



## TECHNIQUE:

### Make Rope



Making rope is quick and easy, so experiment with different fibers, yarn sizes, and colors.

**Time Required:** 30 minutes

#### Materials:

- Cotton, sisal, jute, hemp, sweet grass, abaca or other fibers or yarns
- Rope making machine
- Holding device (dowel, screwdriver, or swivel device on previous page)
- Masking tape

#### Rope Uses:

Even if you don't plan to make rope for a major ocean voyage, your cord will come in handy for other uses:

- Belt
- Bookmark
- Bracelet
- Plant hanger
- Rugs/doormats
- Handle
- Keychain
- Necklace
- Coil basket

You can also have fun using your rope to learn different knots.

#### Instructions:

##### Make 2-Strand Rope by Hand

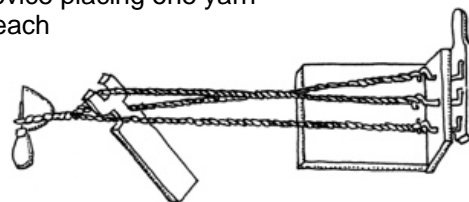
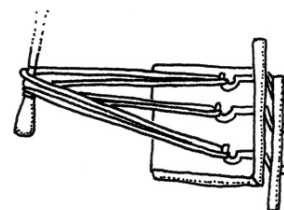
1. Gather a small bundle of yarns half the thickness of the finished cord. If using crochet thread, four 20-inch yarns are easy to handle.
2. Fold in half and tape the fold to a table.
3. Hold half the ends in your right hand and half in your left hand.
4. Twist both sets of yarns in the same direction until they achieve the desired twist.
5. Form a cord by twisting together the two yarn sets in the opposite direction to the twist in Step 4.



#### Instructions:

##### Make 3-Strand Rope by Machine

1. Measure three pieces of yarn, each twice as long as the rope you want to make.
2. Place yarn loops over the three hooks, tie the loose ends in an overhand knot, and place over the holding device. The holding device can be secured to a table or wall or a partner can hold it. You may also choose to use the swivel holding device described in Steps 10 and 11 on the previous page.
3. Place the paddle over the straight ends of the wire cranks. When the paddle turns, all three hooks also turn.
4. Insert the separator between the machine and the holding device placing one yarn strand in each notch.



5. Turn the handle and watch the yarns twist. When the three looped yarns are tightly twisted, they begin to twist together into a 3-strand rope. Move the separator forward to accommodate the rope formation. You may need to occasionally straighten the yarns and experiment with tension to obtain the type of rope you want.