

## **Ojo de Dios (God's Eye)**

Ojo de Dios is Spanish for "Eye of God." It is pronounced "oh-ho-day-Dee-ohs" (the "j" is silent or sometimes has a soft "h" sound). Ojos de Dios (plural) were discovered by early Spaniards when they encountered the Huichol (pronounced "wettchol") Indians in the Sierra Madre mountains of Mexico. The Ojo de Dios symbolizes the ability to see and understand unseen things.

The four points of the crossed sticks represent earth, air, water and fire. Ojos de Dios were also important to the Aymara Indians from what is now Bolivia, South America. Native Americans in the southwestern region of the United States also adopted the Ojos de Dios. The Navajo are known for their eight-sided Ojos de Dios. Today, Christians throughout the world have adopted the Ojo de Dios as a symbol for the one and only God. When one makes a traditional Ojo de Dios, she or he is expressing a prayer that the "Eye of God" will either watch over them, or the person for whom they are making the Ojo de Dios. Some Christians associate the following prayer with the Ojo de Dios: "May the eye of God be upon you."

### **Materials:**

- Two small sticks that are approximately 5" long (e.g., popsicle sticks)
- Skeins of yarn – 2 colors
- Scissors
- Pencil

### **Instructions:**

1. Make an "X" with the two sticks (**FIGURE 1**).



**FIGURE 1**

2. Tie the two sticks together, making an "X" with the end of the yarn skein (**FIGURE 2**). Do not cut the yarn off the skein. Tie the yarn in back of the crossed sticks.

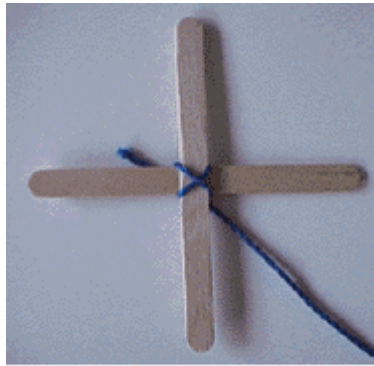


FIGURE 2

3. With a pencil, number the ends of the sticks (**FIGURE 3**).



FIGURE 3

4. Bring the yarn to the front between sticks 3 and 4. Pull the yarn over stick 3 and stick 2. Bring the yarn to the back between sticks 2 and 1. Wrap the yarn behind stick 2 and bring the yarn to the front again between sticks 2 and 3. Pull the yarn over stick 2 and stick 1. Wrap the yarn behind stick 1 (**FIGURE 3**).
5. Pull the yarn over stick 1 and stick 4. Wrap the yarn behind stick 4. Pull the yarn over stick 4 and the stick 4. Wrap the yarn behind stick 3. You have completed one round! Always lay the yarn next to the yarn that is already in place - NOT on top of the yarn.
6. Continue wrapping the yarn behind each stick, over that stick and the next, and around behind that one, then over that stick and the next and behind that one (**FIGURE 4**). After your first few rounds, you will see the woven pattern of the "eye" beginning to form.

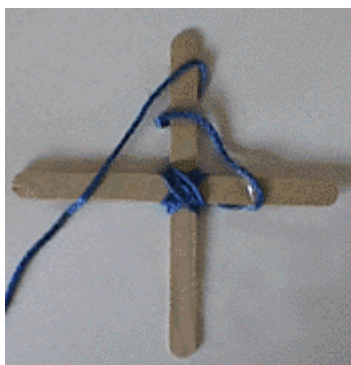


FIGURE 4

7. Once you have an "eye" in one yarn color, cut the yarn and tie on another color. Continue weaving. Make sure the knot you used to join the 2 yarn colors with stays in the back (**FIGURE 5**).



FIGURE 5

8. Add as many colors of yarn as you like (**FIGURE 6**).



FIGURE 6

9. Continue weaving the "God's Eye" until you are about a 1/2 inch from the ends of the sticks. Cut the yarn, leaving approximately a 7-8" tail. Tie the tail in a knot in back (**FIGURE 7**).



FIGURE 7