

Manta Stingray Wall Hanging

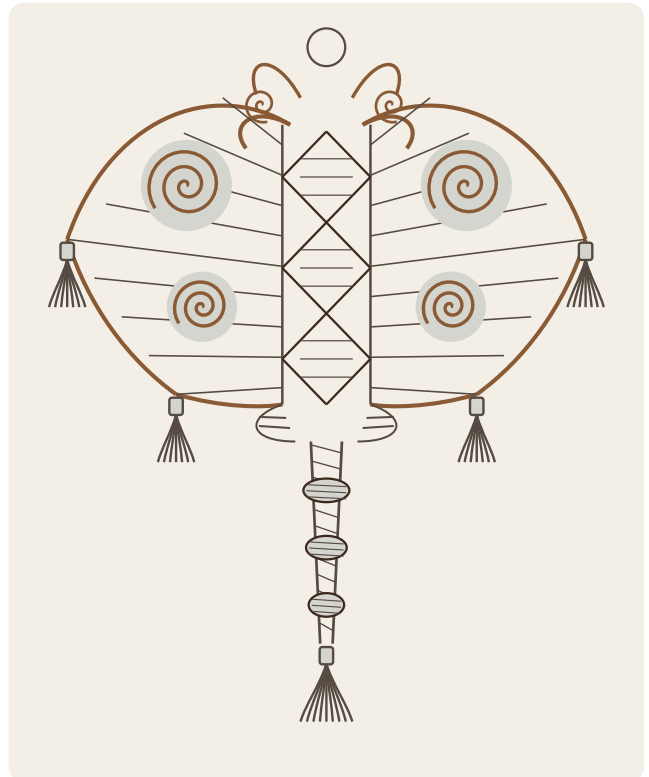
A Javoews House pattern

Skill level: Advanced • Finished size: approx. 24 in wide × 36 in long with tail (61 × 91 cm)

Estimated build time (beginner-to-intermediate pace): 16–20 hours / 5–6 evening sessions



Inspiration



Finished pattern

Wrapped-frame construction • spiral filet wings • clove-hitch diamond body • knotted tail sinnet



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Materials

- Cord: 3 mm single-strand (single-twist) cotton string, natural / ecru — approx. 195 m (215 yd) total. Single-strand brushes out beautifully for the tassels.
- Frame: 3 mm galvanized or aluminium craft wire, approx. 3.5 m (12 ft), bent to the manta outline — or a pre-bent manta/kite frame. The wings hold their sweep because every edge is wire wrapped in cord.
- Hanging ring: one 25 mm (1 in) brass or wooden ring.
- Tools: sharp shears, fabric glue or clear-drying craft glue (splices and coil backs), tape measure, wire cutters and pliers, pet slicker brush (tassels), sewing needle and ecru thread (stitching spiral coils in place).

Designer's note

The inspiration piece is built over a shaped wire frame rather than a straight dowel — that is what gives the wings their crisp kite silhouette. Bend the frame first and check it against the template measurements in the mounting diagram before cutting any cord. The spiral medallions are made separately as stiffened coils and stitched into the wing file.

Time to complete — 16–20 hrs

Frame bending & wrapping: 2 hrs • Body diamond lattice: 2.5 hrs • Wing rays: 3 hrs per wing • Spiral medallions (x4): 2 hrs • Pelvic fins & tail sinnet: 3 hrs • Tassels, brushing & finishing: 2–2.5 hrs. Advanced pattern: comfortable DDHH tension control is assumed.



