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Ethnic Project for Kids: how to Make a Quipu

October 15, 2012 by [Victoria](#)

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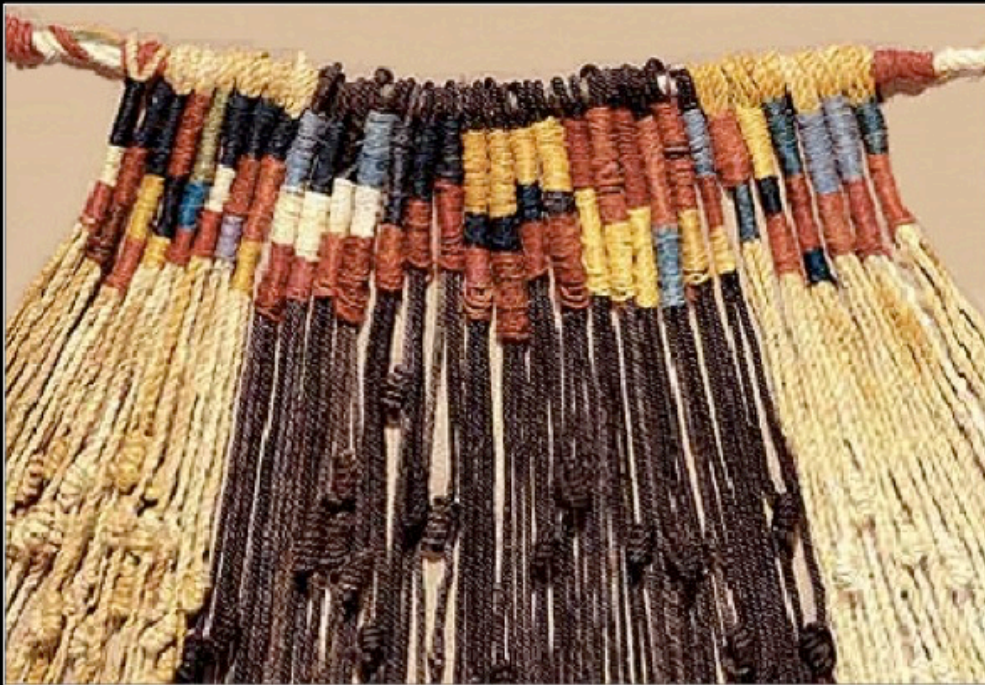
Quipus are books from the ancient Inca empire in Peru. But these books are so special, they are not made on paper, or leather, or parchment, they are not even carved on stone. These books are made of colorful yarn strings attached to a main cord, and instead of letters or numbers, they used knots! Lets learn how they were

done.



How to Make a Quipu From the Inca Empire

By Victoria Restrepo



Quipus can be described as ancient books, they don't have letters or numbers, instead they were made by a series of wool and cotton strings tied together with knots of different sizes and shapes.



Ancient Incas made the Quipus to keep records, and possibly as memory aids for their legends.



© V Restrepo

To make a quipu you just need your hands and different colors yarn.



Wrap your yarn a round a hook or any other support, and keep the two ends together. Start twisting it.



You need to twist it for several minutes, until it feels really hard to keep doing it.



