

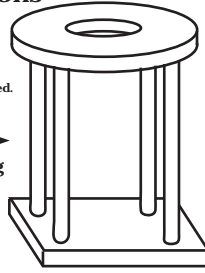
FUN!

Talzhemir's Intro to KUMIHIMO

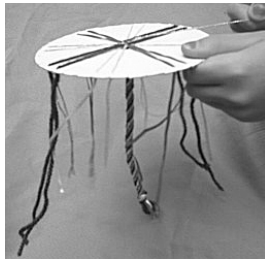
The Japanese Art of Crafting Cords and Ribbons

In traditional dress, a braided cord (obi jime) is used with the kimono and the obi (belt), assuring that the obi knot stays securely tied.

This is the traditional braiding stand, called a Marudai. It can be used to produce both round cords and flat ribbons.



Today's crafter can start by using a disk with notches!



◆ In the time of the Samurai, some styles of armor required 1000 yards of silk cord to lace the bands of lacquered metal together.

◆ The Marudai is traditionally used from a kneeling position.

"KONGO GUMI"

"Kongo Gumi" is the most popular method. It uses sixteen threads. Going clockwise, each is moved in turn from its original position to the opposite side. Using the same moves but different starting thread colors yields a number of intriguing patterns.

Incidentally, "Kongo Gumi" is named after the world's oldest continuously-running company. Established in 578, Kongo Gumi built Osaka Castle and other famous landmarks. The company ceased operation in 2006, after 1400 years of building Buddhist temples and other magnificent landmarks.



DIAMONDS: Color 1 (diamonds): 1,6,7,16
Color 2: 2,3,4,5,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15



"HEARTS": Color 1: 1,3,5,8,9,10
Color 2 (hearts): 2,4,6,7,11,12,13,14,15,16



FLOWERS: Color 1: 1,7,8,9,10,11,12,14,16
Color 2 (petals): 2, 3,5,6,13,15 Color 3 (centers): 4



DIAGONAL STRIPES: Color 1: 1,8,9,16 Color 2: 2,3,10,11
Color 3: 4,5,12,13 Color 4: 6,7,14,15

