

Week 8

This week we will finish the bag. We will make the strap and attach it to the bag.

There are different ways to make a strap for a Mochila. For the cal we made a pattern for a crocheted strap, three patterns for a woven strap, a macrame strap and a ply split strap.

Length of the strap

To determine how long the strap needs to be, put a tape-measure over your shoulder and hold the bag at a comfortable height. This way you can decide how long you want the strap to be.

Crocheted strap

A strap is crocheted length wise. You start every row on the same side. If you are right handed, you start every row on the right side. If you are left handed, you start every row on the left side.

In this video you can see how to crochet a strap, youtu.be/Avd9rBRJz_s

Before you start, you have to calculate how many stitches you will need.

To determine how many stitches you need to chain, count the number of stitches in 10 cm / 4 inch on the bag. If you want the strap to be 1 meter / 40 inch, you multiply that number by 10.

For example: If you want a 1 meter / 40 inch long strap and if you have 36 stitches in 10 cm / 4 inch. Then you will need 360 stitches.

The pattern has a repeat of 24 stitches. You can repeat the pattern 15 times. $15 \times 24 = 360$ stitches plus 6 for the border = 366 stitches . So you chain 366.

Chain the number of stitches you need, make them tight. Start crocheting in the first chain. This way you can always add or remove a few stitches.

At the beginning and at the end, leave a tail of yarn, you can braid them later.

For the crocheted strap you only need colors A, B, C and D. You can choose to carry 3 yarns for the strap.

If you want the strap to be a bit firmer, you can carry color E too.

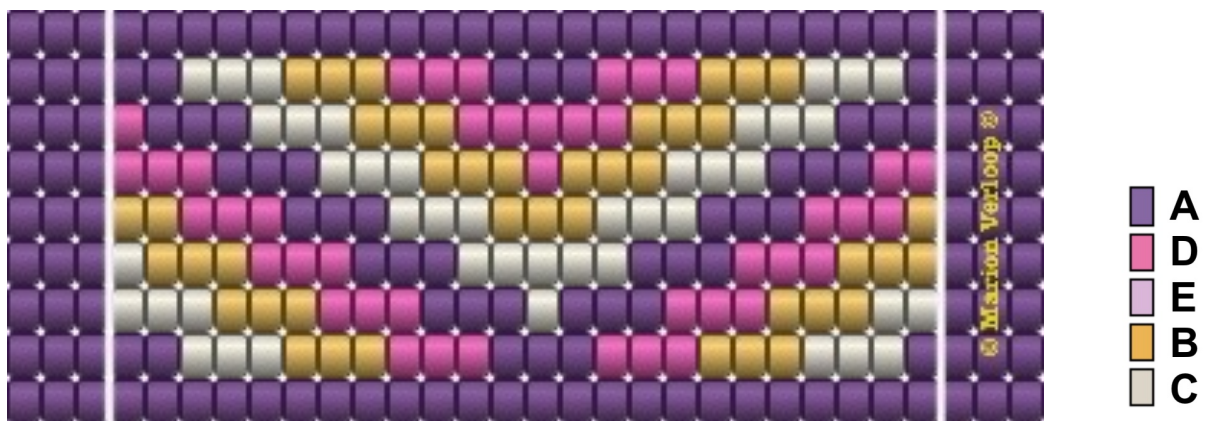
Written instructions

Repeat what is between * * as many times as needed for the length of your strap.

1. 3A, * 24A *, 3A
2. 3A, * 1A, 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 3D, 3B, 3C, 2A *, 3A
3. 3A, * 2C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 1C, 3A, 3D, 3B, 3C *, 3A
4. 3A, * 3B, 3D, 3A, 5C, 3A, 3D, 3B, 1C *, 3A
5. 3A, * 1B, 3D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 3C, 3A, 3D, 2B *, 3A
6. 3A, * 2D, 3A, 3C, 3B, 1D, 3B, 3C, 3A, 3D *, 3A
7. 3A, * 3A, 3C, 3B, 5D, 3B, 3C, 3A, 1D *, 3A
8. 3A, * 1A, 3C, 3B, 3D, 3A, 3D, 3B, 3C, 2A *, 3A
9. 3A, * 24A *, 3A

Working with the graph

Start with the three border stitches. Then repeat the pattern between the white lines.
At the end of the row crochet the three border stitches.



