

Friendship bracelets aren't just for the teen scene.
These bracelets are

**ultra-hip, ultra-lux,
& ultra-fun!**



brace yourself

{CREATIVE INSPIRATIONS *free* FROM HOBBY LOBBY®}

cut your flosses

For ombre-esque appeal, choose variegated floss. It has the subtle (*and much sought after*) color change built right in. The floss had a gotta-wear-shades effect on our rainbow bling bracelet. Instead of just four colors, the finished piece has—gee, like twenty!



shine on

Buckle up, bling queens! This sparkly slide is a sewing notion (*it's sold near the buttons*), and it's a natural addition on our rainbow-meets-rhinestone design. The piece is the final step of the project. Just feed the completed bracelet through, and arrange the strands as desired.



closing time

When you were eight, you knotted your friendship bracelets around your wrist. These days, you might want to up the sophistication factor with a well-chosen clasp. This one's called a lobster clasp. It's simple, so it doesn't fight with our already-over-the-top bling. And it's easy to work, which is a nice thing for the bestie you bestow it upon.



ready-to-wear

This piece is made from a pair of extra-long bracelets. We fed both bracelets through the clasp and then doubled them over to create the stacked design. At the loose ends, we attached crimp ends, which we slid onto a single jump ring.



tip: Slide some rhinestones off each end of the trim. You can incorporate the bling-less section of trim into the Chinese staircase (*instructions on back page*). Stick with the staircase until you reach the first rhinestone—and then wrap and knot. When you've wrapped between all the rhinestones, you can resume the Chinese staircase at the other end.





Embroidery floss, some blingy baubles and a little inspiration are all you need to take traditional friendship bracelets from junior high to high couture.

braid grade

The key to this intricate-looking bracelet? It's all in the braid. And you won't believe how easy it is to do. You just need embroidery floss and an 8-slot weaving wheel (*template and instructions on page 4*). Simply use the wheel to braid the floss, and add end crimps to hold the shape. Just like that, you've made a DIY bracelet to give a friend . . . or keep for yourself.

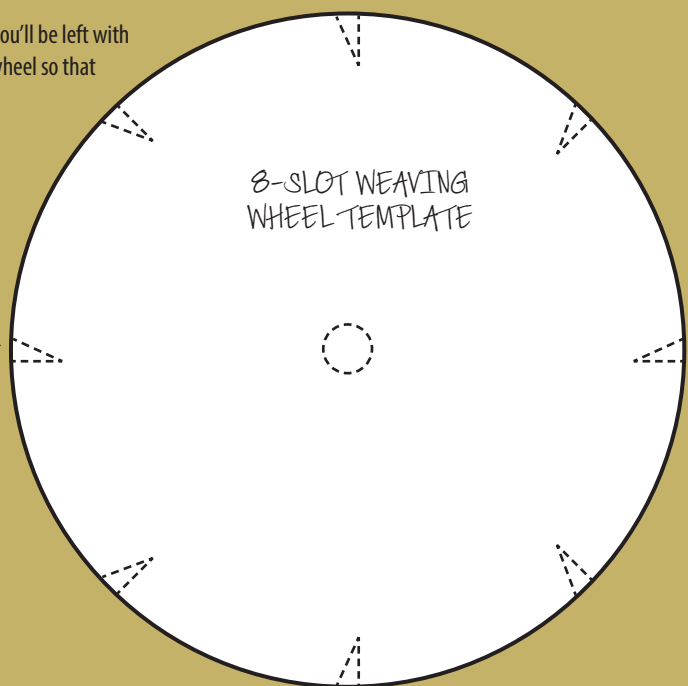


wrist twist Don't let fraying ends cramp your style—crimp them instead! Handy crimp ends protect your braids and allow for attaching clasps, charms and other elements to your bracelets. Simply insert the end of the braid into the crimp end, and use crimping pliers to close it around the floss.
Tip: Bend the loop on the crimp end slightly backward to allow for a close cut when trimming the end of the braid.

The 8-Slot Weaving Wheel Method

1. Using paperboard recycled from the back of a legal pad, cut the ¼" lines to make the eight notches, and punch out the hole in the center of the wheel using a standard hole punch.
2. Cut seven 12" strands of floss, and knot the ends together.
3. Place the knot into the hole, and secure with tape. You can remove the tape when you've braided about half an inch.
4. Place each strand in a slot—you'll be left with one empty slot. Position the wheel so that the empty slot is facing you.
5. Count three slots to the right of the empty slot, and move its strand to the empty slot.
6. Turn the wheel so that the empty slot is facing you again.
7. Repeat steps 5-6 until the bracelet is your desired length.
8. To remove the bracelet from the wheel, take the strands off the wheel and knot the ends together.

CUT OUT HOLE & NOTCHES



crowning glory

Are your friendships worth a king's ransom? With a fashion-forward friendship bracelet like this one they will be! This work-of-art design may look like an elaborate affair, but it was really just a matter of making the bracelets and adding interesting trinkets—like an unexpected jeweled crown.



have a heart

A bevy of elegant add-ons—like faceted beads, freshwater pearls and a rhinestone clasp—gives this friendship bracelet a distinctly stately look. We've got a stunning collection of baubles and beads to choose from, so you and your friends will be glam girls in no time!



big on bracelets

When making bracelets for your friends, don't limit yourself to floss and knots. The possibilities for creating one-of-a-kind jewelry are as endless as your friendships. Take this gorgeous band, for example. Three different bracelets plus an assortment of chic baubles and a bejeweled crown add up to one oh so fabulous friendship bracelet.

shine time No, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you. The silver and gold bracelets are made of floss, not metal. We thought this bracelet deserved the royal treatment, so we used glitzy metallic floss rather than the classic cotton or silk thread. This bracelet will certainly reign supreme in your circle of friends.



Diagonal Stripe Method

1. Cut lengths of floss, and knot them together.
2. When the colors are arranged as desired, forward knot the strand on the far left to the strand next to it.
3. Holding the first strand again, forward knot it to the next strand in the bunch. When you've completed this step, your first strand will be the last and your second strand will be the first.
4. Now take the first strand (*previously the second*), and forward knot from left to right again.
5. Continue this process until the bracelet is your desired length, always starting with the strand on the left.





timeless elegance

Try mixing traditional techniques with modern twists to make your friendship bracelets stand out from the rest. For this multicolored marvel, we used both the Chinese staircase method and the classic diagonal stripe style. Then we paired them with two different chains and added some stylish findings.



pearl of wisdom

This fancy bracelet is a combination of the Chinese staircase and diagonal stripe method paired with a pearl and crystal necklace. This simple yet stunning addition gave it that something extra all your gal pals deserve. The bling factor on this bracelet can't be contained—and that's just the way we like it.

best buds

As strong and beautiful as the best of friendships, these bracelets symbolize an everlasting bond. So tailor yours to reflect your signature style. Add charms with special significance, use your favorite colors and play around with different techniques to find what appeals most to you and your best gal pals.



Chinese Staircase Method

1. Hold one strand in one hand and the remaining strands in your other hand.
2. Cross the single strand over and under the others. If you're right-handed, this should slightly resemble the number 4. If you're left-handed, this will resemble a backwards 4.
3. Put your hand in the 4, and pull the tail. As you tie the knot, pull the other strands downward and pull the single strand sideways. This will bring the knot to the top, next to your first knot.
4. Repeat the loop-and-pull-through process about 10 times, and then change colors.
5. Continue until the bracelet is your desired length.

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