

SNAKE KNOT

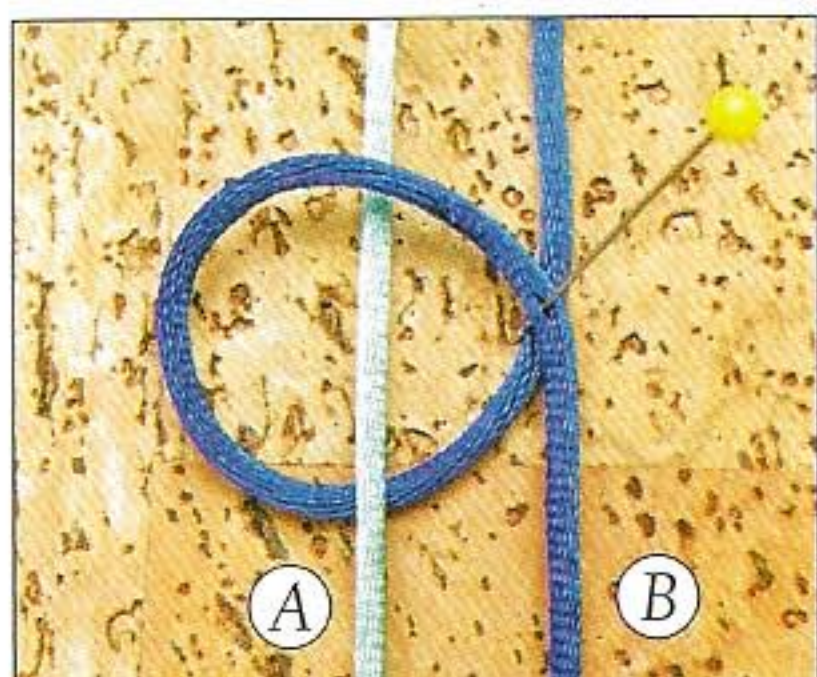


Snake knot

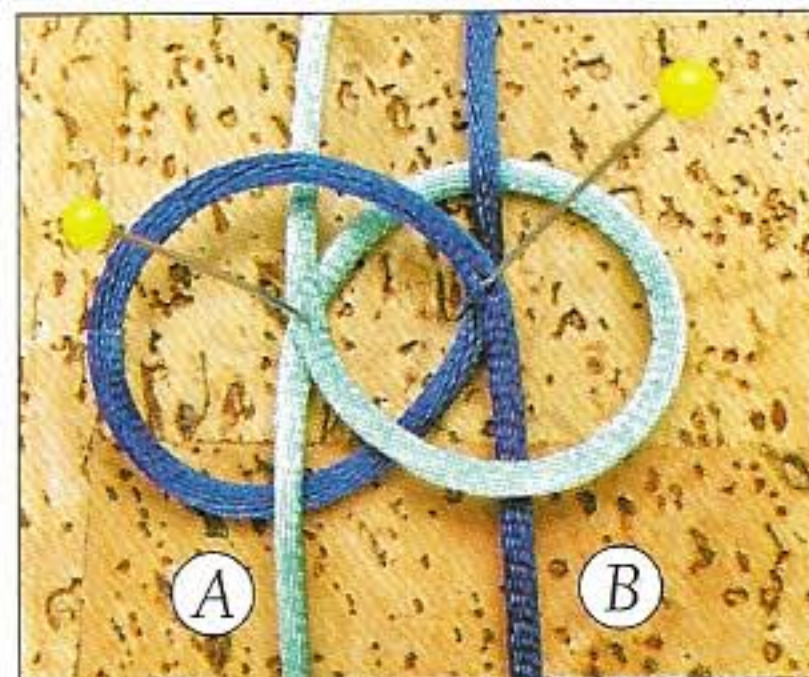
The snake is one of the twelve animals in the Chinese horoscope. It is regarded as a bringer of good fortune, and also the guardian of treasure. In China it is considered to be very unlucky to injure or kill a snake which comes into your house. Apparently there are not many poisonous varieties in China!

