

Animal Face Coasters

Coiled-Rope Panda, Lion & Elephant Trio

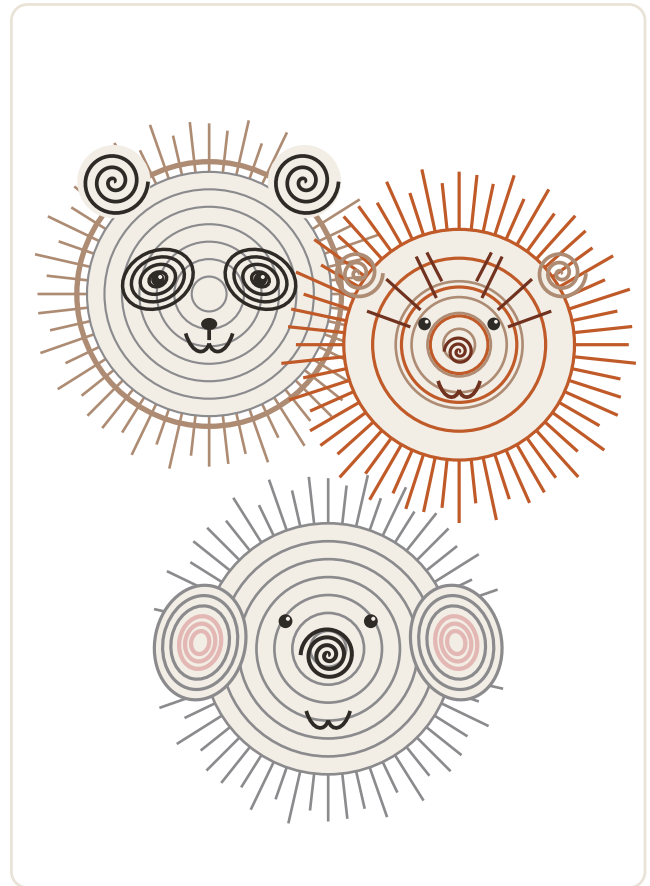
A Javoews House pattern

Skill level: Beginner • Finished size: 6.5–7 in (16–18 cm) each • Build time: 6–9 hours / 2–3 evening sessions (full trio)



Inspiration

One coil-and-fringe system builds all three faces — make one, or the whole zoo.



Finished pattern



— Table of Contents

Materials & Time	3
Cord Cutting Chart	3
Cord Layout & Coil Map	4
Knot & Technique Reference	5
Assembly Map	6
Build Order	7
Construction	7
Technique Deep-Dives	9
Eye & Feature Placement	10
Troubleshooting	10
Tips & Finishing	11

Illustrated throughout: assembly map, 6 technique diagrams, 3 five-step deep-dives, coil map, and placement guide.



Materials

Item	Spec	Amount (trio)
Cotton rope, single-twist	5 mm — cream, black, terracotta, tan, gray, dusty pink	~40 yd total (see cutting chart)
Cotton string (fringe)	3 mm, matching halo colors: tan, terracotta, gray	~30 yd total
Safety eyes	10–12 mm, brown or black	6 (2 per coaster)
Embroidery cord	2 mm black + tan	3 yd
Hot glue gun + sticks	low-temp recommended	1
Tapestry needle & pet comb	for stitches and fringe brushing	1 each
Felt backing (optional)	5 in circles, matching colors	3

Time to complete — beginner-to-intermediate

Full trio: 6–9 hours / 2–3 evening sessions. Per coaster: 2–3 hours.

Face disc coil: 45–60 min • Fringe halo + combing: 40 min • Ears & feature coils: 30 min • Eyes + embroidery: 20 min • Finishing & backing: 15 min

Designer's note: these coasters are built with the glue-coil rope technique edged in knotted macramé fringe — the fastest, flattest method and the one visible in the inspiration photo. If you prefer an all-stitched piece, substitute whip-stitch joins (WS) for the glue dots throughout; add roughly 1 hour per coaster.