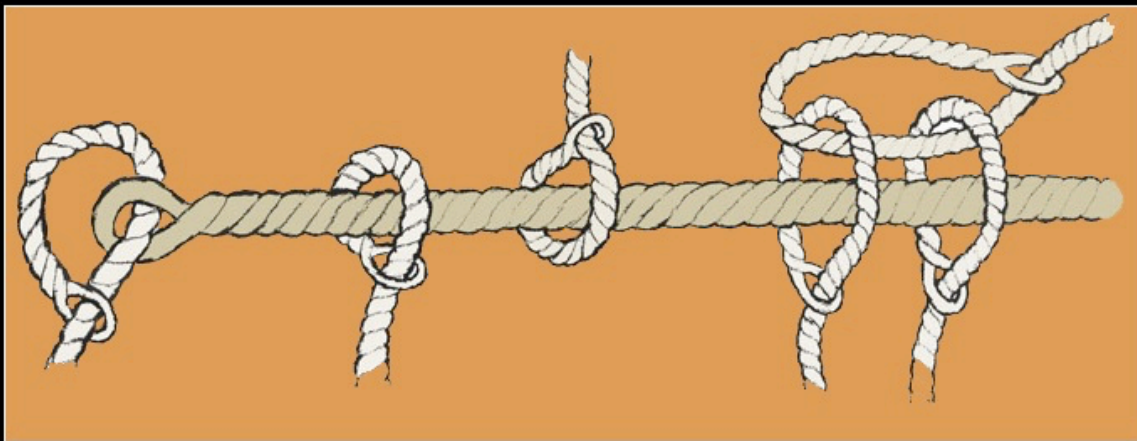
Once you are done, take it out of the hook and fold in half. It will be very twisted, just pull the ends and you will get a beautiful sting.



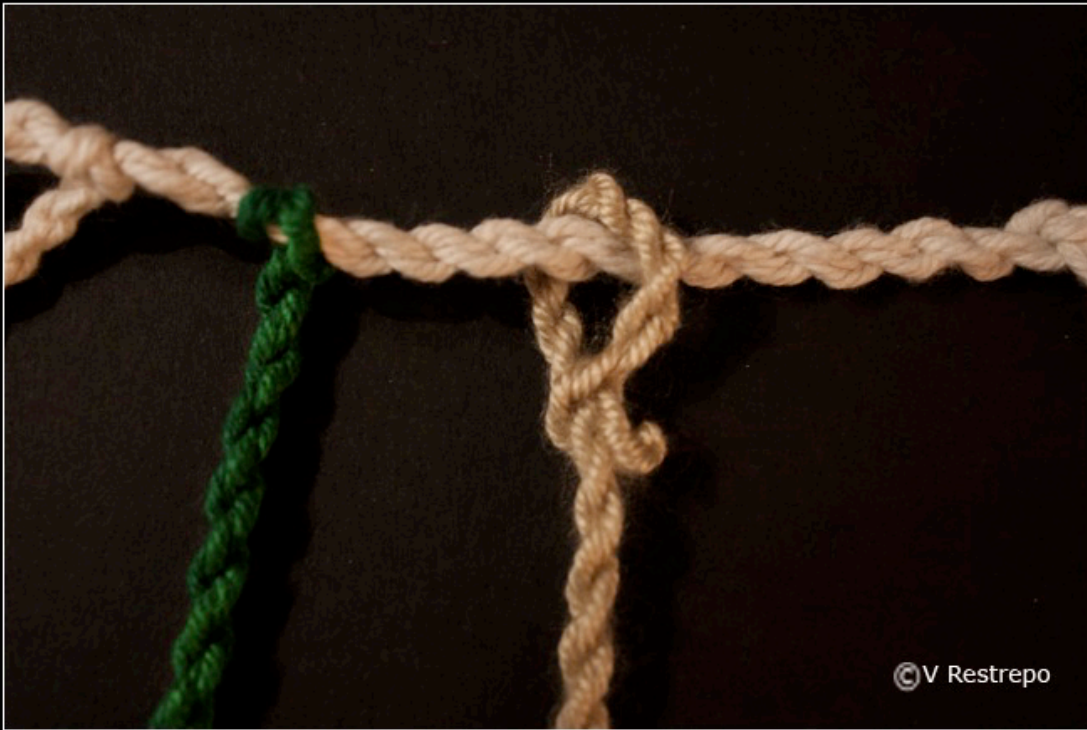
Make as many strings as you want.



