

The Dragon Keep — Quick Reference Card

Advanced • ~30" × 40" • Est. build: 28–36 hrs / 8–10 sessions (beginner-to-intermediate pace)



Inspiration



Finished pattern

MATERIALS AT A GLANCE

- 4 mm cotton, ecru — ~380 yd
- 4 mm cotton, smoke grey — ~120 yd
- 3 mm cotton, taupe — ~40 yd
- Driftwood branch 34–38", 1–1.5" dia.
- 6 walnut beads (bore ≥ 8 mm)
- Jute hanger rope — 2 yd
- Board + T-pins, tapestry needle,
- shears, slicker brush, steamer

BUILD ORDER

- 1 Mounting row + lashings
- 2 Central dragon head & neck
- 3 Great wings (L, then R)
- 4 Guardian dragons (L, then R)
- 5 Infinity body twist
- 6 Spiral hatchling medallion
- 7 Chevron lattice panel
- 8 Tassels, beads, V-fringe, finish

CORD CUTTING QUICK-REF (CUT ALL 3–4" LONG)

A center body — 12 × 15 ft	B grey core — 8 × 14 ft	C wings — 16 × 13 ft	D dragons — 12 × 11 ft
E lattice — 16 × 9 ft	F fringe — 40 × 3.5 ft	G tassels 3mm — 12 × 6 ft	H lashings — 8 × 5 ft

KNOT ABBREVIATIONS

LHK	Lark's head — fold, loop over branch, pull through
SK	Square knot — L over/under, R under/through; reverse to close
ASK	Alternating SK — offset each row by 2 cords (mesh)
DHH	Diagonal double half hitch — 2 hitches per cord over angled carrier
HDHH	Horizontal DHH — same, carrier held level
BK	Berry knot — 3 SK, thread back up, pop the ball forward
HKS	Half-knot spiral — repeat same half knot; sinnet twists
WK	Wrapped knot — wrap down, tail through loop, pull to hide
RK	Rya knot — folded fringe bundle over base cords

TOP 5 MISTAKES TO AVOID

1. Building flat on a table — hang the branch first; wing tension set flat distorts on the wall.
2. Cutting cords to exact length — sculptural DHH eats cord unevenly; always add 3–4 inches.
3. Skipping the tack stitches — berry arcs, tail coils and the medallion spiral all sag without them.
4. Matching mesh tension everywhere — wing membranes must knot looser than the body, or wings read heavy.
5. Trimming fringe once — cotton relaxes overnight; rough-cut, hang 24 hrs, then do the final V cut.