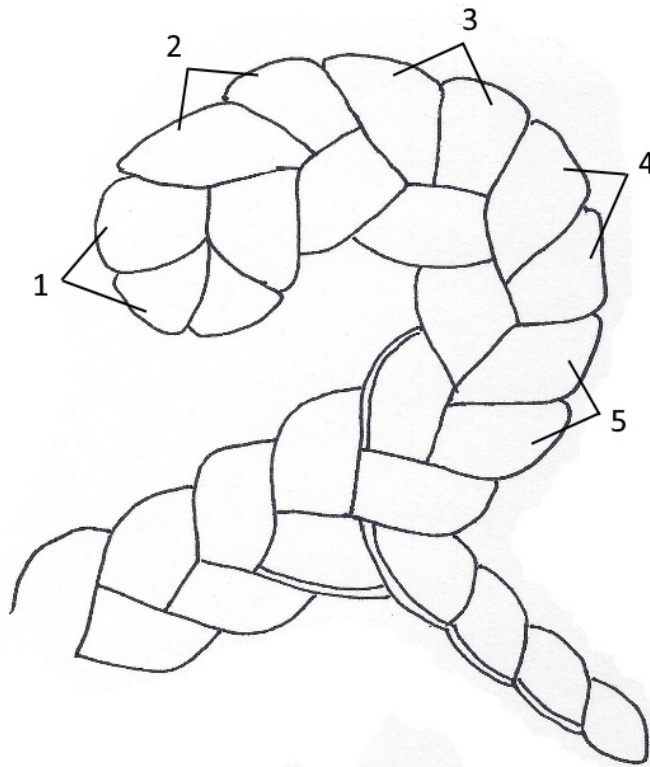


# Braided Pear or Strawberry

By Marjorie Kauffman

Twisted Strand Strawberry Trivet - Left Op.

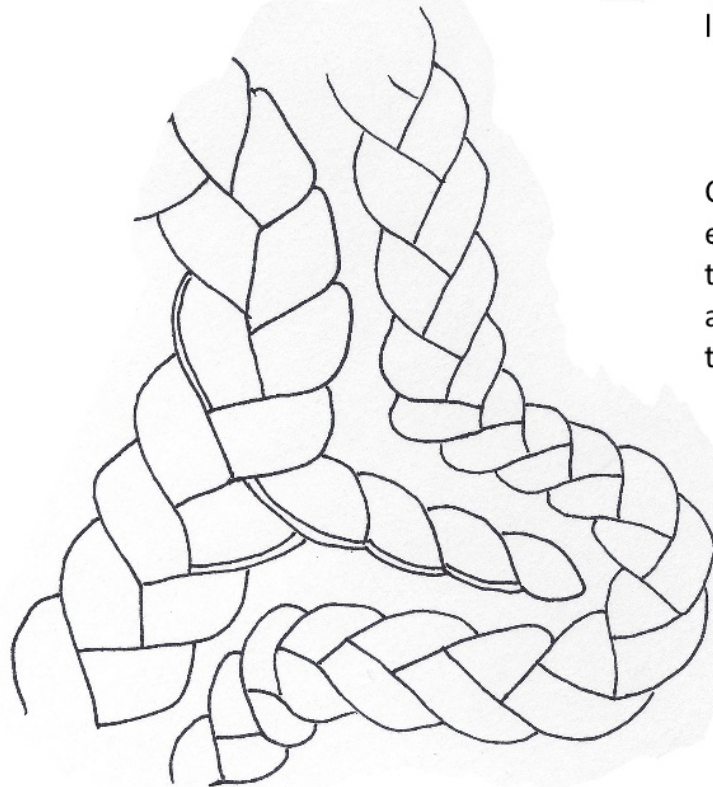
Marjorie Kauffman 2017



After making a T-start, braid 4 or 5 double corners. Braid until the strand that you wish to twist, is ready to go back into the braid. Pin all 3 strands to hold.