The crocheted strap will look like this.
The crocheted strap is about 4,5 cm / 1.8 inch wide



Woven strap

There are three options to weave the strap. There are two plain weave patterns, a smaller one and a wider one. The small one will be about 3,5 cm / 1.3 inch wide. The wider one will be about 5 cm / 2 inch wide.

There is also an option for plain weave with a little pick up. This strap is also about 5 cm / 2 inch wide.

When you want two short straps on your bag, I suggest to make the smaller plain weave strap.

In this video you can see how to make heddles for a Schacht inkle loom. youtu.be/67R9ku57yGY

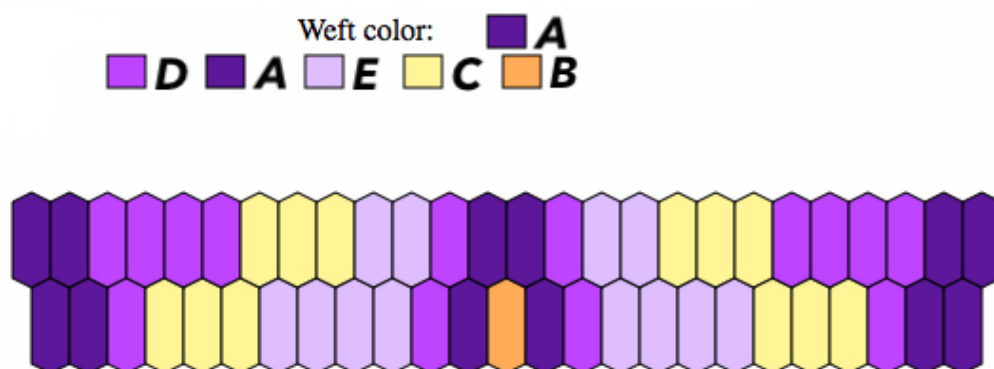
In this video you can see how to warp an inkle loom. youtu.be/mqdlalKsi9U

In this video you can see how to start weaving. youtu.be/10P6VS-hErA

In this (Dutch) video you can see how to attach a new weft yarn. youtu.be/0jjqcU6qgtw

Smaller plain weave strap

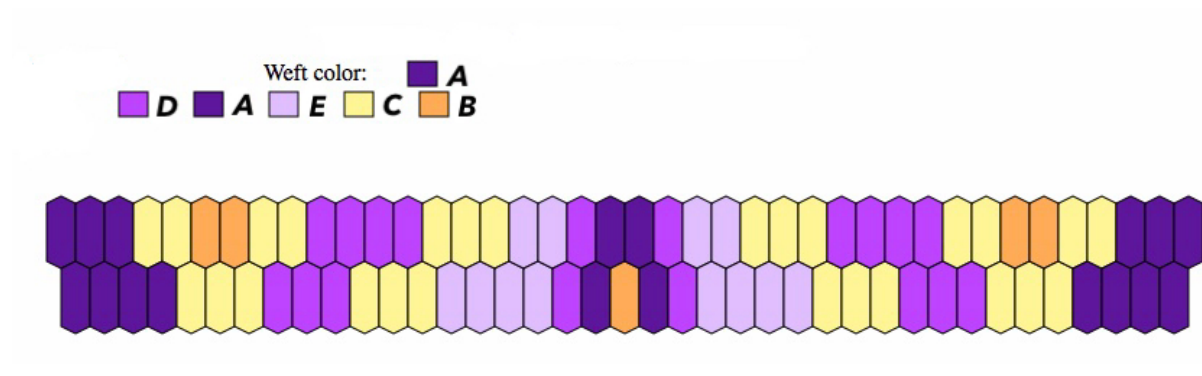
In the picture below you see the warp pattern for the smaller strap. Each box represents one yarn. The boxes in the upper row, represent the yarns that get a heddle.



