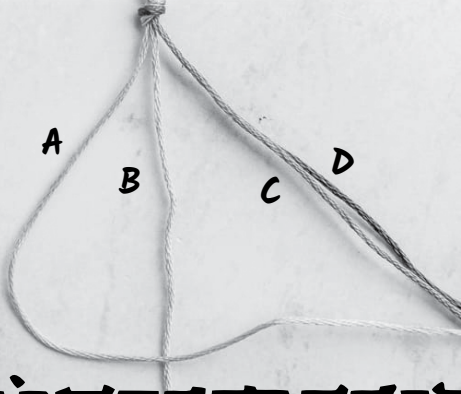## Making a Basic Friendship Bracelet

Friendship bracelets are all the rage again. You are likely making some for the most important people in your life, or you want to start. Here are some simple instructions for the basic candy stripe pattern.

The first thing you will need to do is get your supplies together. Embroidery floss is the best option for string, so think about your color theme before picking the floss. Next get a clipboard, safety pin or tape. You may also want to consider some optional beads or charms. You will want to make sure they are a good complement to the color theme you selected.

1. Cut 4 strands of embroidery floss about 36" long. Tie together with a simple overhand knot and secure to a flat surface with a tape or clip the end of the bracelet to a clipboard.
2. Take the left-hand string (A) and make a forward knot onto the first strand, the second strand, and then last strand of floss. The A string will now be on the right-hand side.
3. Take the new left-hand string (B) and make a forward knot onto each of the next three strings.
4. Repeat the process with each new left-hand strand (C, D, etc), working your way across the bracelet. Continue until you've reached your desired length. For most wrists, you'll need 6 inches worth of bracelet. Make sure to leave enough space at the two ends so you can tie the bracelet on.

CLAIMYOURYOUTH

PICKING UP ODD JOBS

This title is twofold. First, "odd jobs" can mean a series of unrelated gigs. Second, they're also of a strange nature. Don't worry, you won't have to resort to becoming a professional cuddler or online dating ghostwriter—you have your own relationships to worry about. However, to make your summer interesting, there are plenty of fun opportunities for work.

CLAIM YOUR YOUTH™

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PICKING UP ODD JOBS

In this fast-paced modern world, people tend to juggle too many things as if they belong in a circus. Though personal assistants were once dedicated to celebrities and CEOs, average people are now searching for a little support. There could be a neighbor who is homebound and needs help running errands, or local business owners trying to rebuild their community footprint after the pandemic, or even government officials on the campaign trail. As you will learn in the future, the "private sector" is where the money is.

Tech is also where the money is and more and more people, no matter their age, are struggling to keep up with ever-changing devices and services. Being a teen, you're probably in the know with the latest updates, so offering to help businesses and schools with data entry, social media marketing, and perhaps IT support can keep you busy.

DIY is another craze society has adopted, especially when it comes to the arts. Luckily for you, the arts are broad, including the culinary and media industries. After obtaining the correct permits from your local government, you can sell homemade baked goods at a community park. Or, you can see if your local newspaper needs any freelance work from delivering papers (spoiler alert: very early hours involved) to stringer articles to photography.

That brings us to the creative arts. If you have a keen eye and know how to work a camera outside of what your phone presets can do, perhaps selling your shots, digital or prints, is a route you would like to pursue. The same goes for self-publishing a short story, or creating a painting or sculpture, or producing music. There are many avenues to share your craft and passions, including easy ways to receive payment such as Venmo and Square. Be an entrepreneur. Also, putting yourself out there will build your confidence.

Lastly, good old fashioned labor never hurt anyone (except for all those workers compensation stories you hear about, of course). Since people want everything done for them these days, like food being delivered or someone else doing their grocery shopping, then you can assume they need help washing their car or maintaining their lawn. If they're willing to pay delivery fees to save a few minutes of their time, they're probably willing to pay you to do the same.

