

Introduction to Cross Wrap Designs

Cross Wrap 4

Another method of doing cross wraps without a rod lathe is to use rod supports to hold the rod. Rod supports can be as simple as notches on both sides of a cardboard box or a couple caster wheels mounted back to back on wooden blocks. More elaborate types of rod supports can be made from wood, metal or plastic. Or they can be purchased ready-made from many sources.

This method of cross wrapping entails holding the spool of thread in one hand while the other hand turns the rod being held level in the supports. The thread is spiraled up the rod (toward the tip) by one hand and then switching hands when spiraling the thread back down the rod (toward the butt).

The hand holding the spool of thread supplies the tension on the thread. Experience will teach you how much tension is correct. Too much or too little thread tension will lead to problems in packing threads later in the wrapping. Clean hands are also important so you do not transfer dirt or oil from your hands to the thread. The following is a photo of this technique of cross wrapping



Take home lesson: use rod supports when working space is small.