

How to Make Knotted Cord/Twine Rosaries

A Rosary Consists of:

- 5 sets of 10 Hail Mary knots (10 knots or beads make a decade)
- An Our Father knot in between each decade
- Once the five decades are made (which will consist of 50 total Hail Mary knots and 4 Our Father knots), the decades are brought together to form a circle at a Center Piece knot.
- After making the Center Piece knot there is another Our Father Knot, Three Hail Mary Knots, and then a final Our Father Knot with a Crucifix attached to it (instructions for this knot are different from the other Our Father knot).



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Supplies Needed:

- 19.5 to 20 Feet (for a FULL Rosary) or 4.5 to 5 Feet (for a Single Decade Rosary/Chaplet) of #36 Nylon Twine (This kind of twine can be ordered from <http://www.fnt-victory.net> or found in many hardware stores)
- A lighter (preferred) or candle
- Tape (preferably masking tape)
- A Crucifix approximately 1½"-3" in length with a circle eyelet big enough for the twine to fit through
- Scissors

Getting Ready (Tips and Tricks):

- Use the above picture as a reference for the spacing of knots on your own Rosary. Your fingertip should fit between each Hail Mary.
- Cut several lengths of twine all at once if you plan making several Rosaries (Warning: Rosary making is addictive!). Measure out approximately 20 feet of twine, and tightly wrap a piece of masking tape at the 20' mark. This tape will keep the twine from fraying, and it also helps in making the knots of the Rosary. Cut the twine with scissors at the center of the piece of masking tape.
- If you plan on making many Rosaries, do not use this length of twine for a Rosary but instead use it to measure additional lengths of twine. It's much easier to measure twine with a 20' length of twine than it is with a measuring tape or a ruler.
- As with anything, practice makes perfect, and making Rosaries takes some practice. Keep at it and you will experience many wonderful blessings. The best part about making Rosaries is giving them away. Persevere and you'll soon know what we mean!

Making A Hail Mary Knot And A Decade

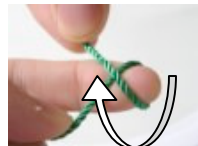
Step 1

- When starting a Rosary, find the middle point of your length of twine. This will end up being your Rosary's third decade. Fold the twine over index finger



Step 2

- Loosely loop the twine around your index finger, making an X shape



Step 3

- Lightly loop the twine around your finger two more times (three loops total). Each new loop should be made toward your palm (NOT toward the tip of the finger)



Step 4

- Don't let the loops tangle. Gently move the loops to the end of your finger
- Holding the taped end of the twine used to make the loops around your finger, insert the end of the twine into the back of the loops and pull through, away from your left hand.



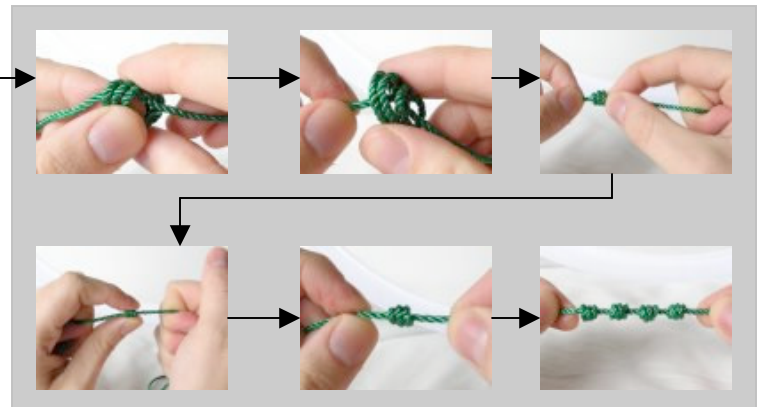
Step 5

- Pull the length of twine all the way through the three loops, but don't take the loops off your finger yet!



Step 6 (Tricky Part!)