There are plenty of non-traditional or jobs-of-old routes you can take to make some money over the summer, and you can have great fun throughout the process.
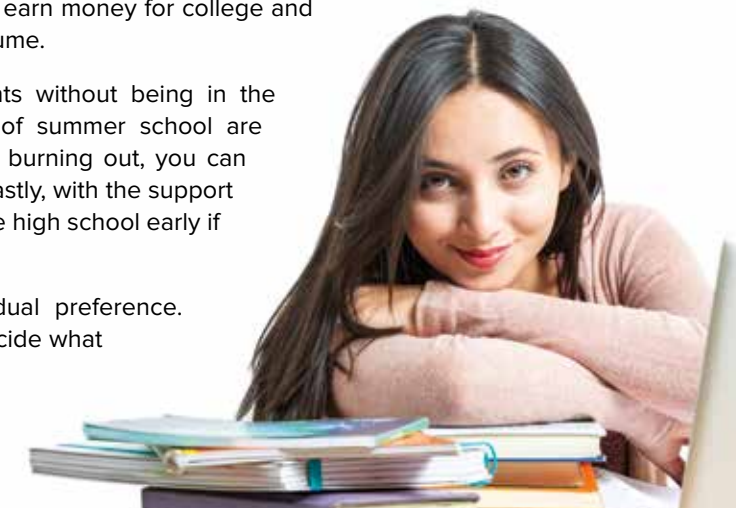
22-0104 Claim Your Youth Winter NL

Why Not Summer School?

The school year just ended and the last thing you want to think about is more school. You want to spend the summer having fun and enjoying the weather with your friends and family. Don't discount the positives that come from spending time in the classroom during your break, however.

Let's get the bad news out of the way. The main con to summer school is that it's school. You will have less time with your peers. Not that education isn't important, but balance and recharging is just as beneficial so you don't get burnt out and go through your classwork with a tired mind. Summer classes generally move a little quicker and a lot of material is condensed into a shorter amount of time which could add to the overload. Your classes and teachers could be different as well. Also, you won't have the ability to work and earn money for college and gain the all-important experience employers look for on a resume.

On the other hand, internships can help ease requirements without being in the classroom and strengthen said resume. Other main pros of summer school are that it will lighten your fall and spring loads and, instead of burning out, you can adversely keep momentum going into the next school year. Lastly, with the support of counselors and administration, you may be able to graduate high school early if your goals are mapped out and concrete.

Summer school is neither right nor wrong; it's an individual preference. The best thing you can do is really look at your future and decide what is important to you, not to anyone else. And you have to look at both sides so you don't dismiss the value of either an accelerated path or being able to recharge.

She Blinded Me with Science!

You may not get that reference, but that's okay. Look up Thomas Dolby's hit song and find out why the '80s were weird. As the world progresses, science is increasing in public value. We knew how important it was, but due to technology and medicine, especially of late, people are more understanding toward its worth. For you, it starts with your end of year project.

The first step is to narrow down what science you want to focus on. It could be life, earth, physical, chemistry, or environmental. Make sure you're passionate about the project and use your interests to help you decide. For example, if global warming is important to you, choose something in environmental science.

Another way to look at it is what's important to the world right now. Here are some examples and what category they would fall under:

- **LIFE SCIENCE:** Testing the effect certain variables have on plant growth (pollution, ultraviolet radiation, carbon dioxide, etc.).
- **EARTH SCIENCE:** Analyzing rain and weather and how it affects your area (minerals in soil, hazardous chemicals, predicting the forecast, etc.).
- **PHYSICAL SCIENCE:** Exploring robotics (programming new types of technology, finding better forms of energy to create longer lasting products, etc.).
- **CHEMISTRY:** Bettering diets (other forms of key nutrients, natural preservatives and healthier sweeteners, lessening bad fats, etc.).
- **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:** Advancing other forms of energy (solar, wind, water, etc.).

Don't make your project too complex. Keep it focused, keep it clear, and drive your point. For example, don't concentrate on all forms of alternative energy, focus on solar, and then focus on how solar affects a specific thing like charging a robot. Vast knowledge doesn't always make for a great project. Find a great cause you can get behind and good luck!