Cord Cutting Chart

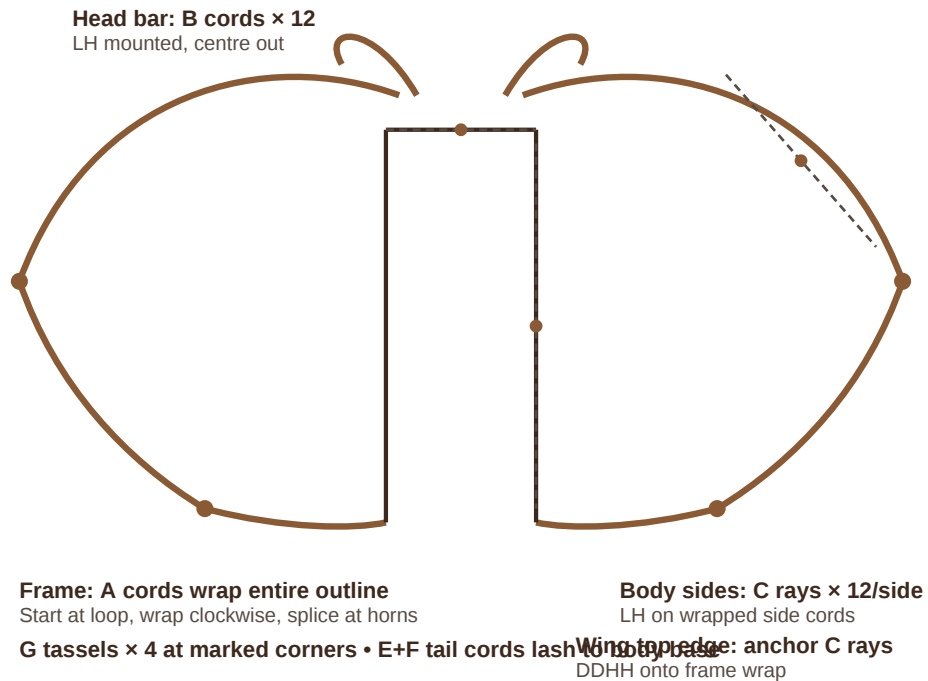
Label	Purpose	Qty	Cut length	Subtotal
A	Frame wrapping (outline + horns)	4	5.0 m / 16.5 ft	20.0 m
B	Body lattice cords (head bar)	12	3.5 m / 11.5 ft	42.0 m
C	Wing ray cords (12 per side)	24	2.5 m / 8.2 ft	60.0 m
D	Spiral coil cords (2 per medallion)	8	2.0 m / 6.6 ft	16.0 m
E	Tail core cords	4	1.8 m / 6 ft	7.2 m
F	Tail working cords	6	3.0 m / 10 ft	18.0 m
G	Wing tassels (12 strands × 4)	48	40 cm / 16 in	19.2 m
H	Tail tassel strands	16	45 cm / 18 in	7.2 m
I	Pelvic fin cords (3 per side)	6	1.2 m / 4 ft	7.2 m
TOTAL		128		196.8 m

Cut everything 3–4 inches longer than listed — single-strand cotton frays as you work and the DDHH rows are hungry for length.

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Cord Layout & Frame Mounting Diagram

Wrap the whole frame first with the A cords — nothing mounts to bare wire. Then mount cord groups exactly where shown. The head bar is a straight wire segment between the shoulders; it carries all 12 B cords for the body lattice.

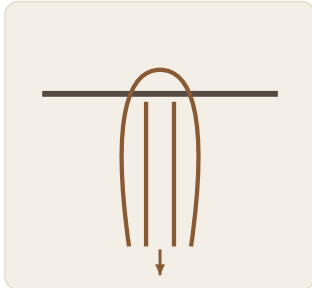


Zone	Cords	Mounting
Frame outline	A × 4	Continuous tight wrap; glue and trim splices behind wing
Head bar	B × 12	Lark's Head, mounted from centre outward
Body side cords	C × 12 per side	Lark's Head onto wrapped body sides, top to bottom
Wing top edges	C ray ends	DDHH directly over the wrapped frame edge
Tail bundle	E × 4 + F × 6	Lashed to body base with a Wrapping Knot

Knot Reference Guide

Every knot in this pattern, with its abbreviation as used in the construction steps. Accent lines show the working cord path; dark lines are filler cords.