- Now CAREFULLY take the three loops off your index finger. Using your left hand fingers as guides, make sure the loops stay aligned and don't crisscross.
- With the middle finger and pinkie of your right hand, pull the twine to shrink the knot. When the knot is made, hold the knot tightly with your left fingers, and pull HARD with your right hand to make a nice, tight knot.
- Repeat steps 2-6 nine more times for ten Hail Mary knots. For a single decade Rosary, make 5 knots in one direction, then 5 in the other, then make a Center Piece knot. For a full Rosary, make all ten knots in the same direction. Double-check your knot count and watch your spacing!



Making an Our Father Knot

Step 1

- Start an Our Father knot about an inch from the last Hail Mary knot. This knot is made just like a Hail Mary knot, but instead of wrapping the twine around your finger three times, wrap it around FIVE times.



Step 2

- Follow the same method as the Hail Mary knot, sliding the twine off your finger, and slowly tightening the knot, just like in Step 6 of "Making a Hail Mary Knot"



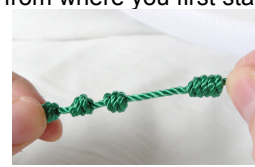
Step 3

- The Our Father knot should remain 3/4-1" from the last Hail Mary Knot. Make the knot good and tight, and then leave about another inch of space before starting the first Hail Mary of the next decade.



Step 4

- Notice the spacing between the first decade and the Our Father knot. Keep your knots tight or the spacing will change over time with use. Now make two more decades in one direction, then two decades in the other from where you first started.



Making A Centerpiece Knot

Step 1

- Line up the first Hail Mary knot from the first decade and the last Hail Mary knot of the last decade (or first and last knot if making single decade Rosary)



Step 2

- Hold the knots in the palm of your left hand and fold BOTH pieces of twine over your index finger.



Step 3

- Loosely loop BOTH strands of twine around your index finger, making an X shape, just like the other knots.



Step 4

- Make TWO loops around your index finger with both strands. It will look like there are four strands lined up next to each other.



Step 5

- Pull the length of twine all the way through the loops, and then carefully tighten the centerpiece knot.



Step 6

- Your finished knot should be about 3/4" from the first and last Hail Mary knots.



Now leave a little space, make an Our Father knot, a little space, three Hail Mary knots, a little space, and then you're ready for the last knot:

Making an Our Father Knot with a Crucifix

Step 1

- Start a normal Our Father knot, but after running the twine through the loops DON'T tighten it yet!



Step 2

- Hold the loops with your left hand, and add the Crucifix on the piece of twine. DON'T tighten the knot yet!



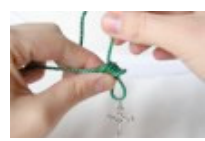
Step 3

- Run the end of the twine BACK THROUGH the five loops of the Our Father knot. Pull the twine all the way through. The Crucifix is now on a big loop.



Step 4

- One side of the loop will tighten the knot; the other makes the loop smaller. The knot may move here, so be careful.



Step 5

- Alternately tighten and shorten the loop. Make sure the knot doesn't move too much. Keep it close to the Hail Mary knot.



Step 6

- When the knot is completely tightened, pull the twine to shorten the loop and bring the Crucifix to the knot.



And that's it! Once you've made and tightened the Our Father with Crucifix Knot, take scissors and cut the loose strings from the ends of the Rosary (at the Center Piece knot and at the Our Father with a Crucifix knot). Use a lighter to singe the ends that you just cut to keep them from fraying, being careful to burn only the ends and not any of the knots. If you need additional help, VIDEO instructions are available on our website. Lastly, have your Rosary blessed by a priest, and pray the Rosary daily. If you feel the Holy Spirit moving you to do so, give your Rosary away and then make another. Make Them. Pray Them. Give Them Away. If you'd like to help us give Rosaries to whomever wants one, we offer monthly incentives for Rosary Makers like you! Visit www.RosaryArmy.com for details. God bless you!