The smaller plain weave strap will look like this.

Wider plain weave strap

In the picture below you see the warp pattern for the wider strap. Each box represents one yarn. The boxes in the upper row, represent the yarns that get a heddle.



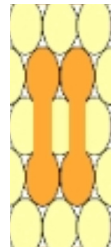
This warp pattern is for a plain weave strap and for the plain weave strap with pick up. (On page 40 you will find instructions for the pick up version.)



The plain weave band will look like this.

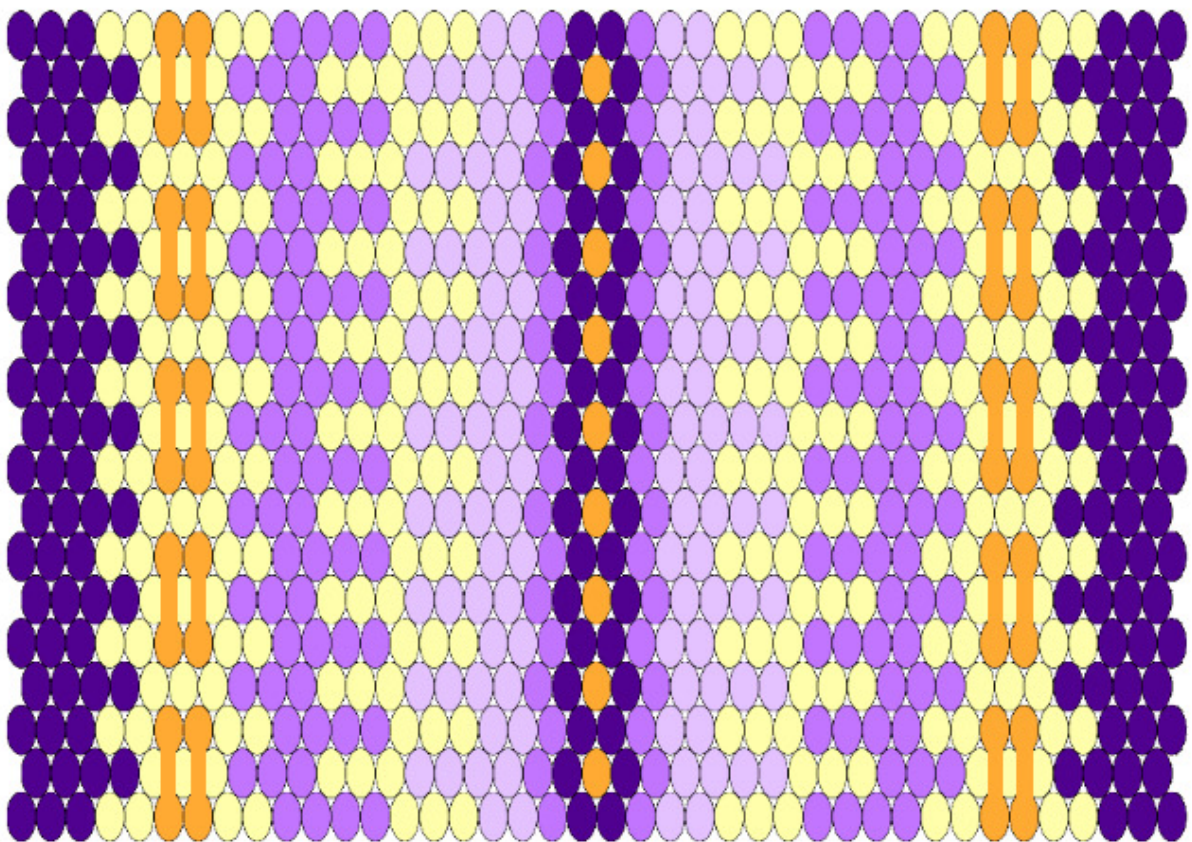
Wider strap with pick up

For the wider strap with pick up you use the warp sequence on page 39. In the picture below you see the pick up pattern. The line that connects the 2 beads (see picture on the right) is where you have to pick up a yarn. (You do not drop any yarns.)

