

Twisted Cording

by Susan Brubaker Knapp

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Host Susan Brubaker Knapp

Materials

- Threads
- Carabiner
- Scissors

Optional

- Bead

Making twisted cording is easy and fun. When I was a child, I learned how to make it from my mom—she was also my Girl Scout Leader and a home economics teacher. It's fun to use as trim to finish pincushions or pillows or as a scissors fob.

You can make it in any thickness or length, and with any sort of fiber (yarn, perle cotton, embroidery floss, or thread—it's fun to experiment). I love using variegated threads with a bit of sheen to them.

On TV, I had a helpful assistant to hold the threads. These instructions will teach you how to do it alone using a carabiner as a holder.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut lengths of fiber. Each should be about four times the length you want the cord to be. I started with 4 stands of perle cotton that were about 36" long.



figure 1

2. Fold the fibers in half, and loop them around a carabiner clip. (figure 1)
3. Clip the carabiner to something heavy that won't move when you start twisting. I used the handle of a basket filled with fabric that was in my sewing studio. (figure 2)
4. Start twisting the threads between your fingers, going in 1 direction. Hold the thread taut so that it does not kink. Keep twisting until it you can't stop it from kinking and you can't easily twist it anymore. (figure 3)

5. If you are making a scissors fob, or attaching the cording to another object like a key, slide the object onto the cording without allowing it to kink. Slide the object to the middle. (figure 4)
6. Place your finger on the object, making sure it is in the middle of the twisted threads, and double up the threads so that the ends meet up. Let go of the center while holding on to the two ends, and the threads will twist up, creating the cording. Remove the carabiner.
7. Tie a knot at the end with the fold and the loose ends. If desired, thread a bead with a large hole onto all the strands before you tie the knot. Then tie a second knot below the bead. 🍯

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figure 2



figure 3



figure 4