

## Tutorial: A Sling With a Knotted Pouch

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## 1 You Need:

- around 30 m of string (length depending on thickness of the string)
- a knife or scissors
- a sewing needle and sewing thread



## 2 Getting Started



Figure 1: Start by making a simple slipknot. Note that by pulling on the working end you can tighten the loop. Keep the standing end short but not too short.



Figure 2: Pull the slipknot tight and pull the loop as big as you need it. The size of this loop will give you the maximal size of the pouch. Here the length of the loop is 9 cm, which will also be the folded length of the final pouch.



Figure 3: Now make a second slip knot with the working end.



Figure 4: Pull the knot tight. The loop of this knot has to have the same size as the loop of the first slipknot.



Figure 5: Continue until you have six loops with the same length. These loops are from now on called the *standing* loops.



Figure 6: A Closeup.



Figure 7: Form a circle with the knots.



### 3 The Basic Working Step

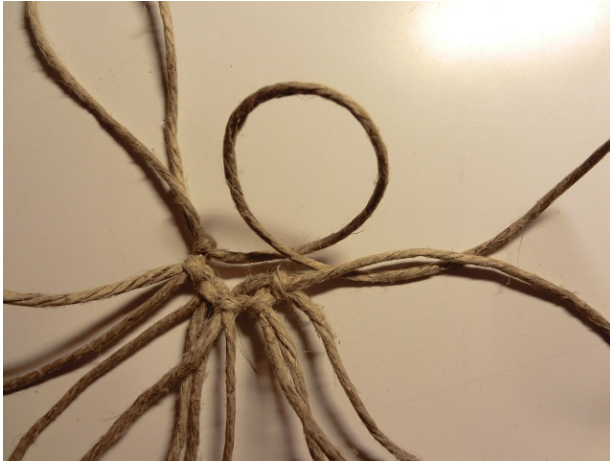


Figure 8: Make a loop with the working end. This loop is from now on called the *active* loop. Note that the working end passes on the front side of the active loop and leaves to the right.



Figure 9: Put the active loop behind the standing loop of the first slipknot you made.



Figure 10: Pull the standing loop through the active loop from behind. You should end up with this picture.

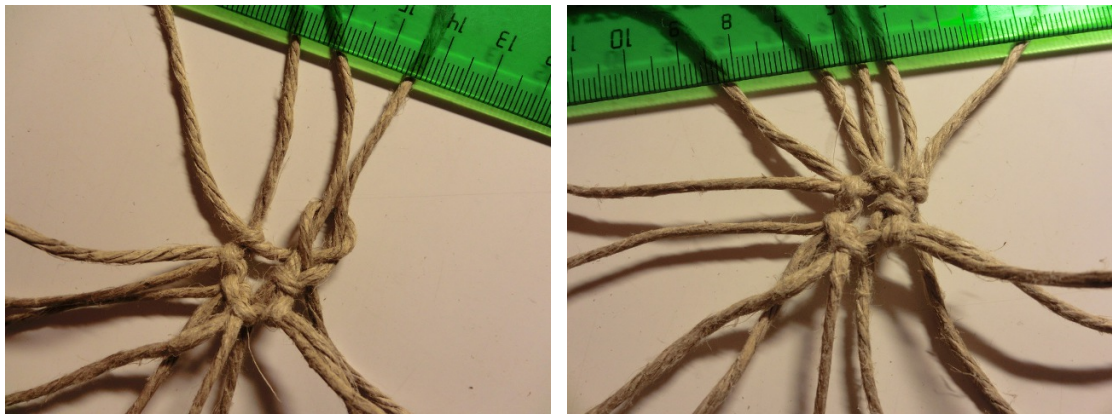


Figure 11: Pull the active loop tight.

## 4 Hiding the Standing End

This section is not mandatory but it will make the pouch look nicer.



Figure 12: Repeat the basic working step 5 times. Finally, after you did one full revolution, you end up with this knot.



Figure 13: Turn the whole knot.

