



Tips For

# Macrame: half knots & square knots

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The **half knot** is the first step toward making a square knot. A row of half-knots will create a spiral -- a fancy look and easy too!

These photos show two white holding cords in the center. The black cord on the left is **CORD A**, and the yellow cord on the right is **CORD B**. Secure the holding cords to your work surface at both ends (use tape, or pins if working on cork or foam board).

1. Moving Left to Right, bring **CORD A OVER** the center cords so it makes an L shape, keeping it **UNDER** Cord B on the right.



2. Moving Right to Left, bring **CORD B UNDER** the center cords.



3. Continue with **CORD B**, bringing it **UNDER** Cord A so it goes through the loop created by Cord A and the center cords. Pull both cords snug. You have now completed a half knot.

To make a row of half-knots, simply repeat the above steps, always starting with the cord on the left. After a few knots your piece will begin to twist.

**Square Knots** The square knot starts with a half-knot, then finishes by repeating the steps in the opposite direction, from right to left, beginning again with Cord A, which is now on the right side. A row of square knots does not twist and will lay nice and straight. Remember to pay attention to the placements of **Cord A (black)** and **Cord B (yellow)**.

1. Start with one half-knot.



2. Moving right to left, bring **CORD A OVER** the center cords and **UNDER** Cord B.



3. Moving left to right, bring **CORD B UNDER** the center cords.



4. Continue to bring **CORD B** through the loop between the center cords and Cord A.



5. Pull snug and you have completed one square knot.



A row of square knots



A row of half knots

## TIPS

- When working with very long cords, wrap them into loose bundles and put a rubber band around them so you can pull out more cord as you need it.
- You'll probably be using cords that are all the same color. To help you remember which one is Cord A (your starting cord), use a colored rubber band to wrap that bundle.
- Remember: a row of half-knots always starts from the same SIDE. A row of square knots always starts with the same CORD.

