



### **Braided Interwoven Star – Directions for Left Opening Braiders**

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#### **Supplies:**

Small Star: 4.5" wide X 4.25" high

3 strips of wool cut 1.25" wide that are 45" long

Ribbon for hanging loop

Safety pins, scissors, matching thread and needle

Large Star: 6" wide X 5.5" high

3 strips cut 1.25" wide that are 54" long

Ribbon for hanging loop

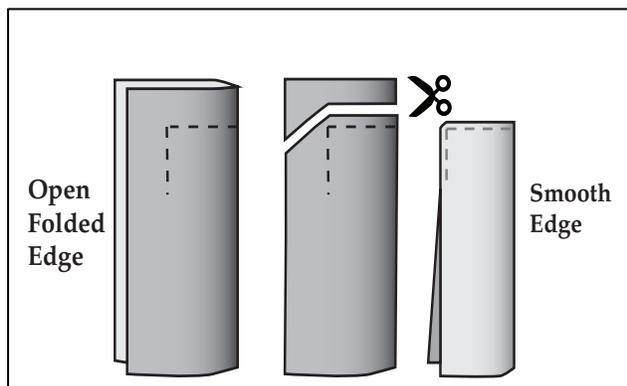
Safety pins, scissors, matching thread and needle

**Overview:** The large star has a pattern which, if 3 different-colored strands are used, is correctly butt-able. The small star will only butt if all three strands are the same colors; if different colors are used, it requires a miss-butt.

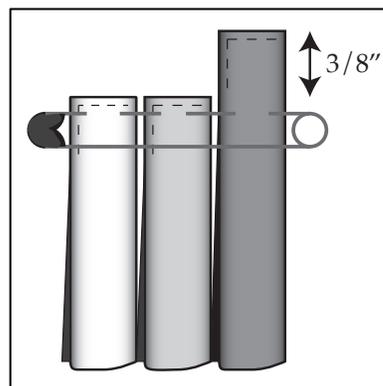
The large star has 5-over corners. The small star has 4-over corners. Personally, I like the smaller star because the 4-overs lay flat. The 5-overs, which are not laced in place, want to turn sideways rather than lay flat. However, the larger star has lacy holes at each point that are pretty.

**Butting:** Initially, I tried my favorite butt, which is Annie's Fanny. However, since the butt area is located tightly behind a crossing braid, it was really difficult to do the butt. I tried the Enclosed End Butt, and it was MUCH easier.

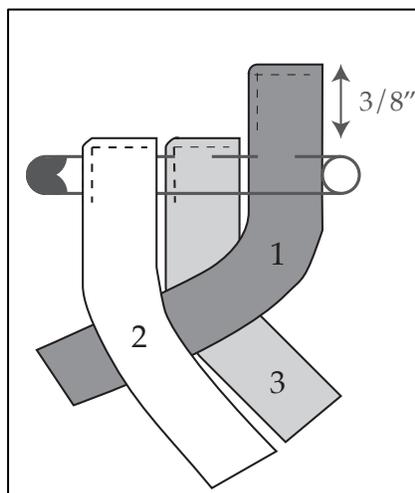
**Directions:** Small Star (with changes for Large Star in parentheses).



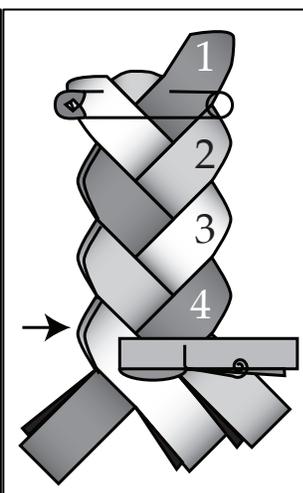
**1.** Fold strips in half lengthwise, putting right sides together. Enclose the Start ends of 3 strips with L-shaped seams that are trimmed, as shown in center image, then turned right-side out.



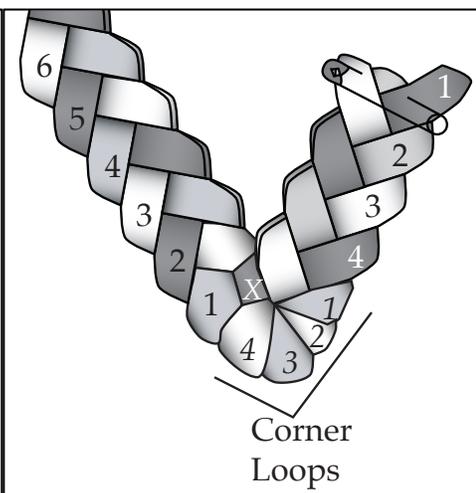
**2.** Arrange the strands on the Start Pin with the right strand  $3/8$ " longer than the other two.



