Cowerie

Seaweed

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Note

It may be helpful to practice this technique using shorter lengths of spare yarn before starting with the yarn suggested. If you use 7 different colours to practice you will see how the plait evolves, you will also get a feeling for the correct tension needed to make the plait even.

Plaited Belt

Cut 7 x 8 metre **(9 yard)** lengths.

Fold each length of yarn in half and draw the folded end through the shank at the centre of the buckle. Draw the loose ends of the yarn through the loop and pull firmly to form a knot. Repeat this process until all lengths of yarn have been secured to the central belt shank, (now 14 lengths). 2 lengths of yarn are worked together and referred to as one strand (7 strands). Secure the buckle to a firm place - tape it securely to a table, pin it to an old cushion, (I tied mine to a chair back) - it is easier if you have a flat surface to work on. Separate the strands and mark each one starting at the left side, 1 – 7. Working from left to right plait the strands as follows:

Using strand 1, the left hand side strand. Weave this over 2, under 3, over 4, under 5, over 6, under 7.

Now strand 2 is on the left hand side. Weave this over 3, under 4, over 5, under 6, over 7, under 1.

Now strand 3 is on the left hand side. Weave this over 4, under 5, over 6, under 7, over 1, under 2.

Repeat this process until the plaited length of the belt measures approx 200 cm **(79 in)**.

To finish

Secure the ends by sewing one length of yarn through the centre of the other yarns, turn, and repeat in the opposite direction, turn, and repeat in the opposite direction. Leave ends approx 20 cm **(8 in)**.

Yarn

Sari Ribbon   Sh. 10   Kelp x 1 50g hank

Extras

1 x belt buckle 6.5 x 4.5 cm **(2 ½ x 1 ¾ in)** with a central shank.

Size (approximate)

3 cm **(1 ¼ in)** wide x 200 cm **(79 in)** long (not including fringing)