



ANCIENT CRAFT

Humans first used weaving about 12,000 years ago to make baskets out of grass and branches.

Weave your own bracelet

What you need

- 3 straws
- Tape, such as masking tape
- Large ball of yarn, or several balls if you'd like to use different colors
- Scissors
- Wooden skewer

Instructions

1. Place the three straws together, side by side, leaving small gaps between them. Tape the three straws together at the top.
2. Cut three 20-inch pieces of yarn. Thread one piece through each straw by putting the end of the yarn into the top of the straw, and then use the skewer to push it down until you can pull the other end out of the bottom.
3. Knot the three pieces of yarn together at the taped end of the straws, leaving about 4 inches of yarn at the top to use to tie the bracelet later.
4. Use another piece of masking tape to tape down the taped end of the straw loom to the edge of a table. This is to hold it in place while you weave.
5. You will need about 14 feet of yarn total for your bracelet, but it's easier to weave with shorter pieces. Cut a piece of yarn, as long as you'd like, for your first color. You will weave your first color and then tie on another piece of yarn, which can be another color, if you like.
6. Tie one end of your yarn around the straw all the way to the left, directly below where you have it taped down.

7. Start weaving: Use the loose end of yarn to go under the middle straw, then over the right straw. Loop your yarn back under the right-hand straw and then over the middle straw and under the left straw.
8. Now go over the left straw and continue weaving until you run out of yarn or want to switch colors.
9. Cut another piece of yarn, which can be a different color if you like, and tie it to the end of your original piece of yarn. Continue weaving, in the same way you have been.
10. When you have made your bracelet long enough to fit around your wrist, finish the row and knot the loose yarn end onto the middle woven loop.
11. Remove the tape holding the loom down. Next, remove the piece of tape holding the straws together.
12. Holding the three straws, gently slide the bracelet off the straws toward the knotted end.
13. Tie the three loose ends into a double knot.
14. Have someone help you tie the two ends to form a bracelet around your wrist. You can leave it long enough to slip it on and off, if you prefer.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK LOOK OUT FOR LEAKY FAUCETS

Water is a natural resource that we use every day, which is why it's important to do our best not to waste it. One way to ensure you're using only the water you need is to regularly check your home's faucets. A faucet that leaks even just a drop of water per second can lead to more than 3,000 gallons of wasted water a year. Some leaks are easier to spot than others. A small drip will be fairly obvious. But if a faucet is wet when it hasn't been used, that's also a sign that water could be escaping from it. Either way, tell an adult. They may need to replace a part called a washer inside the faucet to stop the leak. Set a goal of checking your faucets about once a month.



Quick: Stop that drip!