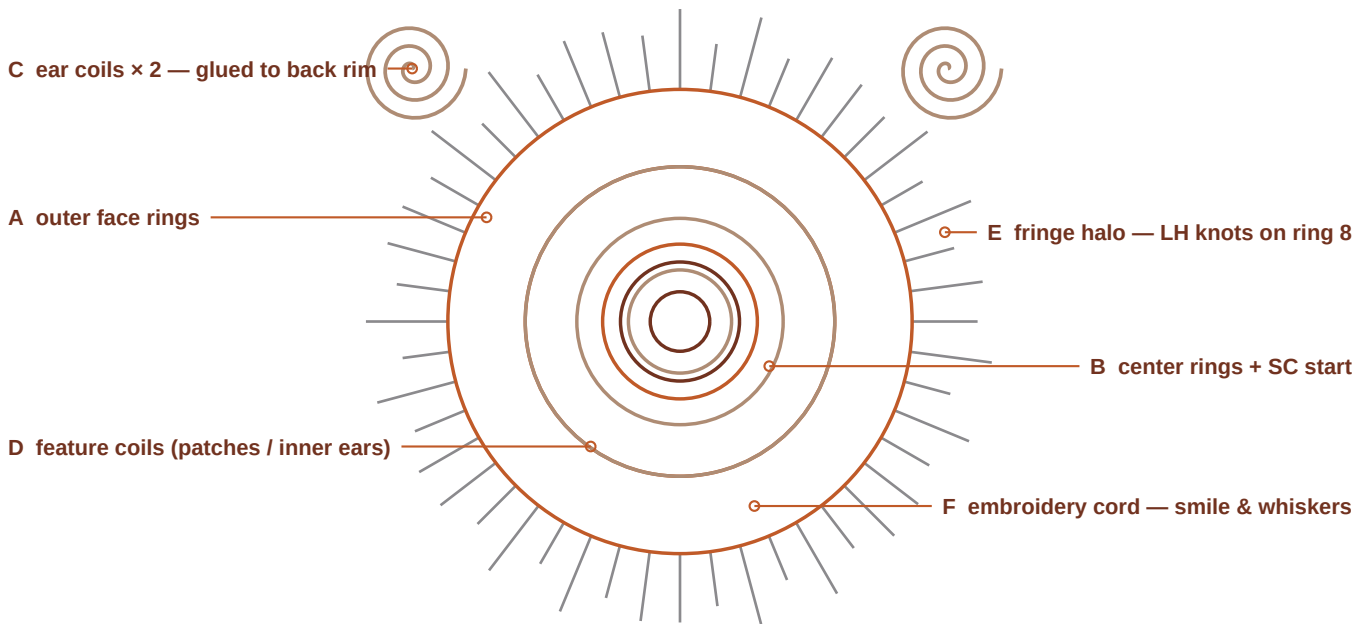
Cord Cutting Chart — per coaster

Label	Purpose	Qty	Cut length	Subtotal
A	Face coil, outer rings 5–8 (main color)	1	3.0 yd × 5 mm	3.0 yd
B	Center coil, rings 1–4 (second color; same as A for panda/elephant face)	1	2.0 yd × 5 mm	2.0 yd
C	Ear coils	2	1.0 yd × 5 mm	2.0 yd
D	Feature coils — panda eye patches / elephant inner ears / lion nose	2	0.75 yd × 5 mm	1.5 yd
E	Fringe halo	60	6 in × 3 mm	10.0 yd
F	Embroidery — smile, nose, whiskers	1	24 in × 2 mm	0.7 yd
TOTAL per coaster				≈ 19 yd

Cut every cord 3–4 inches longer than listed — coil tension varies and tails trim away at finishing. Color map: panda = cream A+B, black D, tan E; lion = terracotta A, tan B+C, terracotta E; elephant = gray A+B+C, pink D, gray E.

HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Cord Layout & Coil Map



Cutting layout — one coaster



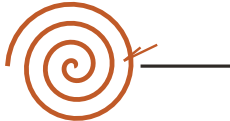
Bar lengths shown to relative scale. Cut every cord 3–4 inches longer than listed — trim at finishing.

HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Knot & Technique Reference

Spiral Coil Start

SC



curl tail tight, wind counter-clockwise

Curl the cord tail into a tight flat curl and glue — every disc, ear, and patch begins here.

