

'Ojo de Dios' DIY hanging ornament  
Simple enough for youngsters too  
with just a little assistance



**Materials required\*:** \*(included in kit if you purchase from Etsy)

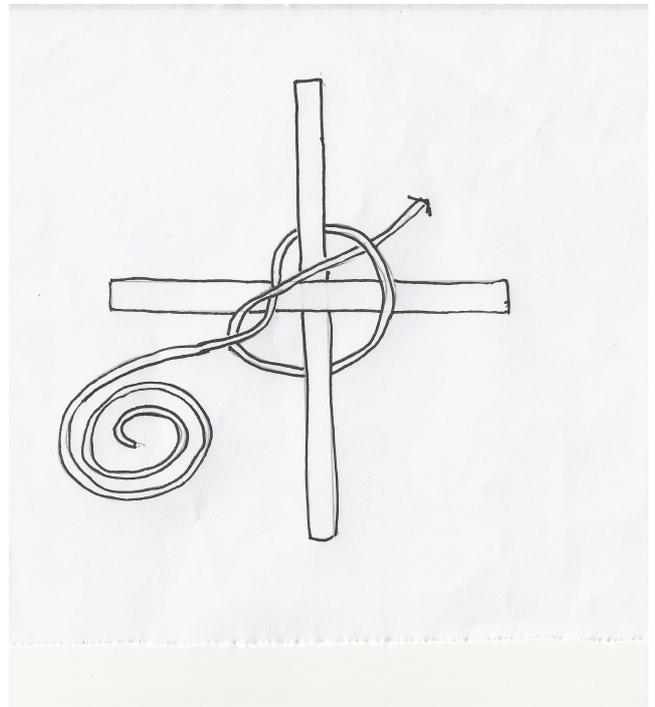
- 3m of each of the 3 coloured yarns (medium weight yarn)
- 15 m\* each of 2 coloured cotton yarns for tassels (\* in the green/red kit & in the natural colours kit - in the blue/white kit there are 9m of each of the 2 colours)
- 2 wooden sticks, 15cm each (chopsticks are a suitable thickness)
- a coordinating metal bell
- a plastic (or metal) needle with very large eye
- a measuring card for tassel length (a folded business/visitor's card will do fine)

**You will need:.**

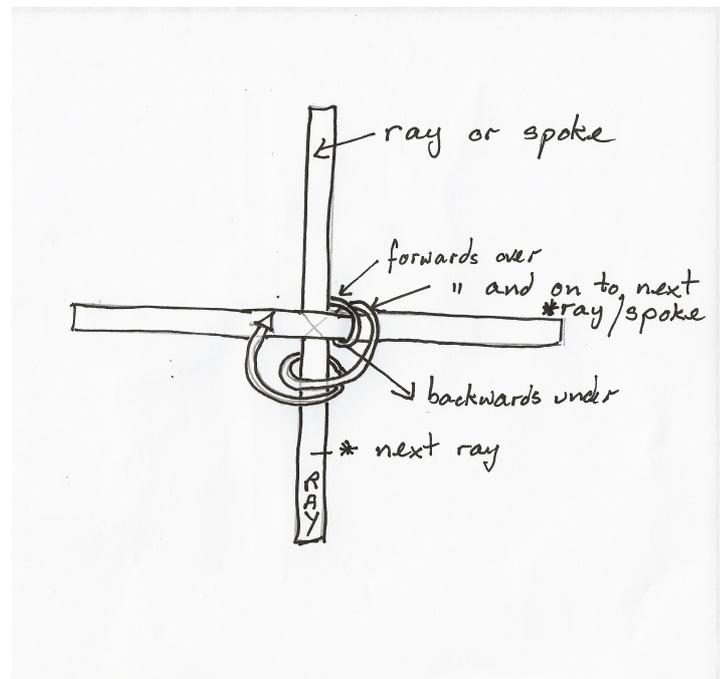
- Scissors
- Felt tip pens (optional)
- Regular size pencil
- Ruler or tape measure (optional)

## Method:

1. Decide the order you want your colours to be positioned on your piece of work
2. Take the central colour you have chosen and tie the 2 sticks together at their centre in the form of a cross leaving the short 'tail' of your knot at the back of the work. You might like to do several knots back and front to secure the shape of the cross.



