

Troubleshooting the Lacemaker's Method:

Tying the First Knot in a Row

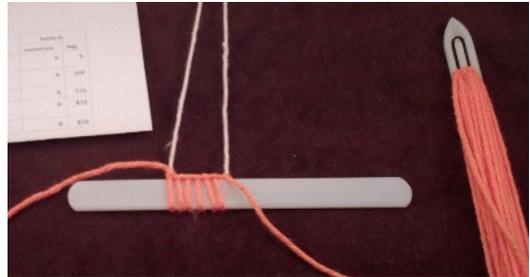


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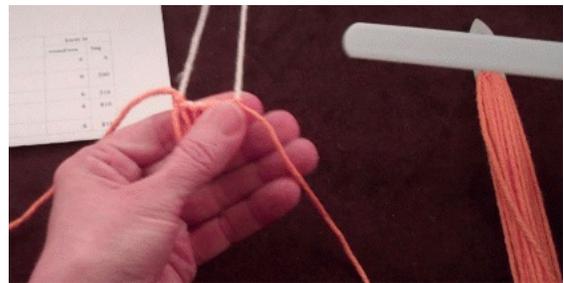
NOTE: In these instructions the word “string” is used to represent whatever string, cord, twine, rope, or thread you are using to net. The word shuttle is used to represent either a netting needle or a netting shuttle.

Tying the first knot in a row can be a challenge since there are no loops on the mesh stick holding it in place. I'm going to slow the process down. I mean really slow it down so you can tell what my fingers are doing.

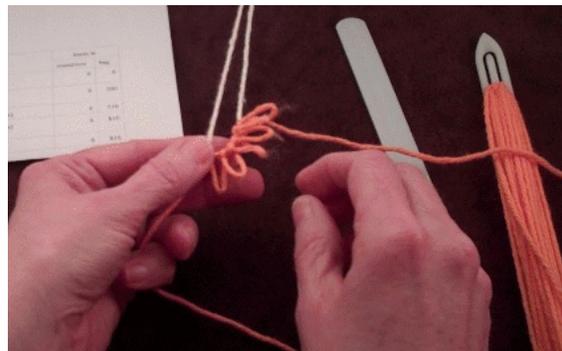
Let's start at the point where you have finished the first row,



removed the mesh stick,



and changed the last loop tied from the right side of the netting to the of the left side of the netting.



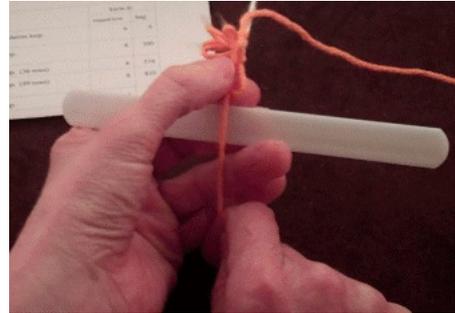
Pick up the mesh stick and place it in your left hand.

Bring the string from the shuttle over the top of the mesh stick.

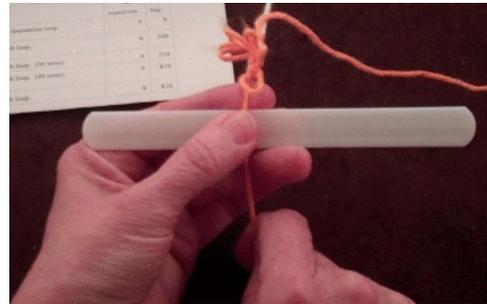


The knot from the last loop formed in the previous row is **not** along the top of the mesh stick.

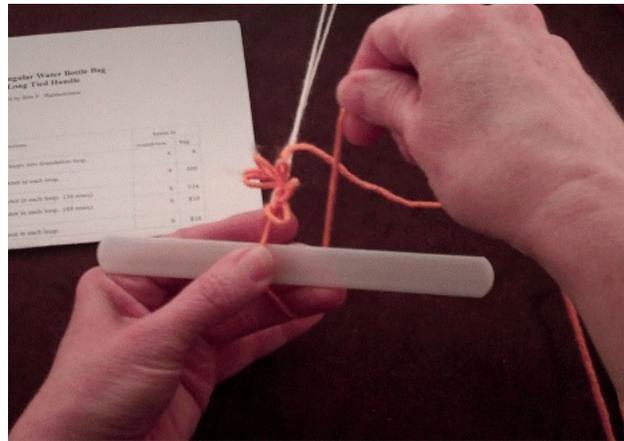
Instead, the bottom of that last loop formed in the previous row is near the top of the mesh stick.



