

# Tying the Netting Knot Using the Lacemaker's Method

Row 1 of diamond mesh netting

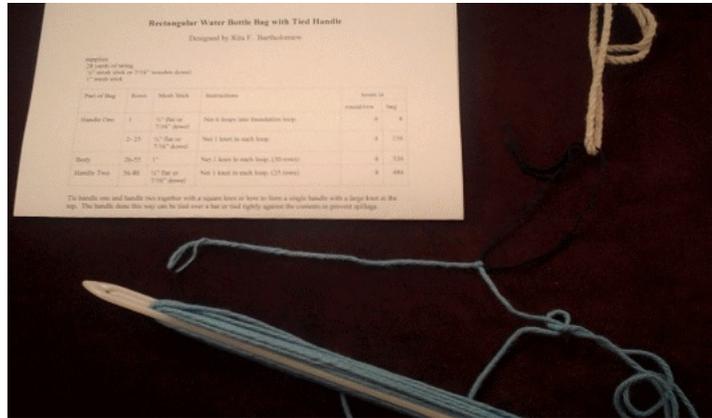


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<http://www.nettingnook.com>

NOTE: In these instructions the word “string” is used to represent whatever string, cord, twine, rope, or thread you are using to net. The word shuttle is used to represent either a netting needle or a netting shuttle.

Now that you have your shuttle filled and tied to your foundation loop with a long tail, and your foundation loop is fastened to your tension device, you are ready to make your first netting knot.

Put the instructions for the project you are planning to make where you can see them.



Locate the size mesh stick called for in row 1 of your pattern.

Place the mesh stick along the side of your left index finger and hold it in place with your left thumb.



Make sure the palm of your hand is facing you with your fingers pointing to the right.

With your right hand, pick up the string that is coming off of the netting shuttle.

From behind your left hand, place the string on top of the fingers of your left hand.

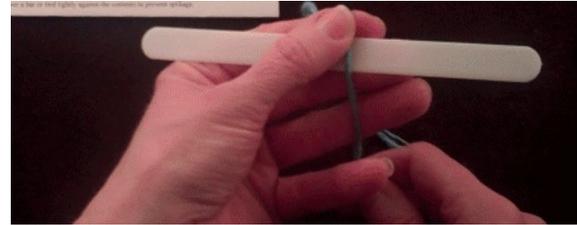


Bring the string up over the top of the mesh stick so that the knot which joins the netting-shuttle string to the foundation loop is resting on the top edge of the mesh stick.

Hold all the knots previously formed on the foundation loop in place with your left thumb and index finger.

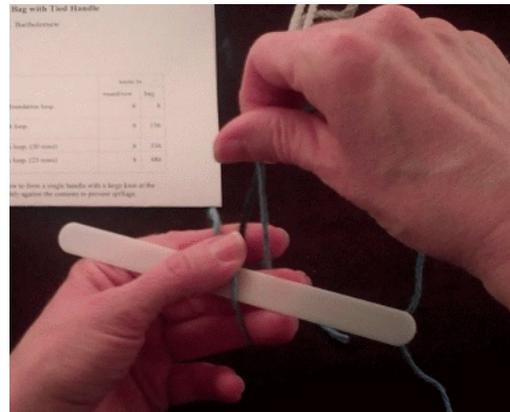


Place the string from the netting shuttle down across the mesh stick and the palm side of your middle finger and ring finger.

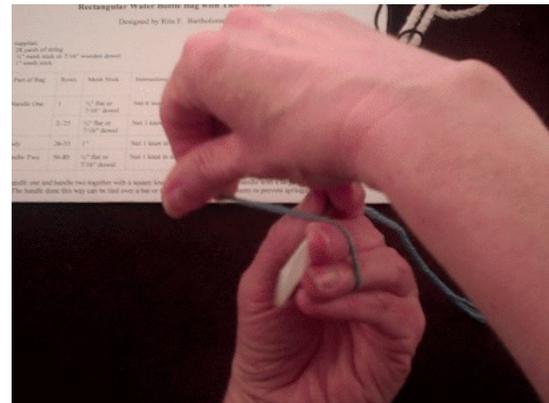


Bring the string down between your ring finger and little finger.

Take the string up around the back of your ring finger and middle finger and then between your middle and index fingers. Keep the string behind and on the backside of the mesh stick.