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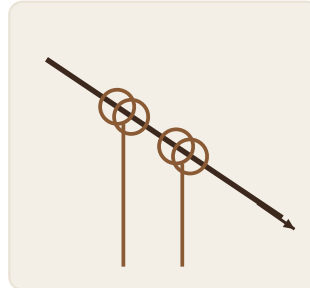
Lark's Head (LH)

Fold cord in half; loop over frame, pull ends through the loop and snug.



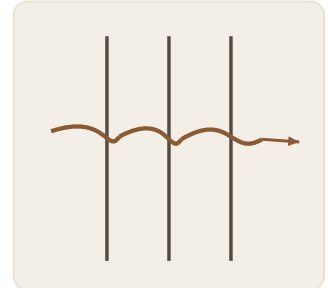
Square Knot (SK)

Left cord over fillers, right cord over left; repeat mirrored to lock flat.



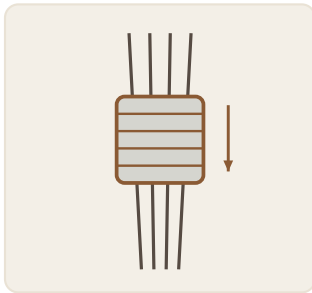
Diagonal Double Half Hitch (DDHH)

Two half hitches per cord over an angled filler; builds the diamonds and wing rays.



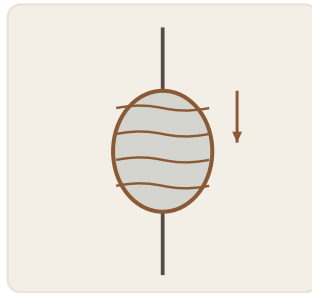
Vertical Double Half Hitch (VDHH)

Working cord hitches twice around each hanging cord, travelling sideways.



Wrapping Knot (WK)

Loop laid on bundle, wrap upward 5–8 turns, feed end through loop, pull hidden.



Barrel Knot (BK)

Wrap cord 4–5 times around the sinnet core, feed back through wraps, tighten to a bead.



Overhand Knot (OK)

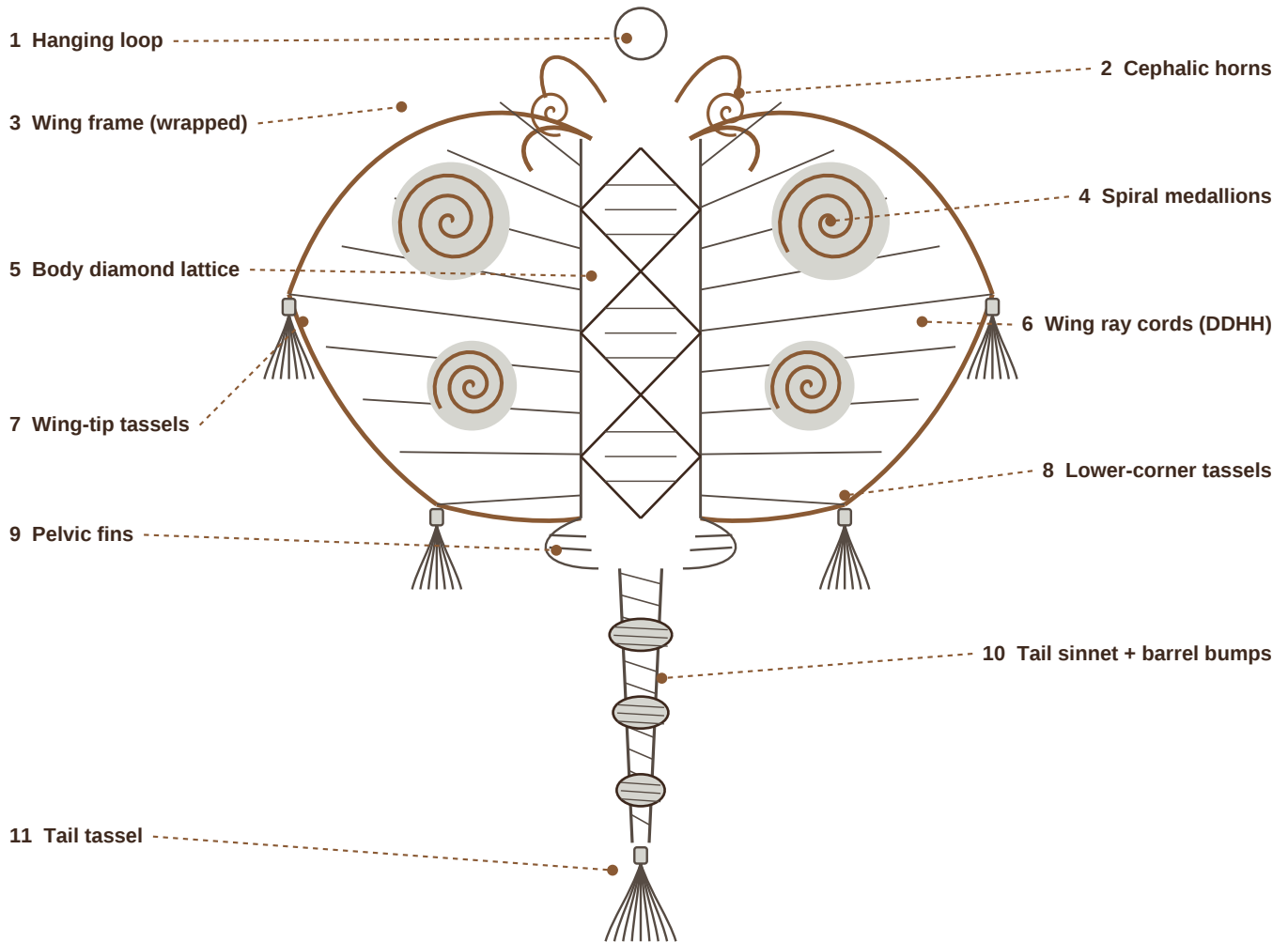
Simple loop-and-through; secures tassel strands and cord ends.



