

SPEEXSK

WEAVING

Lesson 1: Dm Wila Sit'aatga Ts'ila

Beginning the plaited bottom

1. Dm gaadn ligi goo dm si'inlaaydiksn a goo dm gasgaaw dm ts'ilaan, adam dm gaa küülda liiti dm dzagatgu la'wlt a n'üü si'inlaaydiksn. (Adam dm ts'uusgm talya'an gasgaaw huu.)
Use a form such as a candle votive, empty frosting jar, etc. to measure one strip of warp to the size of basket you will be creating. (Add a bit extra to weave the ending.)
2. Lullooksn liiti da ts'm ksigwanksm aks (wagayt dm will saatgit).
Soak the warps in rain water (until pliable).
3. Hoy liiti na gwildm dabn adam k'osk'odza aam sgabuu liiti dm hoyaga da ts'ila dm dzabn.
Using your measuring warp, cut only the amount of warps you need to create a plaited square the size of your form bottom.
4. Dm sm ama doyn liiti a lax ha'litxooxk.
Lay the warps down on the table.
5. Hoy na hoy'yagansgn adam 'waa nsüülkt.
Use your form to find the center.
6. A 'na dzoga hoy'yagansgn dzaga sgüü 'ndab.
At the edge of your form, line up a ruler horizontally.
7. Dm gwilt'akyln huu a wil dzaga baat a lax'o 'ndab 'waatgida midigya'wn da smya'wn.
Basic (compact) twine one row above the ruler from left to right.
8. Dm mangaadn adam snyaagwa liiti a lax'o a 'na midiga'wn da smya'wn.
Lift every other warp from left to right.
9. Dzaga sgüü su liiti.
Lay down a new warp.

10. Dm sm hagwil mandogn liiti adam hats'iksm gyik amadoot.
(One by one,) lift gently and set back into place each vertical strip.
11. Ła waan da gwa'a dm sm demxk.
Doing this will ensure your plaiting is as tight as possible.
12. Ła ama doo liiti hoy na hoy'yagansgn dm nii dzida gyik hasagn a liiti.
Once all of the horizontal strips are in place, use your form to determine if you need more or less warps.
13. Dm hasagn dm smts'uusga liiti dm alut'aa da nřüü hoy'yagansgn.
You want the warps to barely "peek" at you from under the form.
14. Lullooksn huu a ts'm aks ada gwildm ga'wn mdm hoyt.
At this point, begin soaking two strips of weft to be ready to use for the next step.
15. Nii dzida hoyaga huu na gwildm ga'wn.
Check to make sure your wefts are pliable and ready to use.



After placing a warp in position, use your fingernail to secure it into place.

Lesson 2: Goo Mdm Wila Si Xbiyee Küülda Huu

How to add a weft

1. Dm sa haniin huu dm wil sgatga, mdm wil hoyt.
Thin the ends of the weft to make adding easier later on.
2. Dm 'waayn na süülkt adam takylt dm drab gup'l liksgyeda sga'nak 'nuunkt.
Find the center and fold it to make two different lengths.
3. 'Waa na süülga txas'nagm liiti.
Find the center horizontal warp.
4. Nsüülkt dm wil sit'aa'ma dm gwitt'akylm dm wila da'axlgu dm tgut'ak'yl amuus.
Always begin your basic twine in the center so you can cut (round) your corners.
5. Hadik t'akyltm huu a na hak'oo süülgm liiti.
Slip the folded weft behind the center warp.



Starting a weft in the middle of a plaited row.

Lesson 3: Dm Wila Sit'aat'ga Gwit'tak'yl

How to begin basic twining (compact weaving)

1. Dm gaadn huu a 'na smya'wn adam dm dzagatgu sgüüt da 'na midigya'wn dm wilt hoyaga X.
Take the right weft and cross it over the left making an X.
2. Hatelsm gwit'ak'yl suwaatga 'na midigya'wn.
The left is now called the working weaver.
3. Mangaa na hatelsm gwit'ak'yln adam tgugaada hak'oo liiti adam tgise'ikit (a na smya'wn).
Pick up your working weaver and bring it behind the next warp and pull it back down between the next space (to the right).
4. Si'inlaaytü ksgoogm liiti na wil sit'aa'man (k'otst ligi tsiibt will sabaat).
Mark the first warp you start with (make a cut or tie a knot at its end).
5. Hats'iksm gyik waan (k'üül - k'wili) wagayt dm wil axlgn a na wil ksgoogm sit'aa'man.
Repeat (steps 1-3) until you come back to the first corner.

