

# Zig Zag

A Simple Macrame Bracelet

By Anne Dilker



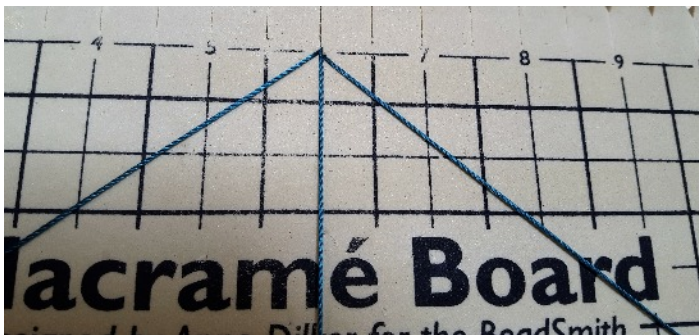
This is a simple three strand macrame project. Once you've learned this you'll be on your way to bigger and better design opportunities! Explaining how to tie the knots is difficult to write as the narratives and photos make it seem much more complicated than it is. If you're new to macrame there are numerous videos on YouTube to help you see how the knots are tied. I especially like the YouTube channel called Macrame School.

**Materials:**

Tex 210 S-lon, 3 yards  
Two hole Pyramid beads: 12 -18 depending on wrist size  
4mm Bicone Crystals, 12-18  
8/o Seed Beads, 60-90, (5 for each Pyramid)  
5mm ribbon crimps, 2  
Jumprings, 2  
Clasp of choice

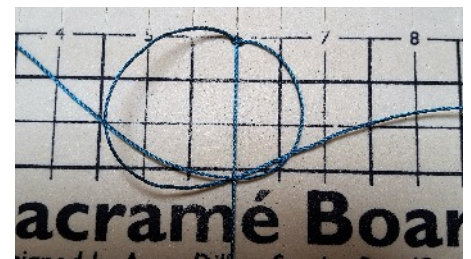
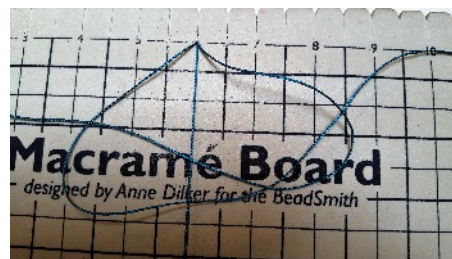
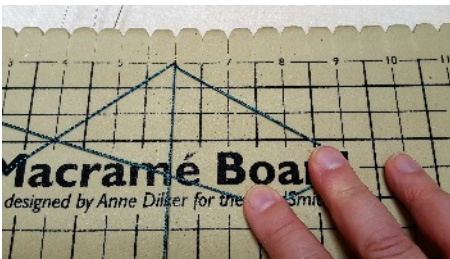
**Tools:**

Mini Macrame board by Anne Dilker  
Silk pins  
Sharp scissors  
Glue  
Chain nose pliers



Step One: Tie the three strands of s-lon together at one end with an overhand knot. Place knot in slot at top of macrame board with the knot at the back and the three strings on the front.

Step Two: Anchor one string at the bottom of the board, one out to the left and the other out to the right.



Step Three: Create the nub for the ribbon crimps by tying three square knots over the center cord. Pass the right side cord under the center cord and over the left side cord. Move the left side cord over the center cord and through the loop made by the right had cord and tighten. This is one half of a square knot. The second half is just the reverse: pass the left side cord under the center cord and over the right side cord. Move the right side cord over the center cord and through the loop made by the left had cord and tighten. This completes one square knot. Make two more square knots.

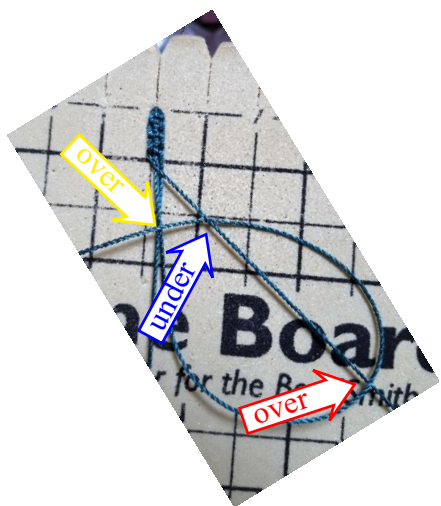
TIP: Whenever tying square knots over a core cord always pass the tyer UNDER the core, then over the cord on the side and anchor. Then take the second tyer and pass it OVER the core and through the loop.

I'm going to illustrate tying the half hitches without beads so you can follow the path of the cord. Then I'll show you how to load the beads and tie the hitches.



Step Four: Anchor the right side cord at the bottom of the board in the notch to the right of the cord that's already down there. The left side cord is going to be placed at a 45° angle but before you do this beads need to be loaded on all three strings.

NOTE: The cord that will cross the center cords at an angle will always be the same cord (no matter which side it starts from) and it will always be the core cord. Core cord = the cord that the center cords will be tying around. The center cords are called the "tyers", in other words the cords that will be used to tie the knots.



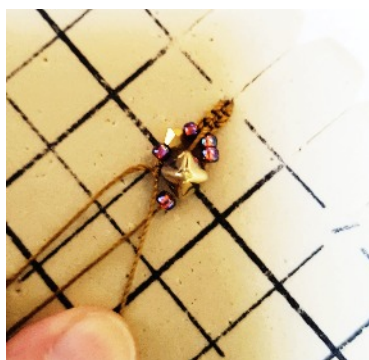
A half hitch is just a loop made around the core cord. Pass the end of the tyer over the core and then under the core and back over itself and pull tight. Tie the half hitch up tight against the square knots and each successive half hitch up tight to the one made before it.

