

# Cords

## Basic Knots for Beaders

**Professional Tip:** Whether to finish off a piece or place knots between beads a few fundamental knots are good to know.

### Top Knots for Beaders

Knots come into play in different ways in beading. Here are a few of the most useful ones. Most of these are good for any cords.

1. **OVERHAND KNOT:** Probably the most familiar and frequently used knot. Simply make a loop, take one end through the loop. Pulling both ends will tighten the knot. **HINT:** This is a good finishing knot, the only difference being that both ends are brought together to make the loop and pulled through it.
2. **SQUARE KNOT:** A good knot to use when you need to add thread to an unfinished piece. Think of it as two overhand knots tied in opposite directions. Cross right over left, wrap (a) around (b). Then cross left over right and then through it. Pull tight.
3. **SURGEON'S KNOT:** Consider this extra secure knot when joining slippery stringing materials. Start off as you would a square knot, but this time wrap the right cord around twice on the first overhand knot. Complete as a normal square knot. Tighten the knot.
4. **LARKS'S HEAD KNOT:** A favorite useful way to attach pendants, such as "donuts". Just bend the material in half. Bring the fold through the hole of the bead or pendant. Pull both ends through the loop. Tighten.