Lesson 4: Dm Wila Dzagatgu T'akyl Na Amuusa Ts'ila

How to cut the corners (rounding the square bottom)

1. Dzila sit'aa'ma dzagatgu gwilt'ak'yln sgüü mdm ksini ndeh sgabuu liiti dm luunda t'ak'yln ada 'nii dm amuusa ts'ila.
Once you begin your first row of basic twine, you will need to decide how many warps you'll weave together at the corners (to round the corners).
2. Dm gaadn gant'imiis adam dm hoy na hoy'yagansgn mdm dzaba tguyetk a dm wil tguyaa amuus.
Take a pencil and use your form to draw a circle where you will cut the corners.
3. Aka dm hasagnl dm ksa alut'aa nfüü ts'ila.
You don't want more than half of that row to show past the base of your form.
4. Dzila axlgn a awaa amuus, gwilt'ak'yl nfüü gup'l perpendicular liiti, gup'l ligi k'wili taym ndeh gasgaawt.
When you get to the corner, weave under the two or three perpendicular warps depending on the size of your form.
5. Dm sm amaniidzn aka mdm gal'oo liiti a hak'oo na hatelsn.
Check to make sure you don't drop a warp behind your work as you weave.
6. Sm aama t'ilgooti ndeh sgabuu liiti dm hoy na amuus.
Use good judgement on how many warps should be woven together at the corners.
7. Gyik waan wagayt dm wil axlgn a na wil sit'aa'man.
Repeat until the end of the first row.
8. Tguyetga na tgullootgn gya'wn.
Your square bottom is now a circle.
9. Gyimga k'üülda waan.
Weave another row all the way around.

The importance of awling (after every row) should never be overlooked, it will compact your rows and always create pearly, uniformed stitches.

-HOLLY CHURCHILL



Left: Separating the warps that were twined together on a corner for weaving a square bottom into a circle.



Right: After cutting a corner, using a form to make sure that the twining matches the edge of the form.



A plaited bottom with basic twining started at the center of one side and with three corners cut.

Lesson 5: Dm Wil Sit'aatga Gwilt'ak'ylm A Nafüüt

How to start a twined bottom (one method)

1. K'ask'odza liiti a ndeh dm gasgaaw ts'illaa (tsuusgm txalya'an).
Cut the warps to the size of your basket (with a bit extra at the ends).
2. Manto k'oolda liiti.
Bundle six warps together.
3. Gaa 'wii nagm huu ada tguts'iiba na süülg.
Use one long weft and tie them together in the center with a half knot (like starting to tie a shoelace).
4. A 'na lax'ot, dm luunda gwilt'ak'yl gup'l liiti, dm gaadn huu a 'na midigya'wn, dzaga tgu gaat a 'na hak'oo liiti da 'nast'ookst.
At the top, bring your left weft behind two warps and back down.
5. Hoyn na hub dm dzabn X.
Make an X with the wefts.
6. Dawila gwilt'ak'yl küül da liiti.
Then basic twine around one warp.
7. Hats'iksm gyik waan (txaalpx - k'ool) wagayt dm wil axlgn da nah wil sit'aa'man.
Repeat (steps four to six) until you get back to where you started.
8. Si'inlaaytü ksgoogm liiti nah wil sit'aa'man.
Mark the first of the two warps where you started.
9. Dzaga tgu gwilt'ak'yl txa'nii liiti wagayt dm wil axlgn da nah wil sit'aa'man.
Basic twine around each warp until you get back to where you started.
10. Dm xbisgüün k'üül da su liiti a 'na hak'oo txa'nii liiti wagayt dm wil axlgn da 'na wil sit'aa'man.
Add one new warp behind every warp on the next row.
11. Dm luunda gwilt'ak'yln gup'l liiti, dawila gwilt'ak'yl k'üül da liiti, gup'l taym, hats'iksm gyik waan wagayt dm wil axlgn da nah wil sit'aa'man.
Twine 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1 until the end of the row.

12. Dzaga tgu gwilt'ak'yln txa'nii liiti wagayt dm wil axlgn da nah wil sit'aa'man.
Twine around each warp until you get back to where you started.

13. Dm luunda gwilt'ak'yln gup'l liiti, gup'l taym, dawila gwilt'ak'yl k'üül da liiti, gup'l taym, hats'iksm gyik waan wagayt dm wil axlgn da nah wil sit'aa'man.
Twine 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1 until the end of the row.

14. Ła 'ni'nii dm wila gwilt'ak'yl liiti wagayt dm wil dzagatgu axlgn da na wil sit'aa'man, ksa gup'l liiti a na lax'ot ada na lüüt ada mala 'nast'ookst dm basagn.
Twine the warps as they are for one row, only splitting one set of warps at the top, bottom, and both sides.