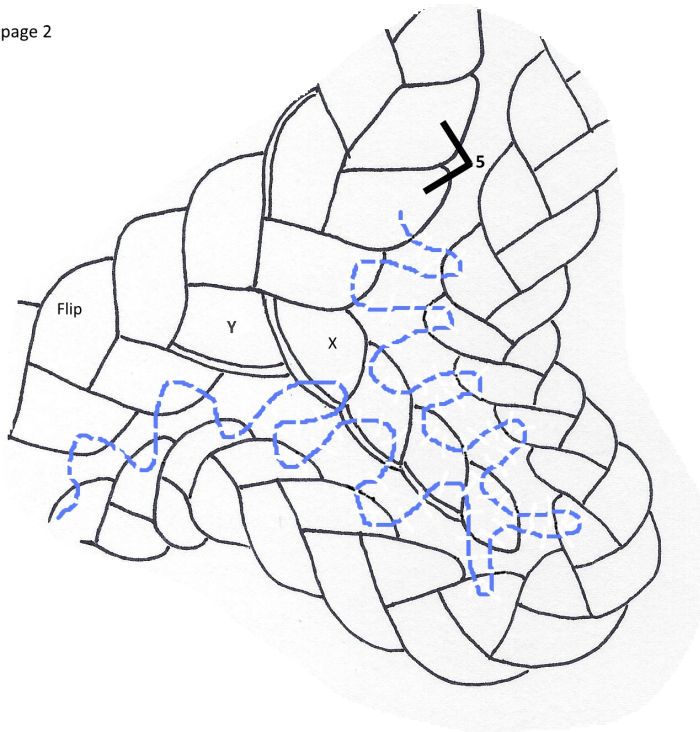
You can then baste, or pin and steam approx. 1 foot of the chosen strand.

Hold strand up, as if working on the back side, keeping fold on the left. Fold strand left, then around the back and bring to front from right side of itself. Continue bringing strand over from right side, placing a small pin on each twist. When finished, it will go back into braid with the opening on the wrong side. Flip over after one loop.



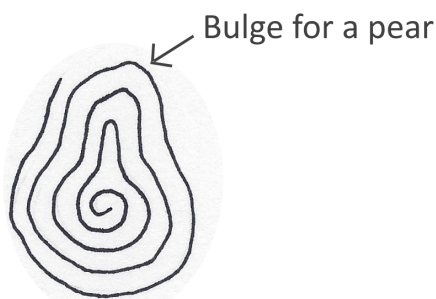
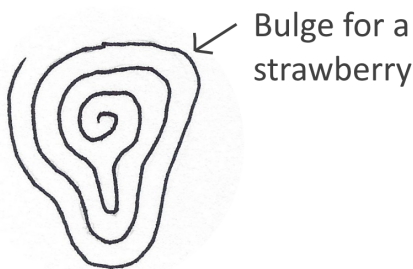
Continue straight braiding long enough to go around the center and the twist. Lace normally, skipping as necessary, until coming to the twisted strand.

page 2



When lacing the next row, skip the twisted strand loop-X. Remove pins as you work down the twist, lacing every loop between the attaching braid and the twist.

At the point, skip a loop on the braid, go up through the point, skip another loop (or 2) on the braid, and go back through the point. Skip as needed, then lace every loop, including the X-loop previously skipped. Skip the Y-loop, and lace normally.



Try to lace a bulge in the shape, where your taper will pull in on the final row. When the trivet is the intended size, begin to narrow the strands as you come to the last 'shoulder'. Choose the brightest/most contrasting color, or thickest strand to pull in first.

If making a pear stem, pull the first strand under the edge, and out the front of the mat. Cut off. Unbraid and sew a piece of brown wool, approx. 1.5" x 3" to the end of the strand, right sides together. Sew the other end of brown into an enclosed end. Rebraid.

Twist the last 2 strands three times, and pull into the braid, as your usual taper.

You can make leaves any number of ways. The following page gives patterns to copy if you wish. You can make a small pear leaf with two layers, sewn right sides together and turned, or simply stitched together as veining. The strawberry stem can be sewn like an enclosed end, and stitched to the top set of leaves through a slit in the center. Place onto the bottom set, and machine sew together. Then hand sew onto the mat.

