

God's Protection

God's Eye Ojo de Dios

Materials:

- ♦ 2 sticks (popsticks, twigs from a tree, skewers...)
- ♦ wool in a variety of colours: in this the IY Natural Fibres you might like to use some of the bamboo, angora, soy bean, alpaca, ramie, silk, cashmere or mohair blends available commercially now.
- ♦ scissors
- ♦ *Optional:* shortish piece of chenille stick, glue

What to do.

- ♦ Form a cross with the sticks, then fasten them together by either winding the chenille stick around the crossed sticks, tying them together with wool or gluing the popsticks together at the centre crossing point.
- ♦ Choose a coloured wool, cut a long length off and tie it to the centre of the God's Eye.
- ♦ Start winding the wool (wind over the top of the arm from right to left, then under and out to the right) once around one arm of the cross then under the next arm, always going in the same direction (clockwise around the eye). [See diagrams for clarification.] Keep track of what to do by repeating "around and under, around and under" as you do it.
- ♦ **Note:** You are actually working on the back side of the eye, not the front: see photos for clarification. It helps to keep track of what the front looks like to make sure you are doing it correctly.
- ♦ As you use up one piece of wool, tie another length of a different colour to the last piece.

Continued next page

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Readings: Psalm 84;
Ephesians 6:10-20

This is a craft thought to come originally from the Huichol Indians of Mexico. The Huichol call their God's eyes Sikuli, which means "*the power to see and understand things unknown.*" When a child is born, the central eye is woven by the father, then one 'eye' is added for every year of the child's life until the child reaches the age of five.

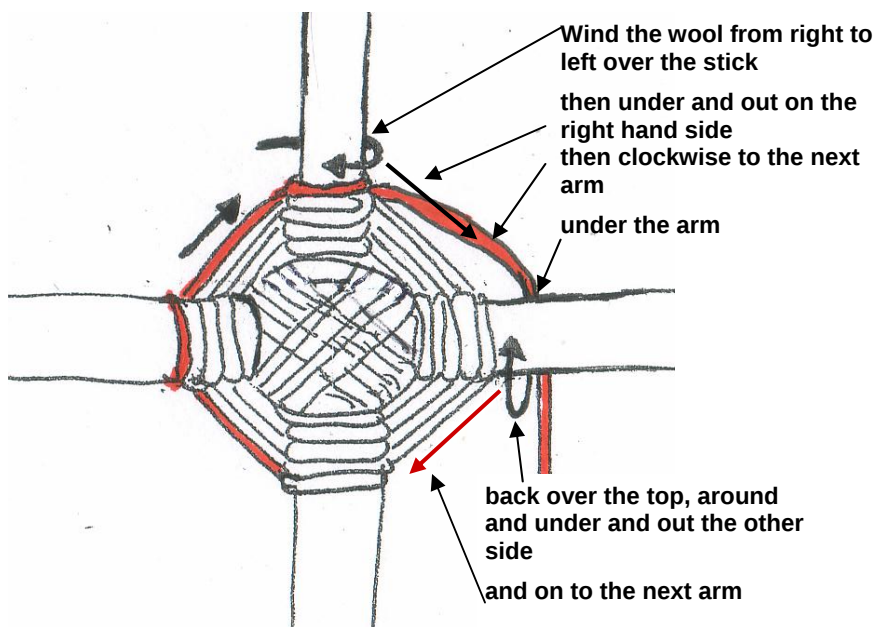
They are now commonly used to remind us that God looks with love on people everywhere.

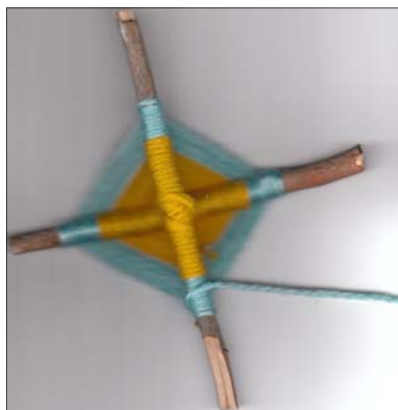


Working from the back: around then under the next stick



What it is beginning to look like on the other side





**Progressing back
with change of colours**



**Progressing front
with change of colours**

- ◆ When the arms are completely covered, tie a knot to hold the wool fast, then use the rest of the length of wool to make a hanging loop to hang it by.
- ◆ I glued the end of the loop into the groove along the stick at the back of the eye. (optional)



Finished front



Finished back

The traditional eye would have had 6 colours:
the one started at the child's birth, then one for each
of the next five years of the child's life.

Use also for any psalms
where God's watchful, loving
care is celebrated

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