Tying the knot

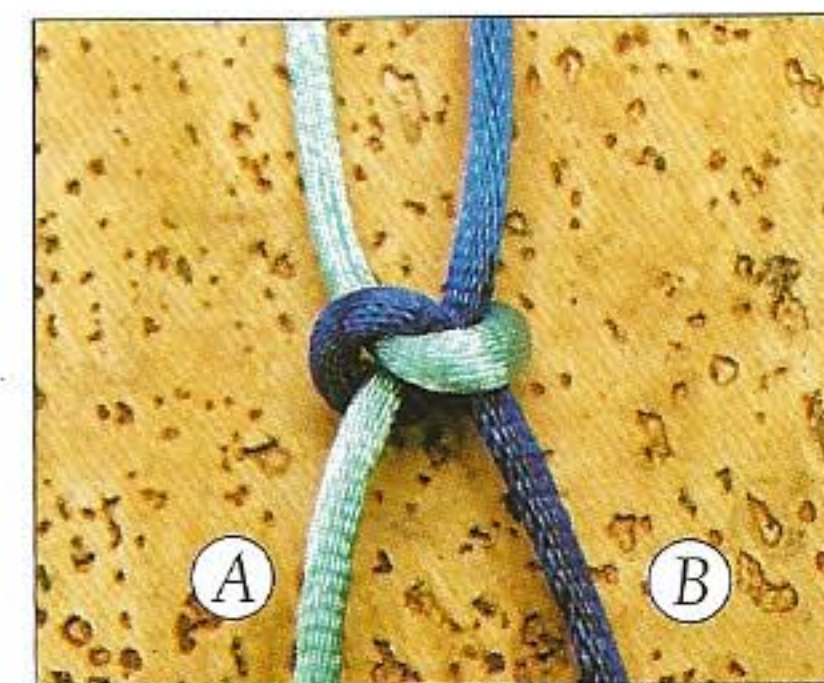
This is a very snakelike knot when made up and can twist and turn just like its namesake. Two cord ends are required to tie the knot. It looks good when worked with two different colours, but you can practise the knot with a 2m (2yd) length of cord folded in the middle. This will make a 15cm (6in) snake. A cork mat is useful for the first few stages.



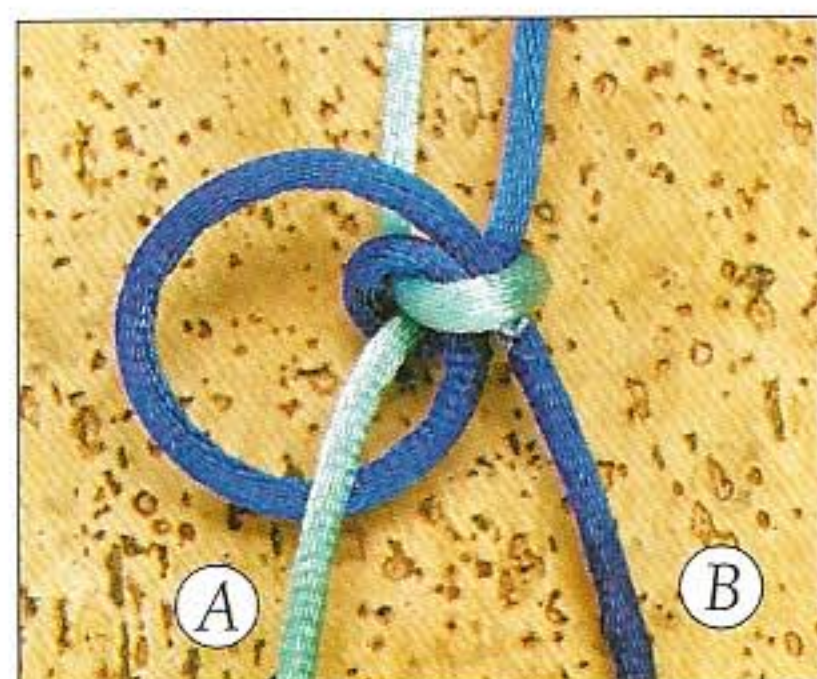
1. Make a loop with cord B, taking it under and over cord A.