**3.** Begin braiding with the longer right strand.



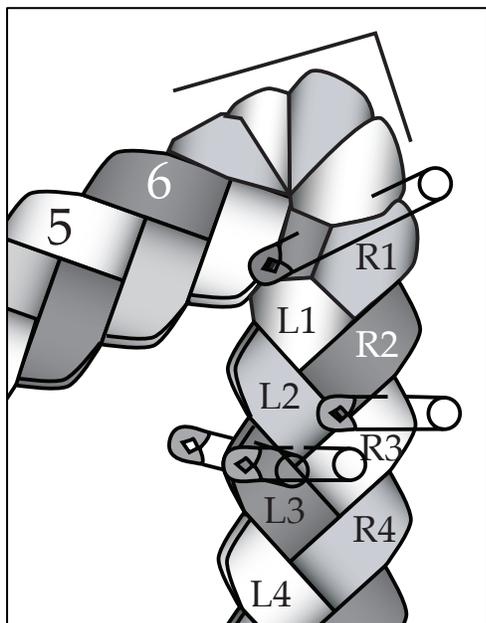
**4.** Braid until there are four loops (*large star: six loops*) on the smooth side of the braid. Braid the next strand on the left – see arrow.



**5.** Braid a Quadruple Corner, or a “4-over” corner, or Right-Right-Right-Right-Left.  
(*Large Star: braid a Quintuple Corner, or a “5-over” corner, or Right-Right-Right-Right-Right-Left.*)

**6. Braid the Sides:** Braid 6 loops, then a 4-over or quadruple corner, and repeat until there are 4 complete sides and a partial side at the Start.

(*Large Star: Braid 8 loops, then a 5-over or quintuple corner, and repeat until there are 4 complete sides and a partial side at the Start.*)

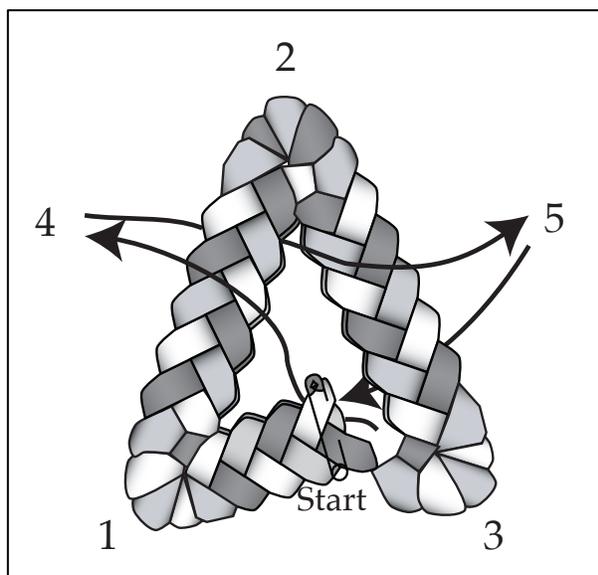


**7. Finish the 5<sup>th</sup> side:** Braid about 4 or 5 loops beyond the corner. Then, place a **Securing Pin** (diagram left) through the 4<sup>th</sup> loop of the corner and the crossover loop, trying to catch some of the 3<sup>rd</sup> loop's strand as well.

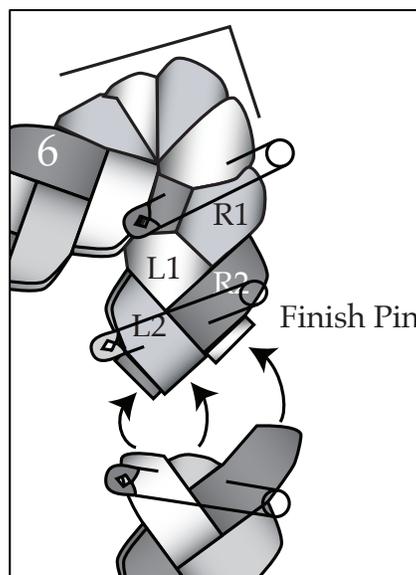
**8.** (Loops are numbered on R = Right and L=Left for clarity). Mark the Finish Ends with small marker pins as follows: At the outer top of R3, at the outer top of L3, and at the bottom corner of L2.

**9. Unbraid back to the Securing Pin.** Open out the strands and cut them ¼" longer than the marker pin. Sew ¼" deep L-shaped seams just as you did for the Enclosed End Start, and then trim the seams and turn right side out. Re-braid tightly.

**10. Place a Finish Pin** to hold the Finish Ends in place (diagram below right).



**11. Interweave the Star** before completing the butt! I found it easiest to position each corner as if I were drawing a 5-pointed star: Start's first corner at Lower Left, second corner at Top Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> corner down to Lower Right, then UNDER/OVER to get the 4<sup>th</sup> corner off to the Left, then UNDER/OVER to get the 5<sup>th</sup> corner off to the Right, then UNDER/OVER to get back to the first corner and have Start and Finish meet.



**12.** Following the arrows in above diagram, place 3 small pins that join each set's Start and Finish Ends. Note that the colors do not match for the smaller star. After pinning the sets together, remove the large Start and Finish Pins, which will be in the way.

**13.** Sew ends together with matching thread. Pull on the ends to get enough length to work with. Move the sewn ends under adjacent loops. Pull on the points to shape the star.

**14.** Tie a ribbon through a corner for hanging. Done!