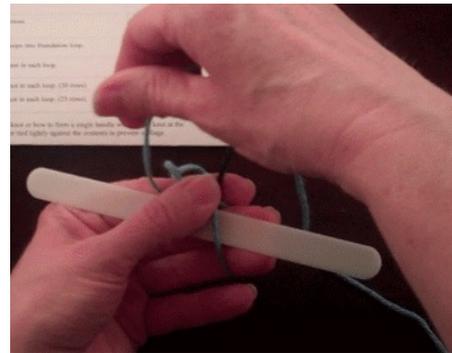
The string now forms a circle around your middle and index fingers.



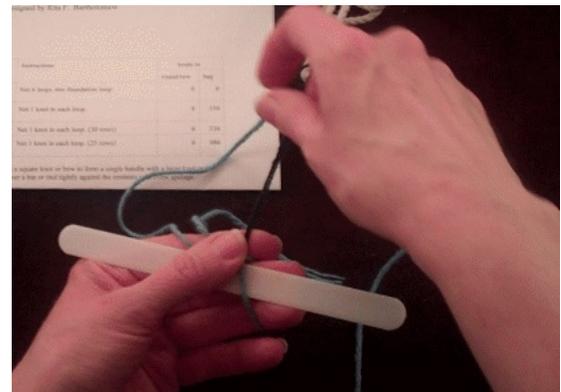
Move the string to the left  
across the top of the mesh stick, . . .



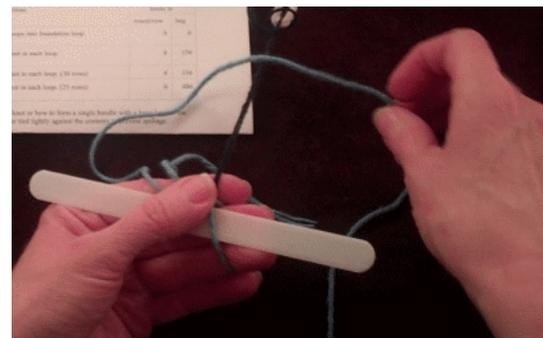
. . . slipping the string under your left thumb.



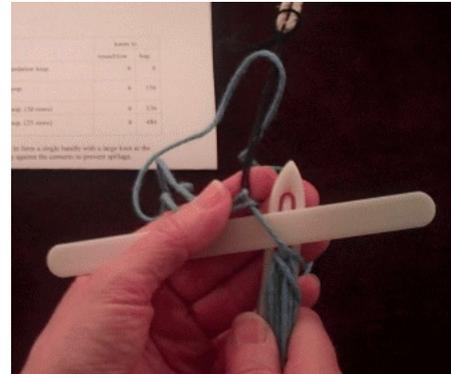
Continue to move the string to the left and place it  
back across the foundation loop.



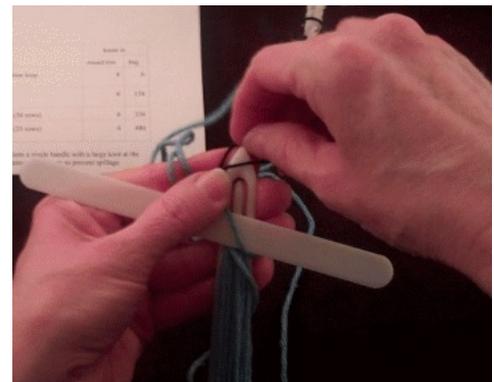
Make sure it stays there until you are ready to pull  
the knot.



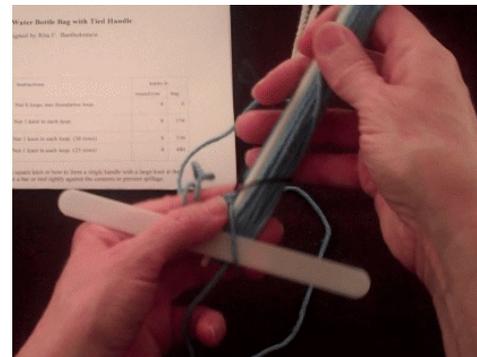
With the pointed end of the netting shuttle, and going from left to right, push the shuttle across your ring finger and middle finger, through the circle formed around them, under the mesh stick, . . .