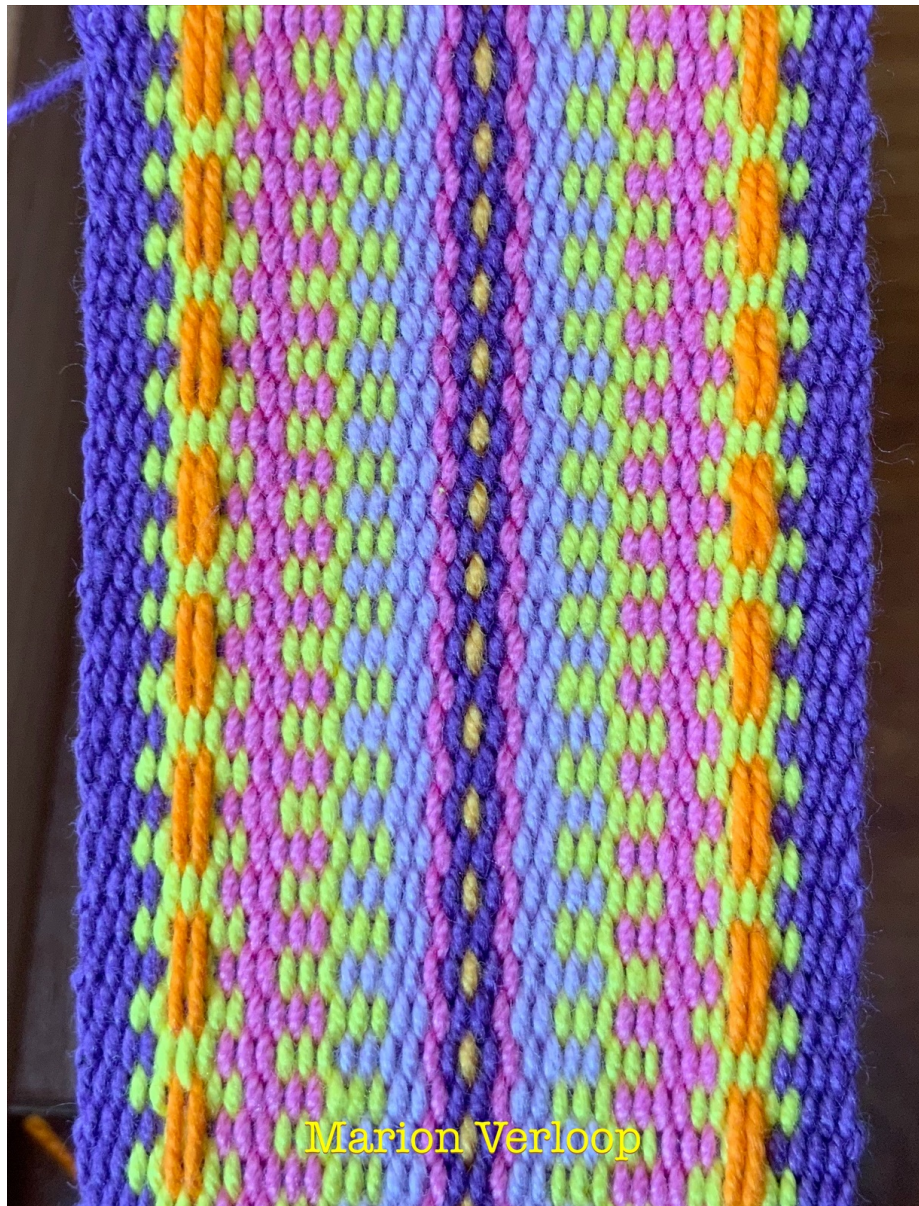


You only have to pick up a yarn in the rows where the line connects the two beads. All the other rows are just plain weave.

