



Triaxial Weave

This has been a popular pattern each time it gets seen - Lynne D. created one for a temari swap, and submits her notes and photos; it became a topic on the TT list not long ago and Paula G also submitted how-tos. Both are offered here. It's a simple wrapped pattern, especially for the great looking outcome... the wow factor comes from color choosing and working in colorways. The wrap of the mari plays a role in the colorway as well as choosing four shades (although this can be varied) of working thread (pearl cotton).

The original Japanese book reference is Kii Temari #4-8377-393-3; photo on page 6 in oranges, pattern on page 28.

This pattern is worked as a standard wrapped pattern, with a set of keeper pins where each vertical marking line intersects the obi. As you wrap, cross the thread in the keeper pins to track the threads on the "inside" of the bands. Tack the threads in the keeper pins in an attractive manner when you are completed with the wraps, to hold them in place. You may wrap and embellish the obi or not, as you choose.

The color bands are worked in sets of stripes, each stripe being a shade of or a different color. The marker pins that get placed on the vertical division lines will represent the middle of each overall band; to work them you will work inwards toward a pin. For a general description: use colors A,B,C. Color A will be the outer stripe of each band; color B the next one in, and color C will be the one that meets and forms the middle stripe of the band at the pins. At the pins closest to the poles the stripes will abut each other naturally. For the other two placements, wrap on both sides of each pin, working from the outer edge of the band in to the center of the band (which will be at the pin). Placement is a bit "trial and error" - depending on the size of the ball and the heft of the thread you are using.

From Lynne: Mark a Simple 6 divide. Using keeper pins and a 39-40cm circumference mari, you mark each of the 6 threads by placing pins at .7cm, 2.8cm and 4.2cm positions from the obi. To start you will be wrapping inward from the .7cm pin on the left and on the right of the pole. At the other pins wrap 2 threads (rows) on the side of pins towards pole then do the same on the other side of the pin. Do this on all three lines (axis) (s6 makes 3 sections in this....). Next work 2 rows between the 2.8 and two rows between the 4.2 pins on inside of pins towards each other. After all has been done go to next color and repeat. Keep notes to be sure that you repeat in the same order when wrapping to keep the color shades working in the right order. In this photo example, start with black, then one of purple and then 2 shades of a gray/lavender and white (the last color ends up being in the "middle"). Last of all was one line of black down the center. The # of wraps per color depends on the the width of the bands between the markings. Pearl cotton 8 was used here- the threads build up almost on top of each other. The number of wraps per color determine the width of the band of that color.

From Paula: I love this pattern! I have done it in the orange colorway, and also in shades of blue on a light turquoise ball. Start with a simple six divide, and then mark with pins out from the center where the bands will be. The bands work from the outside in, so it is somewhat hard to judge how many threads you will be using. For my 3 inch diameter ball I placed pins at .5c, 2 cm, and 3 cm from the pole both right and left sides of the pole for all 3 of the crossing threads at the north and south poles. The book calls for a 39cm circ ball and uses 0.7, 2.8, and 4.2.

From Ginny: the pin placement determines the width of the bands; in general use something between .5 and 1 cm for the pins closest to the pole. To determine the other two distances once you have chosen a pole distance: Second pin out is: first pin distance x 4 (ie - for Lynnes it was .7, so $.7 \times 4 = 2.8$, the pin distance for the second pin; for Paula's it was .5 so $.5 \times 4 = 2.0$). The third pin is second pin plus (first pin x 2): for Lynnes, $2.8 + (.7 \times 2) = 4.2$; for Paula's it was $2.0 + (.5 \times 2) = 3.0$

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