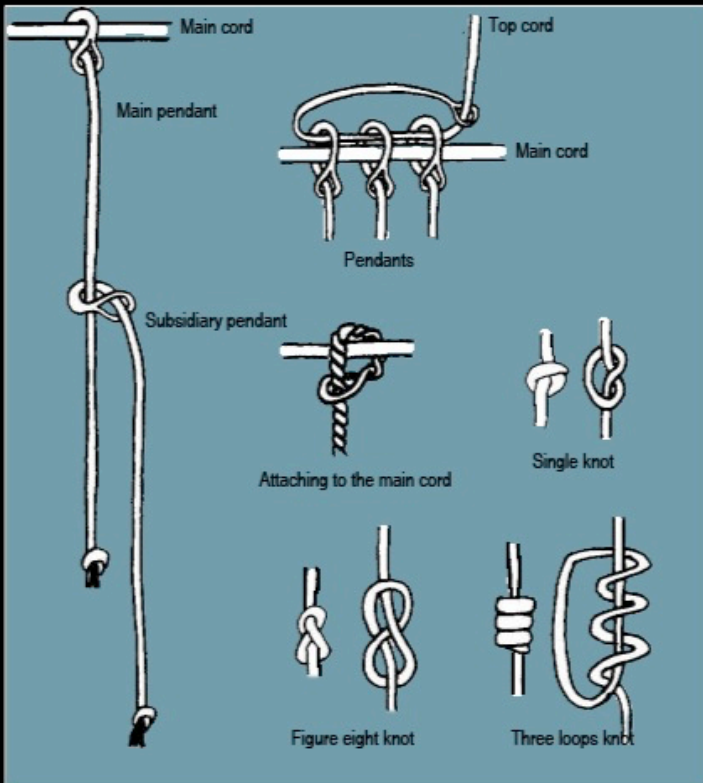
Now, get ready to hang the pendant strings from the main cord.



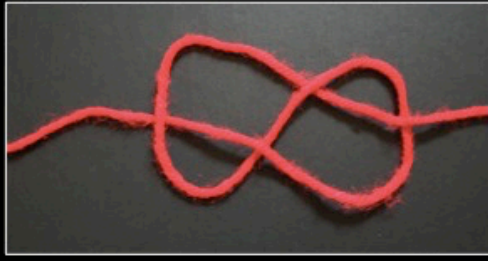
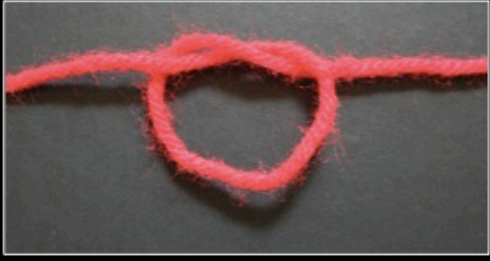
These are some the different ways you can attach the pendant strings to the main cord.



© V Restrepo



Now, lets make the knots.





Your Quipu is ready!

Learn more about the [Inca Empire and the Quipus here.](#)

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7 Responses to “Ethnic Project for Kids: how to Make a Quipu”

1. *Lafanda* says:

[April 2, 2013 at 9:54 pm](#)

This is actually really cool!

2. *frann* says:

[May 31, 2013 at 4:52 pm](#)

que locoooo,,,, jajaja me gusta

3. *Karen* says:

[January 26, 2014 at 9:14 pm](#)

Wow really cool and kinda easy

4. *Jazmyn* says:

[September 16, 2014 at 8:19 pm](#)

Wow,thxs i used this for my ss project 😊

5. *Kate* says:

[February 4, 2016 at 12:16 pm](#)

Wow! This really helped me with a history project in class! Thanks for making this!

Trackbacks

Check out what others are saying about this post...

1. *[Montessori Art for Continent Studies - Carrots Are Orange](#)* says:

[February 1, 2014 at 9:07 am](#)

[...] Yarn Quipu (Source: Victoria Restrepo) [...]

2. *[Simon Bolivar, The Incas, Machu Pichu, and the History of South America | The Eagle's Nest](#)* says:

[November 22, 2014 at 8:14 pm](#)

[...] <http://victoriarestrepo.com/2012/10/15/ethnic-project-for-kids-how-to-make-a-quipu/> [...]

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