Glue-and-Coil

GC

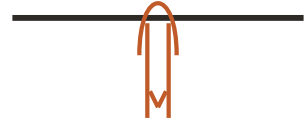


dot glue on prior ring, press rope on

Dot hot glue on the previous ring every inch and press the next round on, keeping the disc flat.

Lark's Head (fringe)

LH



fold, loop behind coil, ends through, pull down

Fold a fringe piece in half, loop it over the outer coil ring, pull ends through — builds the halo.

Overhand Knot

OK



loop, tail through, pull tight to secure

Secures embroidery cord tails on the coaster back before gluing flat.

Straight Stitch

SS



up at A, down at B — whiskers & smiles

Needle up and down through coil gaps — draws smiles, noses, and lion whiskers.

Whip Stitch (join)

WS

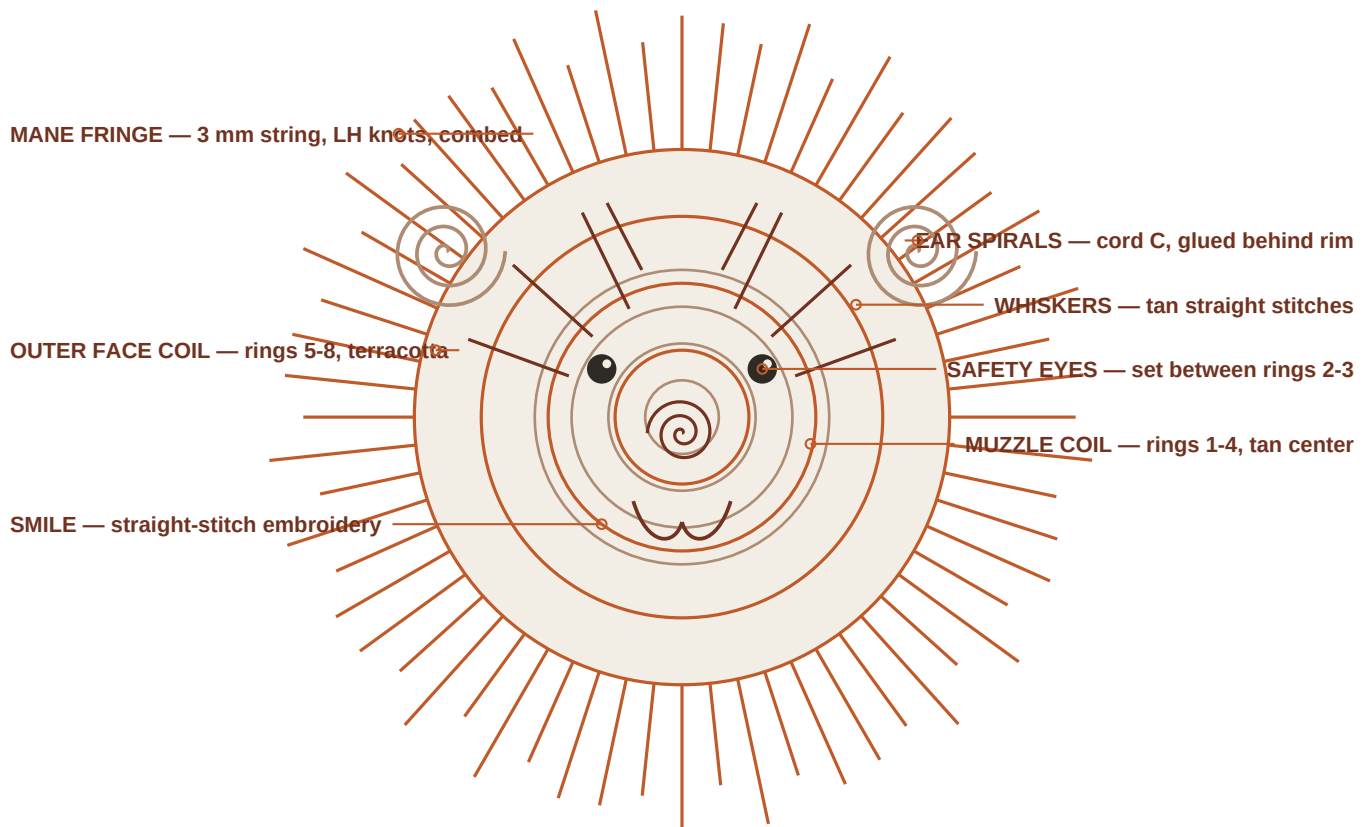


spiral thread over both ropes to bind rings

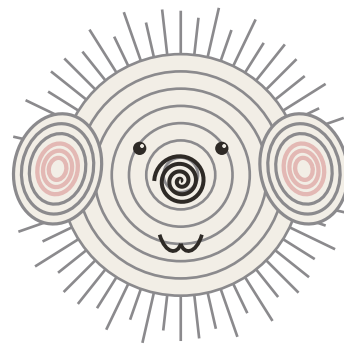
Optional no-glue join: spiral thread over two neighboring rings to bind them.

HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Full-Piece Assembly Map



PANDA — swap muzzle rings for coil eye patches + ear discs



ELEPHANT — add trunk coil knob + two-color ear ovals

One build system, three faces: coil the disc, edge it with fringe, then vary the feature kit.

Browse the full pattern library at happyjustcrafting.com/topics/macrame-patterns



Build Order Overview

- 1. Coil the face disc — SC start, then GC rounds to a 4.5–5 in circle (color change at ring 5 for the lion).
- 2. Attach the fringe halo — LH knot 55–60 fringe pieces around the final ring.
- 3. Brush & trim the halo — comb the fringe fluffy, trim to an even 1 in border.
- 4. Coil the ears and feature pieces — cords C and D, flat spirals and ovals.
- 5. Set the eyes — safety eyes between rings 2–3 (or glue beads for a no-hardware version).
- 6. Embroider the face — SS smiles, noses, and lion whiskers with cord F.
