

Flowing Braids with Tan Draig: for the 'Derwent Delights' project

Materials

Gather between 5 and 10 strands of embroidery thread, stranded cotton or equivalent (thin fabric strips are used here so that it is easier to see). Choose colours that reflect the Derwent valley either the natural or manmade environment.

Braiding using more than 4 strands becomes free warp weaving. The warp threads each taking it in turn to be the weft as it weaves across.

There are only two rules to remember

1. Always start and finish the same, that is, if you start by going over you must always start by going over.
2. You are only allowed to have one strand out to the right side

STEP 1



Knot your threads together at the end or in the middle if you are doubling your thread. They should be 35cm long.

STEP 2



Fasten them to a flat surface...pin or tape down.

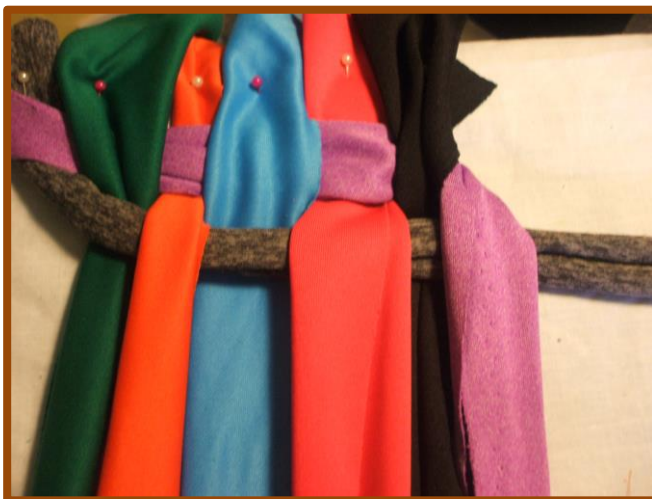
Spread out the threads in an even manner.

STEP 3

Take the first thread on the left and weave it across, starting by going over the first and under the second until you reach the right hand side. Lay this thread down at right angles to the others.



STEP 4



Take the next thread on the left and weave it to the right hand side.

Lay this one at right angles to the others.

You are only allowed one out to the side, so you must bring the first one down to complete the weaving sequence.

This may be over the top or underneath the last thread woven, depending on the width of your braid but it will always be the same on this braid.

STEP 5



Just repeat this sequence until the braid is the length you want (we need them to be 20cm).

STEP 9

Knot the loose ends together in pairs to make a fringe.

