

Introduction to Cross Wrap Designs Cross Wrap 5

For those of you who do own a rod lathe, one of the many uses of the lathe is to hold the rod while doing a cross wrap. A scrap piece of rod can be inserted into the butt end of the rod and then the chuck is closed on the scrap piece so the chuck does not damage the rod being wrapped. Using three or more lathe rod supports to support the rod is ideal to keep the rod steady and under tension while turning.

The spool of thread is hand held while spiraling it up and down the rod to create the design. The hand holding the spool of thread controls the thread tension. My preference is to leave the belt from the lathe motor connected to the chuck as it provides resistance and better tension control on the thread. The following photo shows a rod chucked into a lathe while cross wrap is applied –



Take home lesson: Notice the masking tape reversed on itself with sticky side up to hold threads from moving while reversing direction during wrapping. Some prefer double stick tape for this purpose