

Edgerydoo Tie Wrap Tutorial

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You probably read that title and said "tie wrap tutorial"? What in the world is that? Who is silly enough to need a tutorial on how to put on a tie wrap? Well, me. LOL So if you are like me, here ya go. You don't have to tell anyone you read it or used it. It will be our little secret.

I used part of Marleen's instructions (with her permission) along with my own comments.

First, let me explain the terms I'll use. The orange thingie is my term, but let's call it a tie wrap for the technically minded. It has a tail and a head. The puncher thingie is called an awl and the orange rubbery thing is a tube. Now I can explain.



When you receive your kit, everything is wrapped in plastic wrap. Take it all out. This might require scissors. The orange tie wrap is inside the orange tube. You can't miss it.



Take the tie wrap out of the orange tube. In the photo I also placed the rubber eraser looking thing on the top of the awl. That is the palm cushion. It protects your hand. You don't have to put it on now. You can put it on later if you want to. I just decided to do it now.



Slip the orange tube onto the pointed end of the awl which is the punching needle. There is no right or wrong side, just slip it on there, all the way to the handle.



You might wonder what is the purpose of the tube. As Marleen puts it, the tube basically has two functions. "One, it helps to protect the template from the handle of the awl. Two, it puts pressure on the template so that you can pull the awl out easily. The entire process does not work very well if you do not install it."



Now you have to install the tie wrap. Take the orange tie wrap and wrap it around the tubing at the point closest to the wooden handle, making sure that little square thingie on the end (the head) is flush with your tube on the side where the tail is attached. Read the entire section before you begin.

Here is the tricky part. I wished I had another hand when I was doing this. BTW, the purpose of the tie wrap is to hold the tube in place so it doesn't slip off while you're working.



You have to wrap the long tail around the tube. Remember you have the tube placed at the closest point to the handle, furthest from the needle point.



Insert the tail of the tie wrap into the flush side of the head of the tie wrap. There's a little slit there. But wait. The tie wrap only goes one way and once it is locked ... it is LOCKED. So be SURE that your tube is where you want it before you push the tail all the way through. In other words, you won't be able to "back it out". The tricky part is holding the tube where you want it while inserting that tail into the tie wrap head. It will pop out if it's not far enough in - as I discovered trying to take photos by myself. I really could use another two or three hands here. LOL



Slide the tail through the head until it is snug and then use scissors to trim off the tail.

Sound complicated? It really isn't once you've done it. You'll see. And you probably already got that part anyway without instructions. I am apparently tie wrap handi-capped. Don't laugh. I'm sure there are things I can do that you can't. *thinking*

So what do you do if you mess up? Hmmm. Good question. You can tighten it if it is too loose by nudging it with your fingernail. Again, make sure it is where you want it. If it is too tight, however, you are stuck. You can cut it off if you are careful, but you won't be able to use that tie wrap again. You'll have to get another. You could also take off the rubber tubing, but as Marleen says you really need it to do a proper job. Of course, I'm pretty sure you can buy rubber tubing and tie wraps at a hardware store. If you're careful, however, you should do okay. I mean, I did it and, as I said, not so easy for someone with my lack of skill in that area.

Once you have your awl prepared, you are ready to pull out your fleece and your punch pad and get going.

Have fun!