Wrapped Spiral Coil (SC)

Stiffened cord pair coiled flat and stitched — the wing medallions.

Full-Piece Assembly Map





Build Order Overview

- 1. Bend and wrap the frame (zones 1–3): outline, horns, head bar, hanging loop.
- 2. Body diamond lattice (zone 5): mount B cords, work three stacked DDHH diamonds with SK fill.
- 3. Wing ray cords (zone 6): mount C cords, work DDHH rays from body out to the frame, both wings.
- 4. Spiral medallions (zone 4): coil, stitch and mount four spirals into the wing file.
- 5. Pelvic fins (zone 9): two small DDHH fans at the body base.
- 6. Tail (zones 10–11): lash the bundle, work the tapering sinnet with three barrel bumps, tassel the end.
- 7. Tassels & finishing (zones 7–8): four wing tassels, brush, trim, block the wings.

Construction

Section 1 — Frame & Wrapping (2 hrs)

- Bend the wire: wingspan 24 in tip to tip, body drop 14 in to the tail lash point. Form the two cephalic horn curls at top centre, then a 4 in straight head bar between the shoulders. Close the loop with 3 twisted turns of wire.
- Tie the hanging ring at top centre with a 20 cm offcut, Wrapping Knot over the join.
- Wrap: anchor an A cord with a dab of glue, wrap tightly and continuously so no wire shows. Splice new A cords by overlapping 2 cm under the wraps. Finish all four outline sections including the horn curls.

Section 2 — Body Diamond Lattice (2.5 hrs)

- Mount all 12 B cords on the head bar with Lark's Heads, working from centre outward (24 working ends).
- Diamond 1: take the two centre cords as filler pair; DDHH left and right diagonals down-and-out to the body edges, 5 cords per diagonal.
- Fill the open diamond with one alternating SK row (see deep-dive 2), then close the diamond with DDHH diagonals back to centre.
- Repeat for diamonds 2 and 3 directly below — the closing filler cords of one diamond become the opening fillers of the next. Keep side cords vertical and snug to the frame line.
- At the body base, gather all 24 ends; they will be lashed into the tail bundle in Section 6.