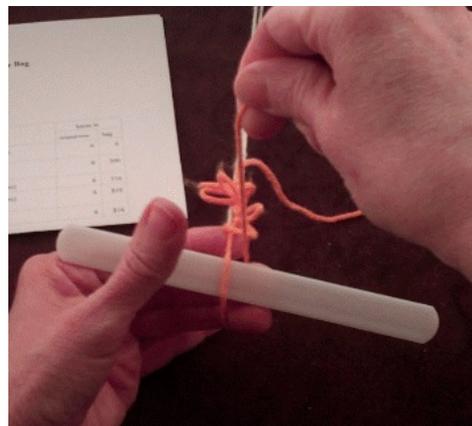
Put your thumb against the string from the shuttle. Apply pressure from the thumb against the string, the mesh stick, and the index finger to hold everything in place.



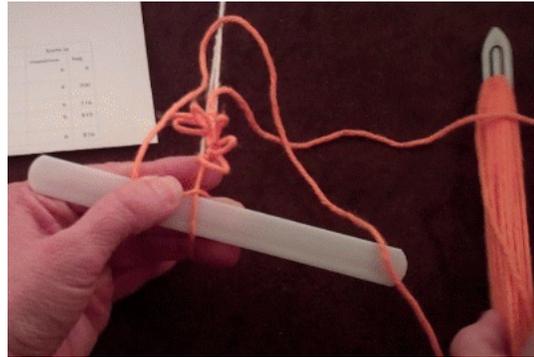
Wrap the string around your fingers.



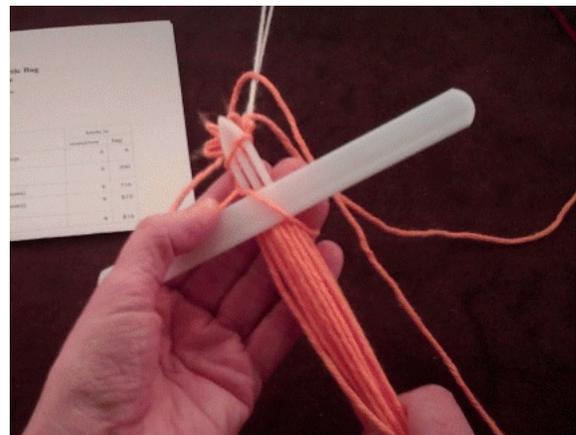
As you prepare to slip the string under your thumb, pull firmly up with the string from the shuttle. This will hold the mesh stick in place against your index finger while you lift your thumb and place the string under it.



Once your thumb is on the new string and applying pressure to hold everything in place, you can relax the pull on the string from the shuttle and proceed to throw that string back over the foundation loop and previous netting.



Continue the netting process by moving the shuttle through the loop around your fingers, behind the mesh stick, and through the last loop you tied in the previous row.

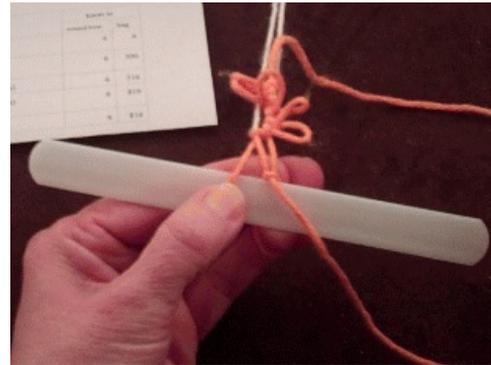


Release the string from under your thumb, remove the string from around your fingers, and begin the see-sawing motion with your little finger.



At this point you need to position the knot where it should be. Make sure that the loop you went into is fully extended as you pull against the tension device.

This is the tricky spot. Be sure the knot is where you want it and the loops are extended.



When everything is where it is supposed to be, remove the string from around your little finger and pull the knot tight.



The first knot in the row is completed.