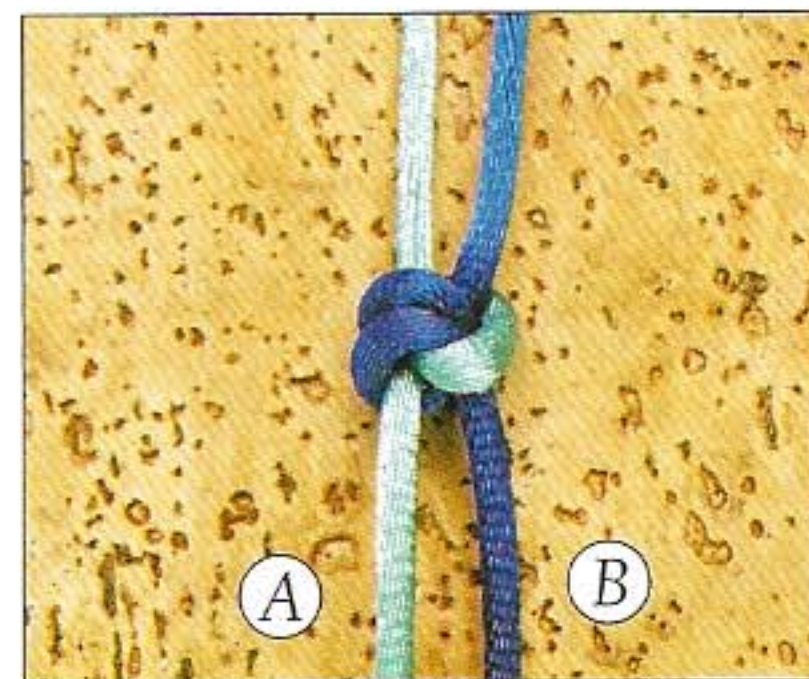
2. Now make a loop with cord A, taking it over and under the first loop and back under itself.



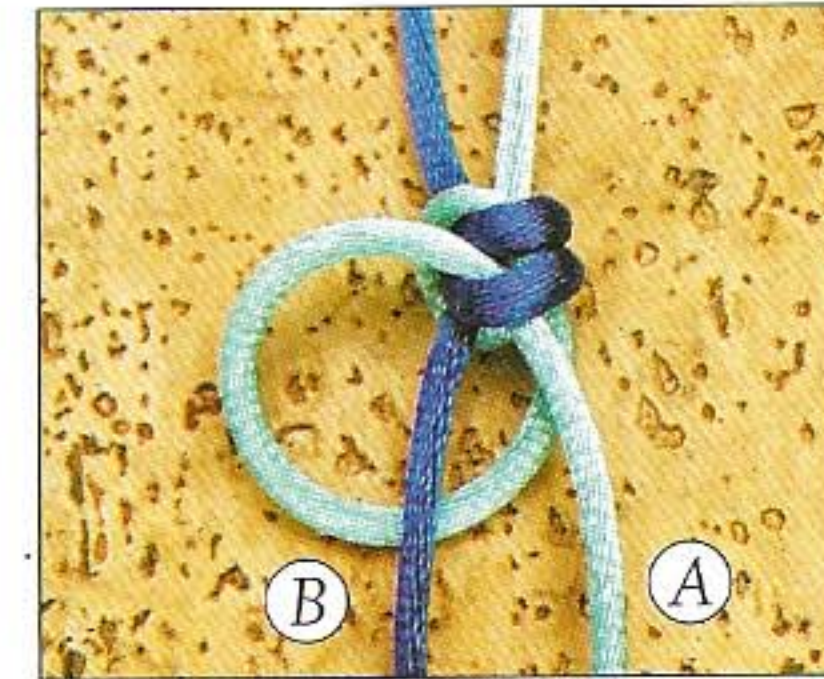
3. Gently pull both cords to close the knot.