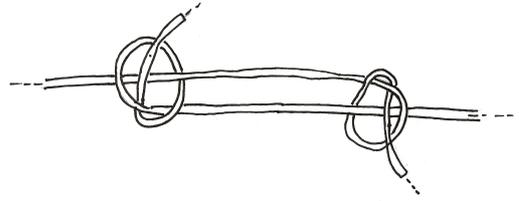
3. Holding the tied sticks firmly in your left hand making sure they retain the crossed shape, take the longer section of yarn and pass it forwards over one of the rays (or spokes) of the cross on your right and then backwards under the same ray and around the ray to bring it back on top ready to move on to the next ray in a clockwise direction. Shift the crossed sticks slightly in an anti-clockwise direction and bring the yarn to the next ray on your right just after the ray you worked previously. Do exactly the same as you did previously - pass the yarn over the ray towards you and then back under the same ray, and around...



4. You repeat this movement creating a snug covering of yarn on the sticks from the crossed centre outwards. Check occasionally that the sticks retain their crossed form. It is possible to ease the sticks back into position if they distort slightly. Don't pull the yarn too taut as this might cause distortion in the shape.



5. When you reach the point that you need or want to change to your second colour, leave a 'tail' of approximately 15cm to make a sliding join - sometimes called 'magic knot'



Check out this video to see how:

<https://www.craftworkshopsinitaly.com/2021/04/11/weaving-tips-making-knots/>

6. Make sure you leave about 50cm of the outer yarn which you will use for creating a loop to hang your ornament by. Once you have cut off this length of yarn, you will need about 15cm to tie a couple of knots around the last ray/spoke and then thread the remaining yarn onto the plastic needle to weave it neatly into the back of the work.
7. At this point, you might like to use felt tip pens or acrylic paints to colour the tips of the spokes. Obviously using paint will slow up the project progress as it will be necessary to allow the paint to dry completely before moving on.
8. Take the 50cm you cut off from the outer colour band. Fold in half - hold the 2 cut ends in one hand and using your other hand, extend your arm and twist the yarn continually. Bring your 2 hands together and allow the twisted yarn to join from the centre point into a double twist.



9. Thread the doubled up end of the resulting 'plait' onto the plastic needle. Pass the needle through from the back of your weaving close to the 'top' ray, bringing the 'plait' to the front. Now pass the needle from the front to the back on the other side of the top ray. You will now have both ends of the 'plait' at the back of the work. Tie a knot to form a loop for hanging, and cut off the loose ends close to the knot.



10. Now let's do the tassels, but first of all, divide both colours of the cotton yarn into 3 sections of approximately the same length. For the red, green and white, and for the natural shades, these sections will be about 5m of each of the 2 colours. For the blue and white, the sections will be about 3 m each. The reason for this is that the cotton yarn for the blue kit is much thicker so less is needed for each tassel. Take the 2 colours of cotton yarn together and wind them about 20 times around your stacked fingers (for the blue kit, 15 times is about right). Leave a length of doubled thread of about 20cm to finish off the tassel. Carefully removed the wound thread from your fingers and using the loose 'tail', tie 3 knots at the top of the looped thread, Insert a pencil into the top of the looped threads just below the area you knotted in the previous step. Pinch the looped threads tightly around the pencil and using the remaining 'tail', wrap it around the looped threads, just below the pencil. For the final wrap, tie a knot

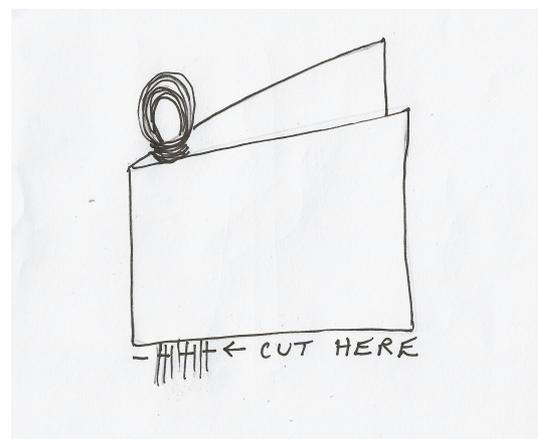
11. Thread the 'tail' onto the plastic needle, and pass it through the centre of the wrapped threads and out at the bottom of the loop. Cut the bottom section of the looped threads and then use the cardstock measure to cut all 3 tassels to an even length. With the bound section at the level of the top of the card, position the tassel threads inside the card at the fold. Close the card and cut off the excess just below the bottom of the folded card.

12. Use scraps of the tassel yarn to tie the tassels in place. You can also at this stage attach the bell

Here is a video clip demonstrating how to create tassels:

<https://www.craftworkshopsinitaly.com/2021/04/11/weaving-tips-making-tassels/>

The instructions in the video differ slightly from those given here. Use the method described in the video, but use the measurements detailed in these instructions.



**Hope you have fun with the project!**

**Why not try making a much bigger version now you know how to do it?**

**Janys at Boho Shack, Venice**