

From Ply-Split Tube to Kumihimo and Back

One or Two-day Workshop

Description for publicity:

Two disparate fiber techniques, ply-splitting and kumihimo, come together in this fascinating workshop. Enjoy the textural differences between a smooth, flexible ply-split tube and a stiffer, nubby braid made from cords rather than the usual fine threads. We will begin ply-splitting a tube, then learn how to convert it, using a disk, into a Kongôgumi braid, and then revert to a ply-split tube. This workshop is for experienced ply-splitters, who know a quarter twist and a half twist, and who have, perhaps, some braiding experience.

Day One:

- I. Choosing cord color order
- II. Ply-splitting a tube
- III. Conversion to a braid done with a disk
- IV. Reverting to a ply-split tube
- V. Discussion of finishing options

Day Two:

- I. Continue and finish necklace
- II. Experiment with other conversions

Level of Expertise:

Intermediate to advanced: must know quarter and half twists, and the SCOT structure
Kumihimo braiding experience on a disk is very helpful but not necessary.

Maximum number of participants: 12

Materials fee: \$10 for handouts

Room requirements: A room with very good light; plenty of table space for a work area and comfortable chair for each student

Students need: E-mail access; prescribed number of 4-ply cords and appropriate size of gripfid; kumihimo disk; scissors; masking tape; white glue; small abacus for keeping track of repeats, if desired; extra light, if desired; note-taking materials

Teacher needs: Two tables for displaying examples, chalk board and chalk, or white board and marker