In this video I show how to do the pick up. youtu.be/By16_fjBt5I



The woven strap with pick up will look like this.



Ply split braiding strap

You can also make the strap with Ply split braiding. Angelique Jansen-Maijen made a pattern for us and she made this picture tutorial.

The ply split strap will be about 5,5 cm / 2.2 inch wide.

In the Ply split braiding group you can find instructions how to make cords.

In this video you can see how to split the cords at $\frac{1}{4}$ turn. youtu.be/53dzZ5WVRuU

For each color you need 8 cords of at least 2.5 meters to make a 1 meter long strap, so you need a total of 40 cords.

Put the cords in this order:

BB CC AA DD EE EE DD AA CC BB x 2

The cords are split on $\frac{1}{4}$ turn unless mentioned different.

(see Facebook group ply-split braiding)

Put a supporting cord through the middle of the cords and make a knot on the front of it, so you can see which side is the front and which side is the back.

You work on the front (F) or back (B) side. Look carefully at the instructions to see on what side you have to split the cords.



You always start counting from right to left.

You start splitting in the middle of the cords.

Step 1

You start working above the supporting cord.

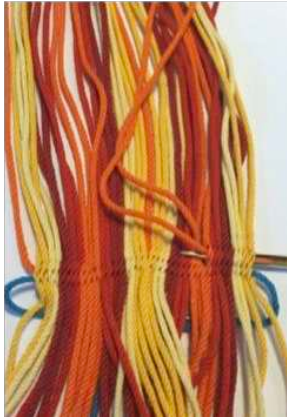


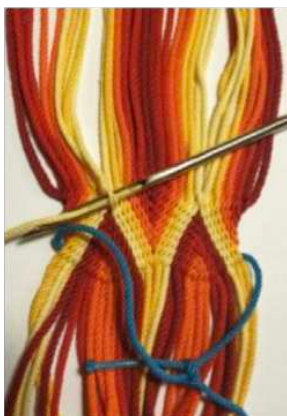
F: split cord 1 to 10 and pull 11 through





Step 2

F: split cord 21 to 30 and pull 31 through



<p>Step 3</p> <p>B: split cord 1 to 9 and pull 10 through</p>	
<p>Step 4</p> <p>B: split cord 20 to 29 and pull 30 through</p>	
<p>Repeat steps 1 to 4, 6 times</p>	
<p>Step 5</p> <p>F: split cord 10 and pull 11 through</p>	
<p>Step 6</p> <p>F: split cord 30 and pull 31 through</p>	

<p>Step 7</p> <p>F: split cord 11 to 20 and pull 21 through</p>	
<p>Step 8</p> <p>F: split cord 31 to 39 and pull 40 through</p> <p>Split cord 39 at $\frac{1}{2}$ turn for the first repeat. On other repeats split at $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.</p>	
<p>Step 9</p> <p>B: split cord 10 to 19 and pull 20 through</p>	
<p>Step 10</p> <p>B: split cord 30 to 39 and pull 40 through</p> <p>Split cord 39 at $\frac{1}{2}$ turn for the first repeat. On other repeats split at $\frac{1}{4}$ turn.</p>	
<p>Repeat steps 7 to 10, 6 times</p>	
<p>Step 11</p> <p>F: split cord 20 and pull 21 through</p>	

Repeat steps 1 to 11 (including the repeats) until you are at the end of the cords.



Transition from the middle point to the other half:
Pull the supporting cord out and weave it in a bit higher in the already finished part.
Make a knot in the front again.

B: split cord 20 and pull 21 through

B: split cord 1 to 10 and pull 11 through
Split cord 21 to 30 and pull 31 through

F: split cord 1 to 9 and pull 10 through
Split cord 20 to 29 and pull 30 through, etc.