Red = end of tyer over core  
Blue = end of tyer under core  
Yellow = end of tyer over itself

Photo at left shows the three square knots followed by a row of double half hitches. Half hitches have been tied with both of the tyers. The core cord is now ready to move into a diagonal position across the cords in the other direction.



Loading the beads: On the core cord (the one off to the left side) slide a seed bead, a crystal, and a seed bead. On the center cords: slide the left side hole of pyramid bead onto the left most cord. On the right side cord slide 2 seed beads, the right side hole of the pyramid and one more seed bead.

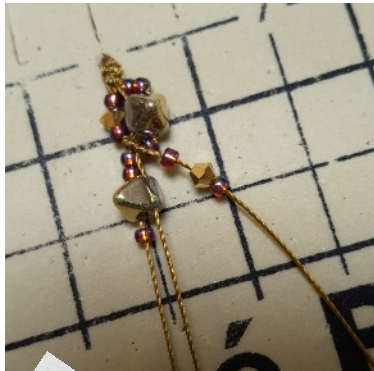


Step Five: Slide the beads on the center cords to the top of the board.

Step Six: Pull the core cord (the one on the left with the seed-crystal-seed) across the cord cords and anchor at a 45° on the right hand side of macrame board. Make sure all three beads remain to the left of the center cords.



Step Seven: Tie two half hitches (called a double half hitch) with the left side center cord. Keep the beads on the core cord off to the left; tie the half hitches at the bottom of the pyramid. Return cord to the bottom of board. Tie a double half hitch with the right side center cord. Make sure the bottom seed bead doesn't get caught up in the half hitch. The hitch goes below all beads. Return cord to bottom of board.



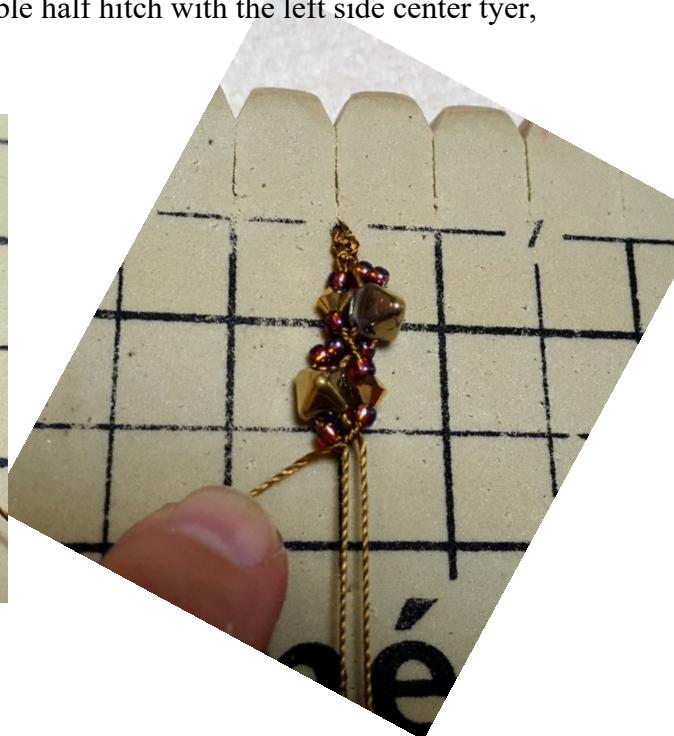
Step Eight: Repeat step 7 going from right to left (this is the Zag to Step 7's Zig). Load the core cord (the one that's now off to the right side of the board) with a seed-crystal-seed. Load the center cords with the right hole of the pyramid on the right side center cord; the left side center cord with 2 seed beads the left side hole of the pyramid and another seed bead, Pull the core cord across the center cords at a 45° angle (anchor on the left side of the macrame board) and use the right side tyer to tie a double half hitch over the core cord (keep the beads on the core off to the left and out of the half hitches). Tie a double half hitch with the left side center tyer,



Pull the core to the left keeping the beads to the right of the core.



Tie double half hitches starting with the right side tyer



Completed Zag ready for the next Zig.

You now have one complete Zig Zag. Keep working Steps 7 & 8 until you reach your desired length (minus the length of the square knots and the findings). The two ribbon crimps, on the square knots will add about 1/2 " to length. NOTE: I've made 6" of Zig Zag's for a 7" bracelet.

You now have one complete Zig Zag. Keep working Steps 7 & 8 until you reach your desired length (minus the length of the square knots and the findings). The two ribbon crimps, on the square knots, will add about ½ “ to length. NOTE: I've made 6” of Zig Zag's for a 7” bracelet.

Step Ten: Remove bracelet from board DO NOT trim ends yet! Best not to trim the ends until you're ready to glue the crimps onto the ends. It's not necessary to do this BUT I find it's helpful for beginners; place a small amount of clear drying glue onto the nubs made by the square knots and allow glue to dry (usually a few hours). Now trim the ends. Check the width of the opening the ribbon crimps, I sometimes need to pry them open just a bit to fit easily over the nubs. Place a dab of glue in each of the crimp (just insurance), put the crimps over the nubs and use pliers to squeeze crimp onto the nub.

Step Eleven: Use jump rings to attach your clasp to the ribbon crimps.

Step Twelve: Admire your work and wear with pride.