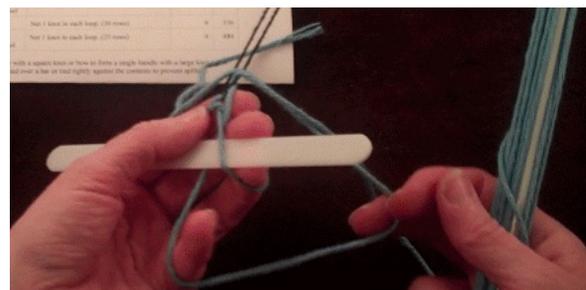
. . . and through the foundation loop. If necessary, use your right hand to place the foundation loop over the end of the netting shuttle.



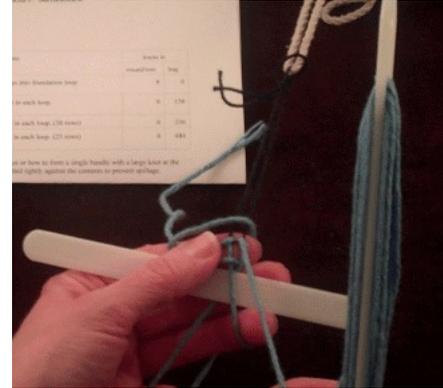
Pull the shuttle through the foundation loop.



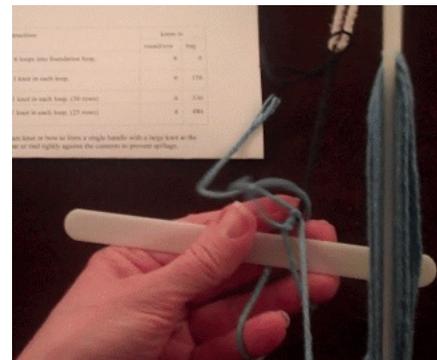
There will be a new loop of string formed by this motion. Catch the new loop around your little finger. Be careful not to let it drop off your little finger.



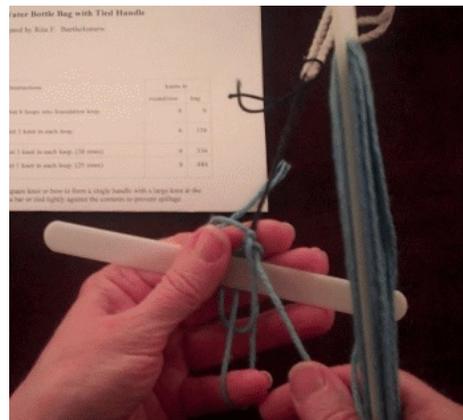
Bring the string attached to the netting shuttle from behind and over the top of the mesh stick.



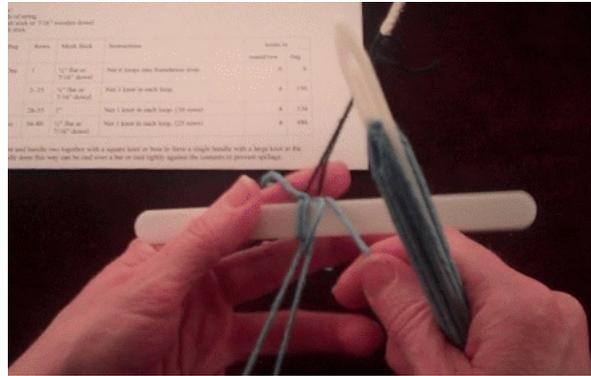
Pull the shuttle gently, gradually letting go of the string under your thumb . . .



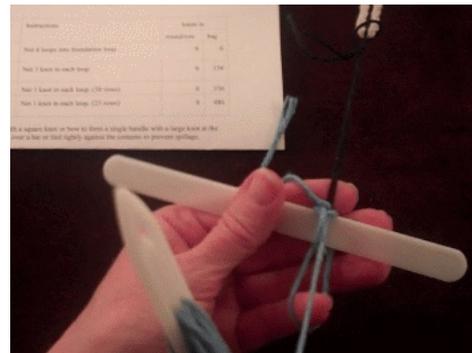
. . . and then removing all of your fingers (one at a time), except the little one, from the string wrapped around them.



Pull on the string using a see-saw motion: pull your little finger toward you, . . .