- 7. Assemble & finish — glue ears behind the rim, add elephant trunk knob, back with felt.

Construction

1 • Face disc (cords B then A) — 45–60 min

- SC start with cord B: curl a pea-sized center, glue, and wind 4 flat rounds ($\approx$ 2.5 in disc). Deep-dive 1, page shown in TOC.
- Lion only: taper-cut B at the end of ring 4 and glue the tail down; start cord A with its own taper butted against it — the color joint hides in the coil shadow.
- Panda & elephant: continue straight into cord A (same color family) without a visible joint.
- Coil rings 5–8 with GC dots every inch until the disc measures 4.5–5 in. Keep it dead flat — work on the table, not in your hand.
- Taper-cut the final end and glue it flush on what will become the back.

2 • Fringe halo (cords E) — 40 min

- Fold each 6 in fringe piece and LH-knot it over ring 8, loops all facing the back. Deep-dive 2.
- Pack knots snugly — about 55–60 around the rim with no coil showing between.
- Untwist each fringe end, then brush outward with a pet comb until fully fluffed.
- Lay a plate over the face and trim around it for a clean 1 in halo (lion mane can stay a touch longer and wilder).

3 • Ears & feature coils (cords C, D) — 30 min

- Panda: two black 1.3 in ear discs (cord D color) + two black coil ovals for eye patches — pinch each oval round slightly long as you glue. Deep-dive 3.
- Lion: two tan 1 in ear spirals; small tan nose coil for the muzzle center.
- Elephant: two 2 in ovals — coil the pink inner ear first, then continue gray rounds around it; plus one tight gray dome coil for the trunk, stacking rounds upward for lift.
- Glue ears behind the rim between fringe knots; patches and trunk glue on the face front.

4 • Eyes & embroidery (cord F) — 20 min

- Push safety-eye posts between rings 2–3 (panda: through the coil eye patches), add backs, or glue 10 mm



beads instead.