15. Dzila gyik sit'aa'man, basagn txa'nii wil 'na gup'l liiti, txalsgüü su liiti a 'na hak'oo k'üülda liiti.
On the next row, split all the remaining pairs, adding a warp to the back of each single warp.

16. Ła 'ni'nii wila gwilt'ak'yl gyimga gup'l dm dzagatgu axlgn a wil sit'aa'man (gup'l liiti).
Twine two rows as is (double warps).

17. Sm aama t'ilgooti dzida mdm basagn liiti, txalsgüü su liiti a 'na hak'oo k'üülda liiti.
Use good judgement when dividing the rest of the rows, adding a warp to the back of the single warps.

18. Ła 'ni'nii dm la gyoon wagayt dm wil hoyaga gasgaaw nlüüt.
Continue until your bottom is the same size as your mold.

After twining three rows on the sides, using a glass form to keep the rounded shape of the bottom.



Lesson 6: Goo Mdm Wila Si Xbiyee K'wili Da Huu (a Goontgm Ag)

How to start a three-way twine (for a braided edge)

1. Dm xbisgüün su huu da 'na spaga gup'l liiti, dm gaadn huu a 'na süülg ada smya'wn ada mdm dzagatgu sgüüt da 'na midigya'wn dm wilt hoyaga X.
Add a weft and make an X by bringing the middle and right weft over the top of the left weft.
2. Dm gaadn huu a 'na midigya'wn ada mdm dzaga sgüü da 'na süülg ada 'na hak'oo liiti da 'nast'ookst.
Bring your left weft over the middle weft and behind the next warp.
3. Hats'iksm gyik tgise'ikit a 'na spaga liiti a 'nast'ookst (a smya'wn).
Pull it back down between the next warp (to the right).
4. Sgüü mdm tgise'ika huu.
Tug each weft straight down.
5. Dzida hoyaga wila gyoon, na süülg dm wil sgüü su huu.
If done correctly, the new weft is now in the middle.
6. Hats'iksm gyik waan wagayt dm wil axlgn a na wil ksgoogm sit'aa'man.
Continue twining like this for one row.
7. Dzila gawdiin dm dzagatgu gangawn liiti wagayt dm wil dzagatgu axlgn ada 'nii na aga ts'ila.
When finished, gently use your teeth to pinch the warps vertically to create the edge of your basket.
8. Gal'o huu da 'na smya'wn da 'na hak'oo, dm bisbasagn txa'nii liiti ada wil stayaan manyaan a nikwduun ts'ila.
Drop the right weft to the back, cut all your warps in half and continue up the side of your basket one row with a basic twine.

Weaving a braided edge with three wefts (different colors to highlight technique). Wefts are shown pulled down and ready to continue twining.



Lesson 7: Goo Mdm La Hoy Liksgigyedm Kyoox Ła Gwit'ak'yl

How to twine with (canary) grass (false embroidery)

1. Gup'l dm tgyaan dm will sit'aa'ma nastooksa ts'ila, da'axlgn dm dzaba gyilktxalt'amk a kyoox ligi demtii.
After two or more rows of basic twine to start the sides of the basket, you can add a design with (canary) grass. You could also use maidenhair fern.
2. Łam k'odza kyoox dm ts'uusgm k'a wileeks da liiti.
Split the grass (after preparing it) to just slightly wider than the width of a warp.
3. Dzaga sgüü kyoox a lax'o ksgoogm liiti.
Lay the grass vertically over the first warp.
4. Nüüt dm wil ksibatsga 'nah ksi'nag.
The longer end should be at the bottom (with a small tail at the top).
5. Gwit'ak'yl a lax'o kyoox, dm in smgit snyaagwit.
Make a first stitch of basic twine over the grass, to hold the grass in place.
6. Tgu lakw'il kyoox da huu da midigya'wn, dm wilat hoyaga X, ada wil gyik sit'aa'ma gwit'ak'yl.
Wrap the grass once around the left weft, make an X by crossing the right over left weft, then finish the stitch.
7. Tgise'ika wil ksi'naga kyoox dm wil damxgit.
Tighten the grass by gently pulling down on the longer end.
8. Dm amaniidzn mdm wil 'wah ksise'ikit ligi mdm beek'ilt.
Be careful not to pull the grass out or tear it.
9. Hats'iksm gyik waan wagayt mdm wil ga'wn gyilkstxalt'amtgn.
Continue until your design is done (on that row).
10. Łam txalya'an sgabuu kyoox dm hoyn, dm txalya'an da gasgaaw na ts'ilaan.
The more you twine with grass, the more your basket may flare out, if you do not maintain the right tension.



Making an X over the canary grass to make a stitch of basic twine.

Canary grass locked in place, ready to twine over the working weaver.



One stitch of false embroidery over the previous working weaver.



A second false embroidery stitch .