(so, what you did in the front of the first part, you do that in the back of the second part and vice versa.)

Finishing

Angelique chose to finish the strap pointed. You can also choose a straight finish. Then you just make a double loop knot in the end of the cord and cut of the cords straight. (see last picture on page 46)

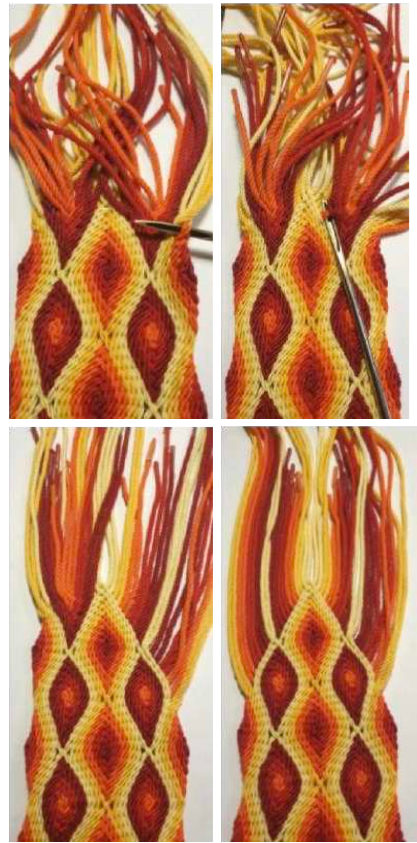
To make a pointed finish, make sure the cords are lined up in the starting position.

F: split cord 17 to 20 and pull 21 through
B: split cord 17 to 19 and pull 20 through
F: split cord 18 to 20 and pull 21 through
B: split cord 18 + 19 and pull 20 through
F: split cord 19 + 20 and pull 21 through
B: split cord 19 and pull 20 through
F: split cord 20 and pull 21 through



Now we have to undo some of the splitting on the outside, so the strap really ends like a point.

From the outside, pull out the cords one by one until you get to color C. See pictures.



Finish the ends of the cords by making a double loop knot (see picture) and cut of the remaining cord.

With a double loop knot you get a straight knot.



The pointed end will look like this.



The finished strap looks like this.



When you have questions, please let us know. You can find help in the Facebook group Mochila bags, crochet and in the Facebook group Ply-Split Braiding.