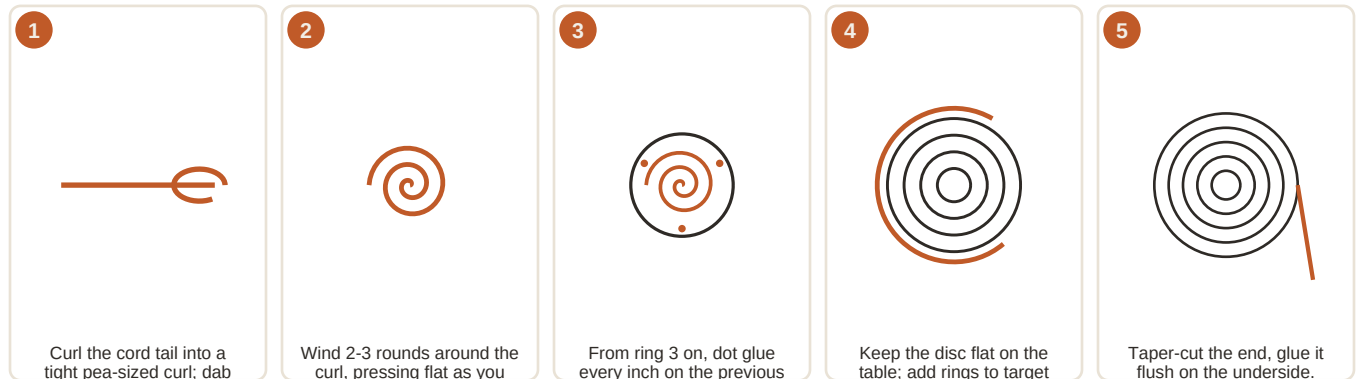
- Thread cord F on the tapestry needle. SS the smile: 3–4 stitches per curve, entering and exiting the gaps between coil rings.
- Panda: satin a small triangle nose. Lion: 3 whisker stitches per cheek in tan + 2 brow stitches. Elephant: one long curved smile below the trunk.
- OK-knot all tails on the back and glue them flat.

5 • Finishing — 15 min

- Press each coaster under a heavy book for an hour to guarantee flatness.
- Optional: glue a 5 in felt circle to the back — hides tails, protects tabletops, and makes the set gift-ready.
- For wall display instead, glue a small cord loop under the felt at the top.

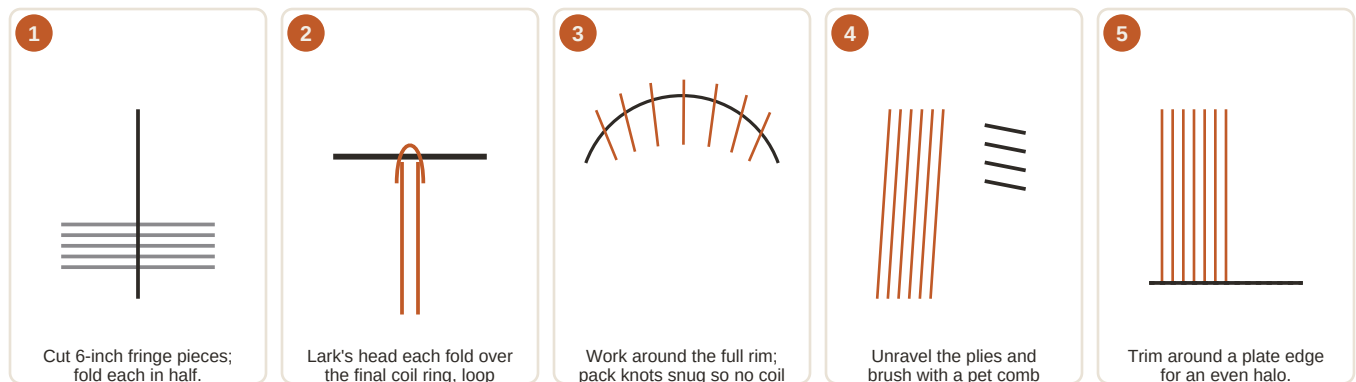
HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Technique Deep-Dive 1 — The Coil Disc



Tension is the whole game: wind snug enough that no gaps show, loose enough that the disc doesn't cup. If it starts to bowl, your rounds are too tight — ease off and press flat.

