

Braiding with wire

In this class we will take time to measure wire and set up your dai so that you can become familiar with the properties of metal as it relates to braiding. There are maru dai available for rental, but you are welcome to use other stands if you are interested in experimenting with them. I recommend either a taka dai or a kaku dai.

If you have warping pegs bring them. However, I will have a few with me.

With regard to the wire, we will be using copper wire. Since I do not know what is easily available in various countries, I will bring spools with me which you can purchase. I generally order 1/4lb (approx. 120gr) spools. These have plenty of yards (meters) for any project – at least 800-2000 feet depending on size (240-600 m). I will also have some of the most common sizes: 30, 32 and 34 gauge (0.2mm to 0.127mm approx. in diameter). Prices are \$15 and \$30. I will also have a small supply of smaller spools which are cheaper (around \$9) with about 100 yards (90 m) of wire on each.

If you want to buy your own wire, you will need copper wire in size 30 gauge (approx. 0.2mm) and will need about 100 yards (90 m).

You will also may want to have the following:

- a pair of cheap scissors to cut wire
- a chopstick
- some yarn to tie your warp

Gauge Guide		
36 ga. _____	10-16 gauge is the heaviest wire, ideal for projects that require stability such as windchimes, bookends and photo/card holders.	_____ 22 ga.
34 ga. _____		_____ 20 ga.
32 ga. _____	18-22 gauge is sturdy wire, perfect for jewelry, beading and floral.	_____ 18 ga.
30 ga. _____		_____ 16 ga.
28 ga. _____	22-26 gauge is finer wire, used for embellishing memory pages and stamping.	_____ 14 ga.
26 ga. _____		_____ 12 ga.
24 ga. _____		_____ 10 ga.
	28-36 gauge is the finest wire available, used for knitting and weaving.	