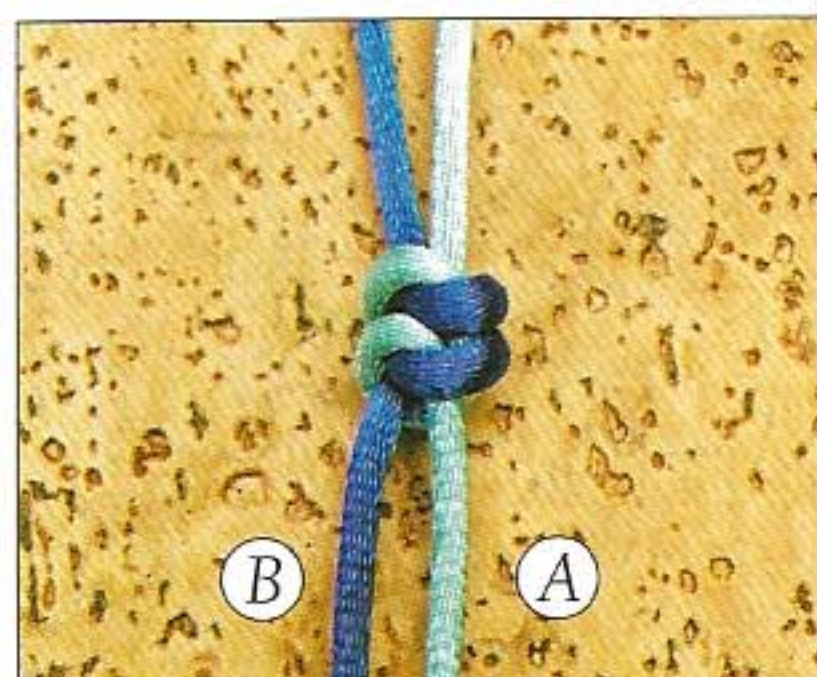
4. Take cord B under cord A and down through its loop as shown.



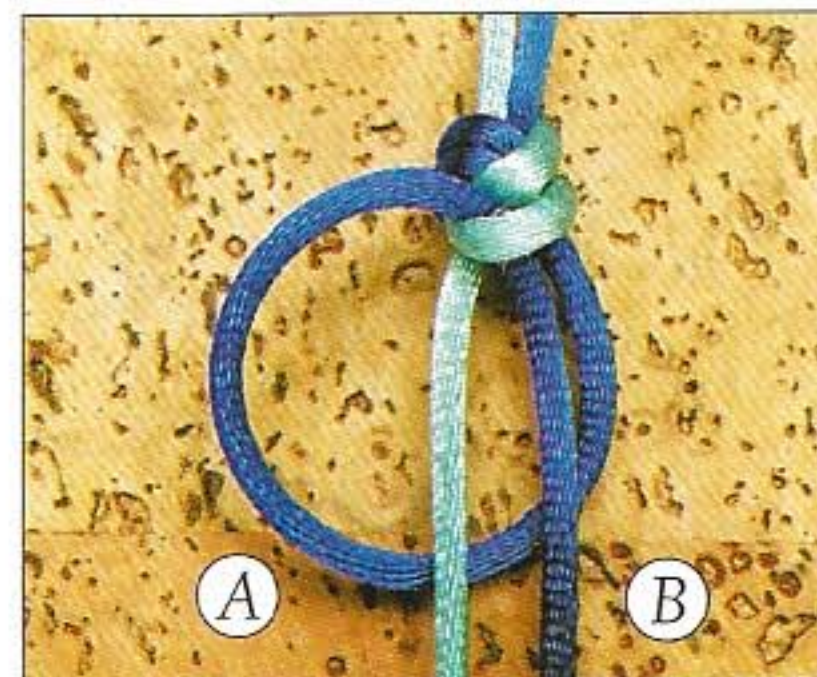
5. Gently pull cord B to close the knot. Note that the double closed loop on the left-hand side of this step only appears at the beginning of the snake.



6. Turn the knotting over and take cord A under cord B and down through the lower of the two closed loops as shown.



7. Gently pull cord A to close the knot.



8. Turn the knotting over and repeat steps 4–7 until the snake is long enough.



When you are confident with the method of knotting and have settled into a rhythm, you will find it quicker to hold the knotting in your left hand and knot from left to right. Rotate the knotting towards you to turn it over after each knot.

Snake knot necklace

Snake knots are ideal for making a heavier than usual necklace. Here, a double coin knot, tied with two cords, supports the turquoise pendant. The central design is balanced with a button knot between two glass beads on each side. The sides are then worked with continuous snake knots. The finished necklace is approximately 44cm (17¼in) long.



You will need

Two 300cm (118in) lengths of
2mm satin cord

Turquoise pendant with
a top loop

Four turquoise glass beads

Hook and eye fastener

1. Thread the pendant on to both lengths of cord, anchor at the middle, then, referring to page 44, make a double coin knot.



2. Working on one side of the pendant at a time, thread both cords through a bead and make a single button knot. Move this knot up against the bead, then thread on another bead.



3. Referring to the instructions opposite make a series of snake knots until the knotting is 15cm (6in) long.



4. Attach the hook and ring fasteners to the ends in a similar manner to that described on page 36.