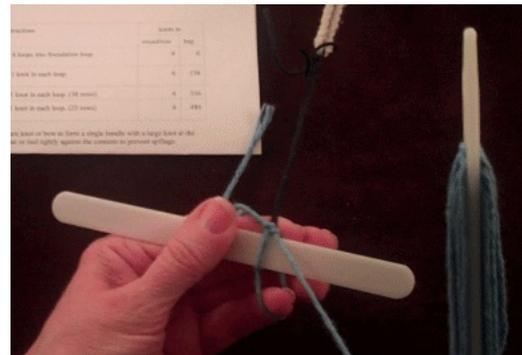


. . . then bring the little finger back by pulling on the string coming from the netting shuttle.



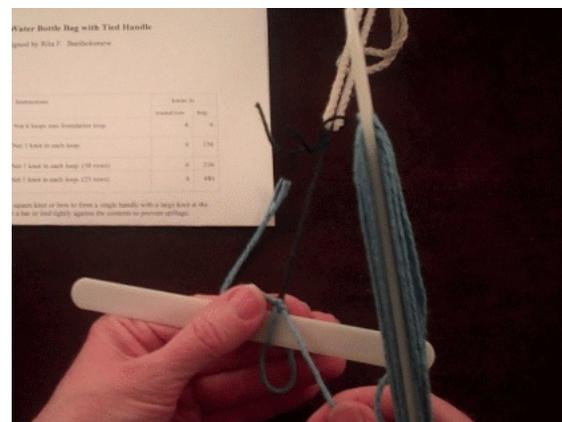
Continue this process until there is no slack except what is around your little finger.

Make sure to keep the previous knot on top of the mesh stick and keep the string from the shuttle over the mesh stick.



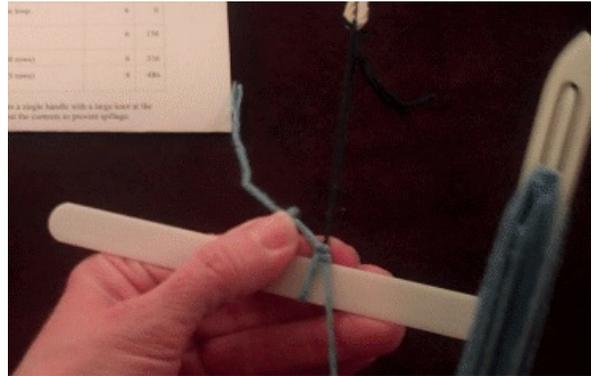
Gently and carefully pull your little finger out of the loop surrounding it; do not pull on the string as you do this.

After your little finger is completely out of the loop, pull the knot tight by pulling your left hand, and all it is holding, toward you and away from the tension device.



While keeping continuous tension with your left hand, gently and smoothly pull the string and shuttle in your right hand down and toward you.

The knot should rest right along the top edge of the mesh stick.



**YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED ONE KNOT AND FORMED ONE LOOP.**

Continue tying knots along the foundation loop until you have the number of loops called for in your instructions.

At this point in netting you may feel frustrated and consider giving up, that netting is too hard for you to learn, or worse yet, that you are stupid and uncoordinated.

Stop it!

Netting is a skill and learning a skill takes time. You don't expect a baby to walk or run the first time *that* skill is tried. Actually the first dozen knots are the hardest.

So, hang in there. Review the videos and handouts over and over. Practice, practice, practice, and then practice some more. And, at least finish that first netting project before you quit and say you can't learn to net.

It is possible to shorten the wording.

Hold all knots previously formed on the foundation loop in place with your left thumb and index finger.

Place the string from the netting shuttle around the middle and index fingers, forming a circle. Slip the string under your left thumb and place the string back across the foundation loop.

Move the shuttle through the circle formed around the fingers, under the mesh stick, and through the foundation loop. Pull the shuttle through the foundation loop. Catch the new loop formed with the little finger.

Bring the string over the top of the mesh stick. Pull the shuttle gently and gradually let go of the string under your thumb and around all of your fingers except the little one. Pull the string in a see-saw motion until there is no slack except what is around your little finger.

Keeping the previous knots on top of the mesh stick and the string over the mesh stick, remove your little finger from its loop. Pull the knot tight by pulling your left hand toward you and away from the tension device while pulling the string and shuttle in your right hand down and toward you.

If I were to think through the process, it would probably sound like this.

Move the string around your fingers, under your thumb, and back across the foundation loop.

Put the shuttle through the loop around your fingers and through the foundation loop, catching the new loop with your little finger.

Pulling the shuttle down and toward you, release the string under your thumb and around all your fingers except the little one.

Remove the slack.

Remove your little finger from its loop and tighten the knot.