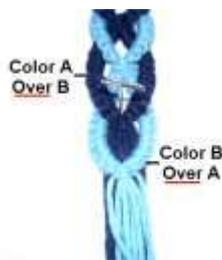


Step 7: You will need to flip the **Color A** design out of the way, so you have access to the Color B cords.

Just below the SK, tie the two sennits for the next Buttonhole design (**Color B**).

Design Tip: For the second half of the Cotton Belt, I found it easier to tie the two sennits for one color, bring them to the front, and tie the SK.

I then flipped the design out of the way, and did the same thing for the other color.



Step 8: Continue tying Buttonhole designs, alternating the two colors. Stop when the Cotton Belt is the size you want, ending with **Color A** if you can.

Remember to bring the sennits **over** in front of the opposite color before tying the SK.



Finishing Touches

Step 9: The following Finishing method is only one option for completing the Cotton Belt.

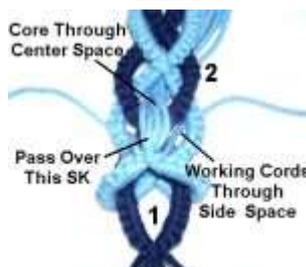
Another way to finish is to apply glue to the SK tied in the last Buttonhole design at each end. You can then use the ends together in a group, tying them together to secure the belt. This is the best way to form a fringe. Adding beads to decorate the fringe looks nice, too.

I prefer a finished appearance, so did something a little unusual:



Step A: At the end of the Cotton Belt (second half), fold the last **Color B design** backward, away from you.

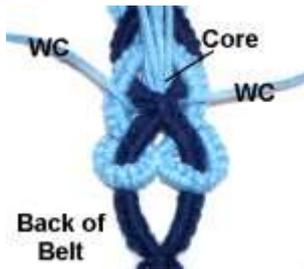
The Buttonhole design for **Color A** is used as part of the clasp.



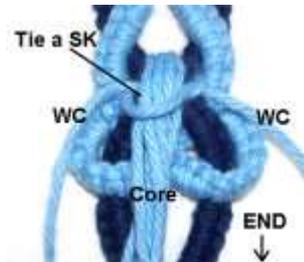
Step B: Mentally label the **Color A** designs 1 and 2, starting with the last one tied at the end.

Direct the 6 **Color B** cords for the **core** over the SK of design 2, and through the space in the center.

Direct the two **working cords** into the spaces on either side of the Square knot for Color A.

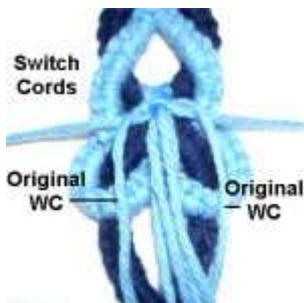


This image shows the **back** of the Cotton Belt, where you can see the placement of the ends around the Square knot.



Step C: Fold the ends towards you (forward). Use the two working cords on the sides to tie a **tight** Square Knot around the 6 cords for the core.

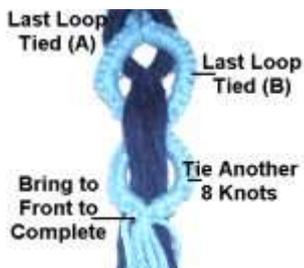
Tie the first half of the knot, **apply glue**, and then tie the second half.



Step D: **Switch the working cords with two from the core.**

Tie another Square knot, also applying glue.

Add a little more glue under the knot, so it sticks to the Color B design. When the glue is dry, it's safe to cut off the ends close to the knot.



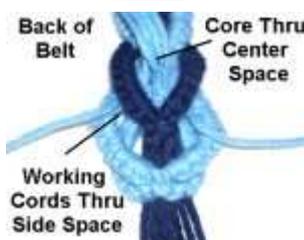
Step E: Go to the opposite end of the Cotton Belt (first half) and make sure the last Buttonhole Loop is color B (light blue).

Tie another Buttonhole design with **color B**, tying a total of **8 knots**. Make sure you bring the sennits to the **front** before tying the SK.



Step F: Flip the new loop backwards, so it nestles inside the closest Buttonhole design (same color).

The ends are passed through spaces in the front, just as you did on the other end -- **see image below**.



This image shows the **back** of the Cotton Belt.

The 6 strands for the **core** are resting in the center space of the **Color A** design. The working cords should be resting on each side.

Repeat Step C - Tying the SK to secure the cords.



The Clasp

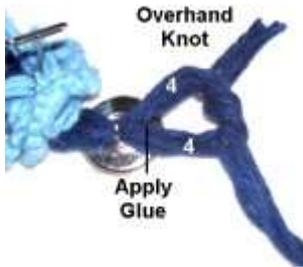
When you have finished the Cotton belt as described above, you will need to make a clasp. If you changed the finishing method, this step is optional.



A shank button is required, and it must have an opening large enough for **8 cords** to pass through.

The button will pass through the last Buttonhole design at the opposite end.

Design Tip: I trim the ends so they are even and then apply tape, compressing them together. It makes it easier to pull them all through the opening in the button.



After you slide the 8 cords through the button, separate the cords into two groups of 4.

Tie an Overhand knot, applying glue so that it will be on the **inside** when the knot is tightened. When the glue is dry, cut off the excess material.



At the other end of the Cotton Belt, you can add a bead if you wish. Apply glue next to the bead, and tie an Overhand knot just like you did in the previous step.

When the glue is dry, cut off the extra material.

