

# Tutorial: Coiled with Two Chopsticks



Directions  
and photos by  
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## Materials needed:

- Gourd, cut, drilled, dyed and painted inside
- Drill, 3/32" drill bit
- Tapestry needle (has large eye for the waxed linen and tip is not sharp)
- Waxed cord (3-ply) or thread - black
- Scissors, beads.
- 5/32 Danish cord or paper cord
- Chopsticks, 1 pair

## Directions:

### Prepare the Gourd

- Cut gourd, clean inside out.
- Drill holes 1/4 of an inch down and about 3/8 to 1/2 inch apart around cut edge.
- Dye outside of gourd with dyes: I used black and mahogany brown.
- Paint inside of gourd with a half and half mixture of black acrylic paint and Elmer's glue, using an old brush. Allow to dry.
- Spray gourd with a finishing acrylic spray.

### Coiling

- Pull off 2 arm-lengths of black waxed cord and thread through tapestry needle, leave a tail that is not knotted.
- Take your Danish cord and cut a small diagonal on the end and put the cut edge against the bottom, left side of the opening where it is slightly going up.
- *Row 1.* Pull thread through from the inside to the outside, catching tail end and holding it against the inside of the gourd with your finger (you will anchor it down by catching it with your next few stitches). Pull the cord tight, holding the tail end. Go around the Danish cord and back into the same hole; repeat with the next hole and so on. Pull firmly, but gently for each stitch (all the way around until you reach the starting point).
- *Rows 2-8.* Continue all way around gourd, catching these stitches onto the previous row of stitches, working toward the inside. You will not be stitching into the gourd itself, just into the stitches.

• *Rows 9- 10 (floating rows).* After completing

row 8 continue same thing for row 9 until you reach about stitch 14 or 15 which will be on the upper right side of the bottom. Start wrapping the Danish cord with



*Bottom half*

the black waxed linen to mimic the stitches for about 10 or so “stitches.” This will give you a place to anchor row 10 of coiling.

- *Row 11.* When you get over to the left side again, begin this coil on top of previous coils catching threads. Continue coiling around to bottom (still working on top of the previous row of coiling) until you are back to where you wrapped around the floating rows of Danish cord. Catch stitches in these wraps and then, still working on top of previous coil, go all the way to the top.



*3-top half of coiled with 2 chpstks*

- *Rows 12-15.* Rows 12 & 13 go to the inside of coiling until you reach about 4-6 stitches from the top on the right side. Begin stacking coiling on top catching stitches outward and upward.

Do this stacking and wrapping the top for both complete rows; For rows 14 & 15, put the top of these coils on top of the previous row and sliding down the side toward the bottom of top and hooking into stitches there. These 2 rows will attach more to the outside coils and then finally come to rest back at the very beginning.

- Beads can be strung and attached with waxed black cord near the right top ridges.
- Weave in two chop sticks through the coils that were wrapped and stitched on.

Please look at pictures and diagrams for help. 🧶



*Starting point of coil*



*Ending point of coil*

## READY-TO-CRAFT GOURDS

Cleaned and dried. Pre-cut.  
Ready for you to decorate.

- No mess
- No tools required

Choose from:

Birdhouse, Birdfeeder, Bowls, Planters,  
Masks, Flower Vases, Diorama or Fairy House,  
Banks, and Baskets.

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**Martha's Gourds**  
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