

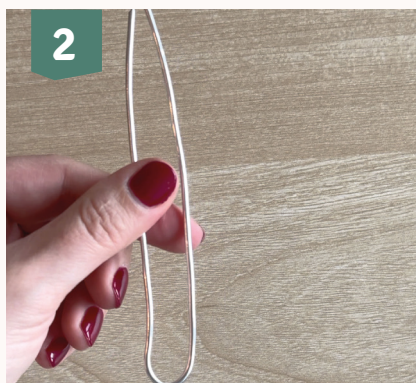


Macrame knotting: heart

In this macramé DIY, you will learn how to create a cute heart using a simple knotting technique. Perfect as a personalised gift, for Valentine's Day for example!



1 Choose a macramé cord in your preferred colour, 3 mm thick. Cut 8 pieces of 130 cm and 1 piece of 80 cm.



2 Use aluminium wire of 2 or 3 mm thickness and cut a piece of 25-30 cm. Fold it in half.



3 Take the 8 cords of 130 cm and wrap them around one half of the folded aluminium wire at their midpoint.



4 Secure the wrapped half to your work surface. Divide the 8 cords into 4 groups of 2 and arrange them in a cross shape.



5 Start making a knot. Take the bottom two cords and place them over the two cords on the left side.



6 Now take the two left cords that are underneath and place them over all the cords at the top.





Take the top two cords of the cross shape and place them over all the cords on the right side.



Now take the bottom two right cords and bend them towards the loop of the bottom two cords.



Complete the knot by pulling the right cords through the loop of the bottom cords. (You should now see a square shape of cords.)



Gently pull all the cords to tighten the knot securely. Always pull on the two opposite ends (top-bottom and left-right).



Repeat steps 5 to 10 until approximately 4 cm of aluminium wire remains.



The first half is now finished. Detach the piece and secure the knotted half to your work surface.



Repeat the knotting technique for the other half until 4 cm of aluminium wire remains here as well.



Now, remove your work from the surface and place it in front of you with the tip facing downwards.



Bend the ends of the aluminium wire downwards to create a heart shape. Adjust the shape until you are happy with it.





16 Twist the two ends of the aluminium wire tightly around each other to secure the heart shape.



17 Take the 80 cm cord and make a loop of approximately 10 cm. Place this loop at the bottom of the heart.



18 Hold the loop and heart firmly and wrap the remaining cord tightly around the ends of the aluminium wire. Ensure the wraps are snug and do not overlap.



19 When you have reached the desired length and the wire is securely covered, pull the end of the cord through the loop.



20 Pull the loose thread at the top until the loop disappears under the wrapped section. Trim the ends and tuck them under the wrapped cord (using a scissor tip or pencil, for example).



21 Tighten each strand of the tassel individually.



22 Trim the tassel to the desired length. Your macramé heart is ready! Tip: Want to turn it into a keyring? Add a split ring by threading it through a loop of the heart.