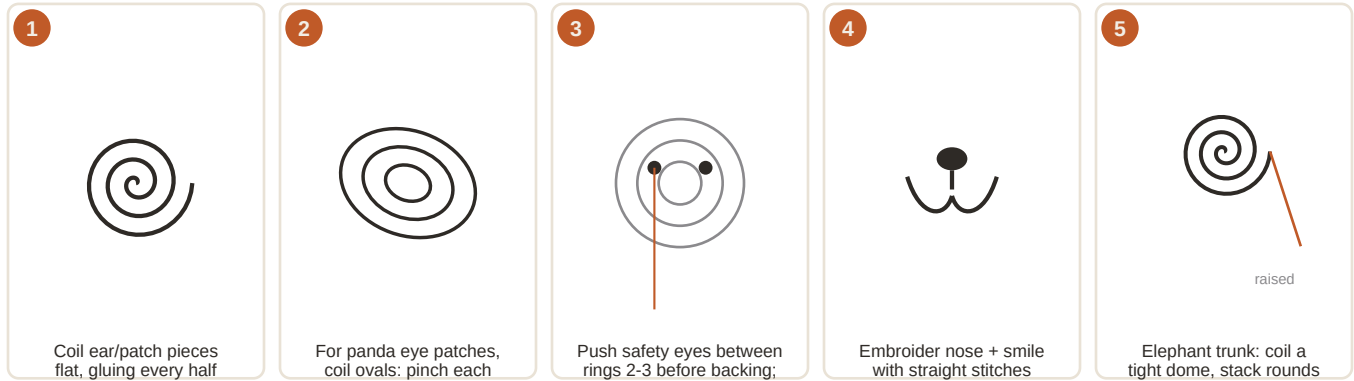
Technique Deep-Dive 2 — The Fringe Halo



Brush in one direction only, supporting the knots with your thumb so you don't pull them loose. A slicker brush or fine pet comb gives the softest halo.

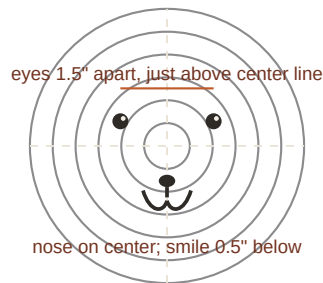
HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Technique Deep-Dive 3 — The Feature Kit



Every face part is just a smaller version of the main disc. Master the SC start and you can freestyle any animal — bear, cat, frog — with the same kit.

Eye & Feature Placement Map



Troubleshooting

Problem	Likely cause	Fix
Disc cups into a bowl	Rounds wound too tight	Ease tension; press finished disc under a book overnight
Gaps between coil rings	Glue dots too sparse or rope twisted	Glue every inch; keep the rope's twist facing the same way
Fringe halo looks thin	Too few knots or under-brushed	Pack 55–60 knots; comb until every ply separates
Fringe knots slip off the rim	Loops knotted too loose	Re-knot with a firm downward pull; a glue dot inside the loop locks it

HAPPY JUST CRAFTING

Color joint shows (lion)	Blunt-cut rope ends	Taper-cut both ends at 45° and butt them inside the coil shadow
Safety eyes won't seat	Trying to pierce the rope	Push posts between rings, never through them; widen the gap with a knitting needle
Face looks lopsided	Features placed by eye	Use the placement map: fold-lines in dashed grid, eyes 1.5 in apart
Coaster wobbles on the table	Glue lumps on the back	Keep glue dots small; felt backing levels everything

General Tips & Finishing

- Low-temp glue gives you 5 extra seconds to position each round — worth it for beginners.
- Steam the finished disc lightly (iron hovering, never touching) and press flat for a professional face.
- Brushed fringe sheds at first: roll with a lint roller after trimming and it settles.
- Using them as actual coasters? Skip safety eyes in favor of embroidered ones and seal the face with a fabric-safe waterproofing spray.
- Scale up: the same chart at 8 rings of 5 mm rope with 8 in fringe pieces makes a 12 in wall-hanging version — double cords A/B, triple E.
- Gift-pack the trio stacked and tied with a scrap of the terracotta rope.