

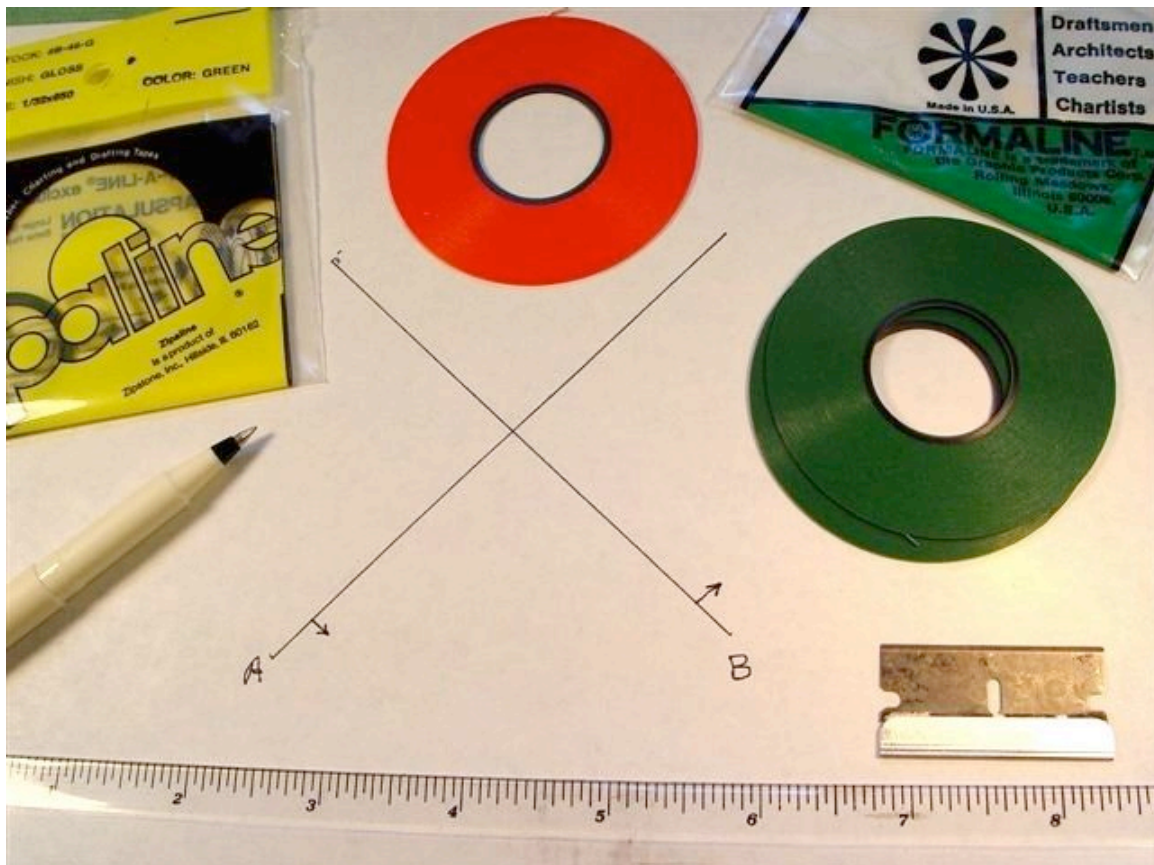
Introduction to Cross Wrap Designs

Cross Wrap 8

In the early “cross wrap” years, most of the designs were found by experimentation or by accident and shared between rod builders. Some builders would create designs by pencil and paper while some would use graph paper for that purpose. All these techniques were pretty slow and the final test was to wrap it on a rod. The wrapping was time consuming and many design failures ended by being cut off the rod.

Then someone found charting tape or graphic arts tape, which comes in many colors and widths. The 1/16th inch wide tape worked best for me and the many colors allowed designs to be made quickly. The only equipment needed is a piece of paper, pen, ruler, single-edge razor blade and the tape. All the designs shown in Custom Rod Thread Art were made in this manner.

To create a design first make an X on the paper. This X represents the thread going up the rod and the returning thread coming back down the rod. Label each leg of the X with A, B or 1,2, show the color of tape to be used and place arrows on the legs of the X to show the direction of the wrap. Then start the design by laying the tape along the / (up) part of the X and then on the \ (down) leg. By laying the next tapes in the direction of the arrows the design is created. One should usually make the length of the tape just shorter than the initial X (which is called the layout thread). Start by placing the tape on the X, positioning it properly, and using the SE razor blade to cut the tape at the proper length.



Take home lesson: inexpensive way to create cross wrap designs, but the fastest way is using VisualWrap software.