

Guitar Strap



Description: This Guitar Strap is a basic design that is meant for **Acoustic Guitars** that have screws for attachment.

This Macrame pattern features Diamonds made with Double Half Hitches. You can make them all the same, or tie different knots inside each Diamond.

This Guitar strap **is not adjustable**, but can be made any size, by using the tables and formulas below.

Supplies Needed:

- 4mm cord material (**amount depends on size -- see below**)
- Project Board and Pins

Knots Used:

- [Alternating Square Knots](#) (ASK)
- [Double Half Hitch](#) (DHH)
- [Square Knot](#) (SK) -- Left and Right
- [Barrel Knot](#)
- [Vintage Diamonds](#)

Cutting instructions

Use these two tables to determine the length of each cord, and the number of cords to cut.

To get the **total yards** you need to purchase, use this formula:

Length of each cord (in inches) x Total number of cords. Divide by 36.



Finished Length

Length of each cord

40 - 45 Inches

6 yards

45 - 50 Inches

7 yards

55 - 60 Inches

8 yards

60 - 65 Inches

9 yards

70 - 75 Inches

10 yards

For a Guitar Strap **longer than 75 inches**, multiply the length you need by **5**(round up to a whole number). Cut each cord to that length.



Finished Width

Number of Cords to Cut

2.0 - 2.5 Inches

12



Step 1: Locate the **center** of the cords and secure them to your project board or work surface, so they rest vertically.

Design Tip: Make a bundle with each cord if you find it difficult to work with the long strands. Here's the method I like to use:



Bundling Long Cords

Move down around 8 inches from the center, and wrap the cord around your hand several times. Stop when you have about 12 inches left.



Take the end and wrap it around the center several times, to hold the coils together. If you wrap **firmly** and pull the end tightly, you'll end up with a sturdy bundle that's easy to handle.



Pass the end under the coil closest to it, to hold it in place. Pull tightly to secure it.

As you work on the Guitar Strap, pull to free more material from the bundles. Make sure you tug on the end to tighten the wraps around the center, since the roll gets smaller as you pull from it.



There are several sections of Alternating Square Knots in **each half** of the Guitar Strap, which need to be the same size.

To figure out how many rows of ASK to make in each section, use this formula:

Take **1/2 the finished length** of the strap and **subtract 10 inches**.

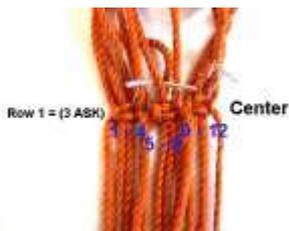
Divide that number by 4.

This final number is the length you should make each section of ASK.

Step 2: Begin the Guitar Strap by tying the number of rows of Alternating Square Knots you have determined in the steps above. Start at the **center** of the cords and work towards one end.

You can add small beads to the cords furthest to the left and right, to decorate the strap.

Make sure the last row you tie is one where you use all the cords (odd number -- see below).



Tie the ASK with 2 working cords and 2 fillers.



Odd Numbered Rows

Use cords

1 - 4, 5 - 8, 9 - 12

Even Numbered Rows

Use cords

3 - 6 and 7 - 10

Click on the icons to see larger images.

Creating the Diamonds

Step 3: The chart below shows you the cords you will use for the diamonds in the Guitar Strap. The holding cords are in the center, and are used to hold the Double Half Hitches, which are tied with the remaining cords.

Size of Strap	Holding Cords	Left Working Cords	Right Working Cords
----------------------	----------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------

12-Strand	6 and 7	Cords 1 - 5	Cords 8 - 12
-----------	---------	-------------	--------------

20-Strand	10 and 11	Cords 1 - 9	Cords 12 - 20
-----------	-----------	-------------	---------------

Cross the **right holding cord over the left holding cord**, and secure it diagonally on the left.

Attach the left **working** cords to it with DHH. **Start** with the cord closest to the center, and work towards cord 1, which will be on the outside edge.

Step 4: Secure the **left holding cord** on your right, diagonally. Attach the remaining working cords to it with DHH. Progress from the center to the right.

Step 5: Do not use the holding cords for this step. Leave them secured to the board.

Use the first and last **two cords** as the working cords. They work together to tie the knot. The remaining cords are the fillers. Tie one Square Knot, so it rests in the middle of the diamond shape. It will be large and thick.

Step 6: Move the **left holding cord** towards the **center** (right). Make sure it's diagonal and pulled taut.

Attach the left **working** cords to it with DHH.

Step 7: Do the same with the **right holding cord**. Attach the right **working** cords to it with DHH.

Step 8: To complete the diamond, attach one **holding cord** to the other with a DHH.



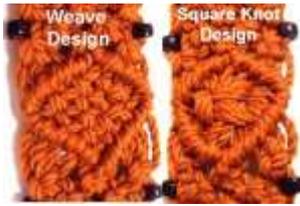
Click on the icon to see a larger image of the completed diamond.

Step 9: Repeat steps 2 thru 8 **two more times**, so you make a total of three diamonds in the first half of the Guitar Strap.

Important: Make sure the rows of ASK are the same size, between each of the diamonds.

Make sure you **finish** the first half of the Guitar Strap with another area of ASK.

Stop on a row where you use **all the cords** to make the ASK (**odd numbered row**).



Design Tip: If you don't want to make all three diamonds the same, see [Vintage Diamonds](#) for more techniques.

Step 10: Go back to the **center** of the Guitar strap and remove the pins.

Turn the whole thing around, so the other half of the cords are resting vertically in front of you.

Repeat steps 2 thru 9 to make the second half of the strap. Begin at the center and move towards the opposite ends of the cords.

The ASK need to be tied in the opposite direction (**right facing SK**).

Note that in the center, there are two sections of ASK next to each other. That makes the Guitar strap more comfortable at the shoulder.

Making the Clasps

Step 11: Place one end of the Guitar Strap directly in front of you, so the cords are vertical.

Alternate the cords and tie the next row of ASK. There will be **two unused cords** at each end.

Step 12: You'll be tying the next rows of ASK so you **leave a space** for the screw on the guitar:

For a 12-cord design, you tie one ASK with cords 1 - 4, and another one with cords 9 - 12. By omitting the ASK between them, a space is formed.

For a 20-cord design, tie 2 ASK with cords 1- 4 and 5 - 8. Tie the next two knots with cord 13 - 16 and 17 - 20.

Step 14: Alternate the cords and tie the next row of ASK, this time with no gap.

Step 15: Tie one ASK with the four cords in the **center**, which you did not use in step 12.

Step 16: Position the **first cord** down the **left side** of the V shape you just made with the SK. Secure it so it's taut, since it's used as a holding cord. Attach the left half of the cords to it with DHH.

Locate the **last cord** and position it down the **right side** of the V shape. Attach the right half of the working cords to it with DHH.

To finish outlining the V shape, attach one holding cord to another with a DHH.

Step 17: Trim the ends so they are even. Tie a Barrel Knot at the end of each cord.

You can apply small beads to the tips of each cord, if you want to decorate. Tie Barrel Knots to hold them in place.

Step 18: Repeat Steps 11 - 17 at the other end of the Guitar Strap.