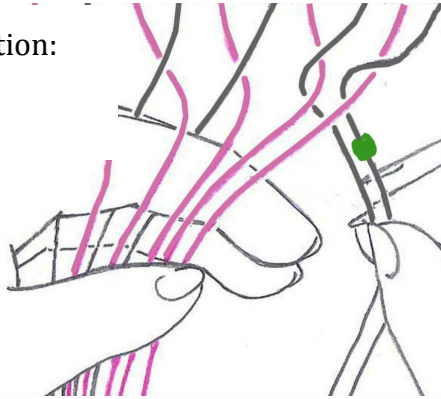


Sprang Class Notes

by Carol James

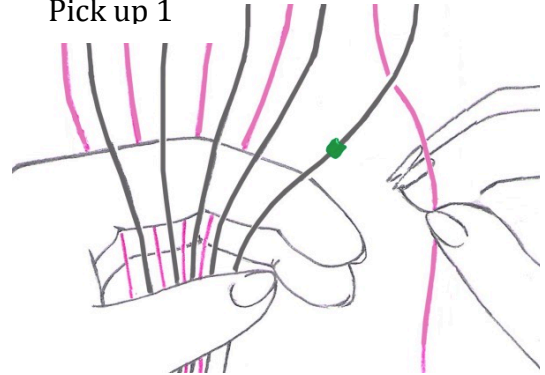
Braiding Row
at the beginning
the **bead is down.**

Starting action:
Pick up 2



Follow-up Row
at the beginning
the **bead is up.**

Starting action:
Pick up 1



The Initial Row: Threads cross over (or under) ONE thread.
This is the 'setup' row.

Braiding Row: Threads cross over (or under) TWO threads
Begins with a 3-thread edge stitch (pick up 2, put 1 down)
Ends with a 3-thread edge stitch (pick up 1, put 2 down)
Plain stitches in-between (pick up 1, put 1 down)
This is the row that makes the braid happen

FollowUp Row: Threads cross over (or under) TWO threads
Plain stitches all across the row
This is the row that follows the braiding row, returning to original partners.

Think of these movements as 'stitches'. Each stitch has two parts: a pinch part, and a scissor part. Failure to complete a 'stitch' (looking away mid-stitch) invites errors.

It is important to keep threads in order. Hold the threads well separated in your left hand to prevent 'queue jumping' among the threads.

To tighten the structure, hold the loose ends in one hand, and press a stick in the shed up and into the cloth. Typically a weaver will do this after every row.

Cloth created in this manner has a tendency to curl. This is because you are adding twist. The curling is temporary, goes away with time. You can hasten its departure by blocking (wash and then lay flat to dry).

Cancel Out the Initial Row of Twists

This gets rid of those extra long loops at the top of the warp.

1. Work an initial row
2. Insert extra rod
3. Work a braiding row
4. Work a follow-up row
5. Insert a semi-permanent safety string*
6. Remove the uppermost rod, and replace it with the extra rod

* Once you have completed step 6, you will have obliterated the initial cross.

Should you ever want to take everything apart and go back and start this piece over again, you will want that semi-permanent safety line, marking the place where you worked step #6, the place from which you begin again.

When you're quite confident that you'll never go back to the start again, you may remove this semi-permanent safety.