Macrame strap

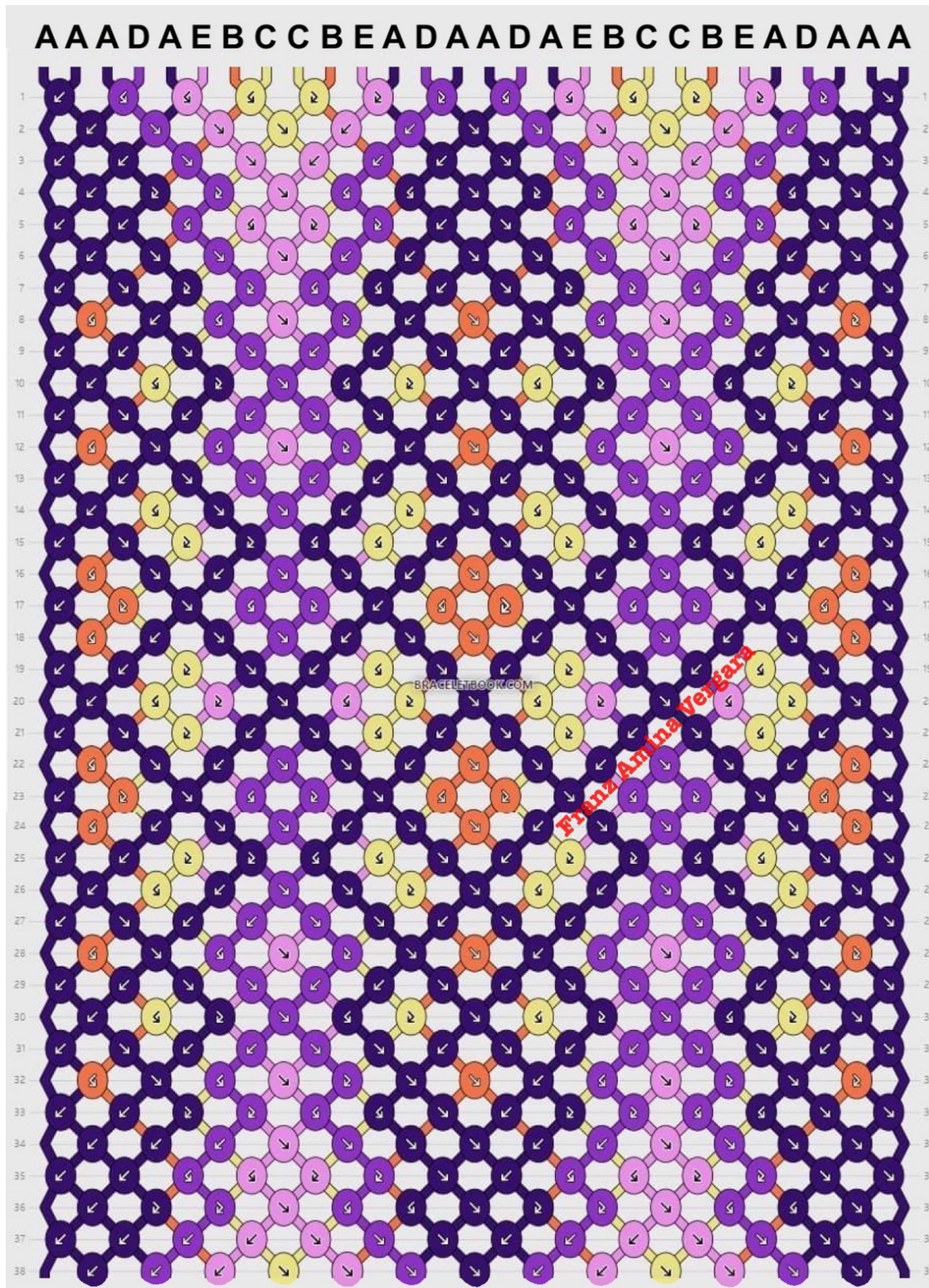
You can also make the strap with macrame. Franz designed the pattern for us.

In this video you can see how to make the basics knots. youtu.be/Zz_UKyGnQc

In this video you see how to set up the yarns. youtu.be/KqRDdPB1x7w

For macrame, you need 2 yarns as one.

For a 1 meter long strap, the yarns have to be 7 meter long.



The macrame strap will be about 5,5 cm / 2.2 inch wide.



Nelda tried the macrame strap, see picture on the left.

Unfortunately she made a mistake and then decided to make a plain weave strap.

Of course Franz also made the macrame strap. She made it with 3 blue colors, orange and yellow. See picture below.



Attaching the strap

You sew the strap to the bag with sewing thread. Try to sew in between the stitches. In this video you can see how to sew the strap to the bag. youtu.be/KmLkre8iAFA
If you want to have an adjustable strap, check this video. youtu.be/lwJv23kUBRY
An adjustable strap is possible for a woven, a crocheted and a macrame strap. The ply split strap is too thick to fit through a buckle, to make it adjustable.

You can attach the strap on the inside or on the outside of the bag. This is just personal preference.

If you have one long strap, you attach the strap on the left and on the right side of the bag.

If you have two shorter straps, place them as seen in the picture below.



The finished oval bag made by Ann looks like this.
Ann chose to make one wider strap and attach it on the left and right side.
(After Ann finished the strap, I changed the pattern for the pick up pattern a bit. That is why it looks a little bit different.)



The finished oval bag made by Angelique with a ply split strap looks like this.



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