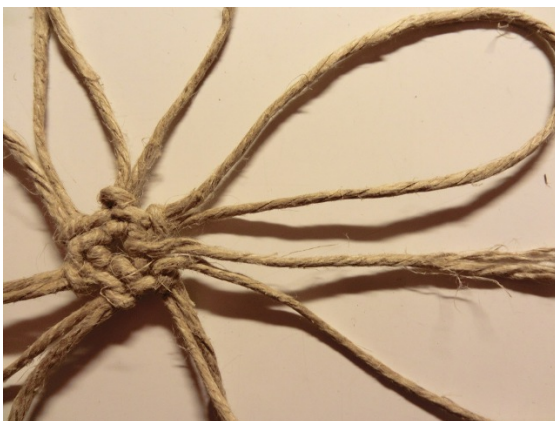


Figure 14: Take the standing end and put it parallel to the strings of the standing loop of the very first slip knot.



Figure 15: Turn the whole knot again.



Figure 16: Repeat the basic working step but pull also the standing end through the active loop. Do not yet tighten the active loop.



Figure 17: Slightly untwist the standing end and the first string of the standing loop, then twist them together again.





Figure 18: Cut the standing end where the twisting ends and pull the active loop tight. You may have to untwist and re-twist the string of the first loop slightly to get a smooth transition.

## 5 Shaping the Pouch



Figure 19: By repeating the basic working step you will get a slightly cupped disk. You can control the cupping by leaving more or less string between the loops. Until now, don't make the cupping too strong.



Figure 20: Stop when you have a disk with an appropriate diameter. This will be the width of the center of the pouch. Here it is 4.5 cm.

## 6 The Flaps of the Pouch (The Tricky Part)



Figure 21: Until now we worked clockwise around the center of the pouch. Now we will turn the working direction. Make a loop as shown in the picture. Make sure that the working end passes on the front of the loop and leaves to the left!



Figure 22: Pull the standing loop through the active loop from behind and tighten it.



Figure 23: Repeat this twice with the next loops to the left (counterclockwise) and change again the working direction.



Figure 24: Continue this ladder pattern: 3 knots clockwise, 3 knots counterclockwise. In the same time decrease the space between the standing loops by leaving less and less string between the loops. This will lead to a "cupping" of the flap. This picture shows the flap after four rows of "ladder knots".





Figure 25: Continue until you have (nearly) no more space between the loops.



Figure 26: Now make a straight part until the standing loops have a length of around 1.5 cm to 2 cm.



Figure 27: Cut the working end but keep a reserve of around 1 m of string.



Figure 28: Now we start with the second flap of the pouch. Flip the pouch to the inner side.



Figure 29: Slightly loose the last knot of the first standing loop and push the working end through it. Make sure that the working end is parallel to the outer string of the loop.



Figure 30: Tighten the knot again.



Figure 31: Flip the pouch again.



Figure 32: Start with a counterclockwise knot (the working end leaves to the left).





Figure 33: Continue as with the first flap until you have finished the pouch. Don't forget to cut the end with which you have started the second flap.

## 7 Attachment of the Pouch



Figure 34: For the retention and release cord we will do a six strand round braid. Cut six strings of 4 times the wanted length of the retention and release cord. Loop three strings into the standing loops of one flap and center them.



Figure 35: Make a simple weave using the three standing loops as warps until there is nearly no more space left.



Figure 36: Now change to a weave with two warps. For this move the weft thread through the standing loop in the middle. Make sure that the weft thread stays below the looped in strings.



Figure 37: Do this weave with two warps until there is really no more space left. You may have to use a needle or a stick to stuff the weft thread through the middle loop. Here three two warp weaves were done.



Figure 38: Flip the pouch and make an overhand knot where the weaving ends.





Figure 39: Make a second overhand knot in the other direction. If necessary continue making overhand knots until you have covered the top sections of the standing loops of the flap.



Figure 40: Now start with the six strand round braid. Keep the weft thread (marked with an orange piece of string) in the core of the braid.



Figure 41: Braid for 2-3 cm and then cut the weft thread and feather it. Continue with the braid until you have reached the desired length of the sling.





Figure 42: Make a release knot (here a simple overhand knot), secure it with a few stitches with thin sewing thread and unravel the ends of the individual strings.



Figure 43: Repeat the above procedure with the second flap and make a retention loop. Here the six strand braid is parted into two flat three strand braids. Then the six strand braid is continued and finished off with a crown knot.



Figure 44: Secure the crown knot with few stitches with sewing thread, cut the remaining strings and unravel them. Congratulations! You did it!