Section 3 — Wing Rays, both wings (6 hrs)

- Mount 12 C cords per side onto the wrapped body side cord, Lark's Heads top to bottom.
- Work each ray as a DDHH bar: the C cord travels from the body diagonally out to the frame edge, and every crossing cord hitches over it — this is what draws the taut, radiating web you see in the wings.
- Anchor every ray end with two DDHH over the wrapped frame, spacing per the mounting diagram: upper rays to the top edge, lower rays to the outer lower edge.
- Alternate ray direction slightly (fan them) so the web stays flat; check the wing against a table edge after every third ray.
- Trim ray tails to 1 cm and glue flat behind the frame wrap.

Section 4 — Spiral Medallions × 4 (2 hrs)

- For each spiral, pair two D cords and stiffen with diluted glue; let them get tacky (see deep-dive 1).
- Coil flat: large spirals 2.5 turns ($\approx$ 3 in), small spirals 2 turns ($\approx$ 2.2 in). Stitch each coil through its rounds with needle



and thread so it cannot spring open.

- Position per the assembly map — large spiral upper-mid wing, small spiral lower wing — and stitch to the surrounding ray cords at four compass points.

Section 5 — Pelvic Fins (45 min)

- Mount 3 I cords per side at the last 2 cm of the body sides.
- Work a tiny 3-row DDHH fan angled down-and-out; anchor the ends into the inner wing edge and trim behind.

Section 6 — Tail (2.5 hrs)

- Bundle the 24 body ends with the 4 E core cords; lash with an F cord using a 1 in Wrapping Knot at the body base.
- Stage-trim the hidden body ends inside the bundle every 3 in so the tail tapers (see deep-dive 3).
- Work the sinnet in SK over the core with F cords, pausing at 3 in, 6.5 in and 10 in for the three Barrel Knot bumps.
- Finish the sinnet at 13 in with a Wrapping Knot collar.

Section 7 — Tassels & Finishing (2–2.5 hrs)

- Wing tassels: fold 12 G strands through each marked frame corner, collar with a Wrapping Knot, trim to 3 in.
- Tail tassel: fold the 16 H strands through the sinnet end, collar, trim to 4 in.
- Brush all tassels with the slicker brush for the soft plume finish; trim clean edges after brushing.
- Block the wings: light steam, pin flat on a towel overnight. See General Tips.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Likely cause	Fix
Wings cup or twist	Ray tension uneven side to side	Re-tension the last rays; steam and pin flat overnight
Diamonds look lopsided	Filler cord angle drifted	Pin filler at 45° to a board before hitching each row
Frame wrap shows gaps	Wraps not compacted	Push wraps together every 10 turns with a fingernail
Spirals spring open	Coil not stitched through all rounds	Re-stiffen with glue, stitch every round at 4 points
Tail curls sideways	SK sinnet not alternated	Swap leading cord every 5 knots to balance the twist
Barrel bumps slide	Wraps too loose over taper	Add one hidden half hitch under the bump before wrapping
Tassels look stringy	Not brushed / trimmed after brushing	Brush thoroughly first, then cut the final edge

General Tips & Finishing

- Blocking: single-strand cotton takes steam beautifully — hover an iron 2 in above, never touch, and pin the wings flat until fully dry.
- Brushing: brush tassels from the tips upward in short strokes; a final mist of water and a comb sets the plume.
- Sealing: a tiny dot of clear glue on every trimmed DDHH tail behind the frame stops fray without stiffening the front.
- Hanging: this piece reads best with light raking across it — the ray web throws lovely shadows on the wall.

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Deep-Dive 1 — Wing Spiral Medallions

The spirals are made off the piece as stiffened coils, then stitched into the ray web. Work on a glueable surface (parchment over cardboard).

1



Pair two D cords and run them through diluted glue (1:1 glue to water); pull between fingers to coat.

2



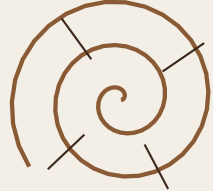
While tacky, start the coil: bend a tight centre eye and hold 30 seconds.

3



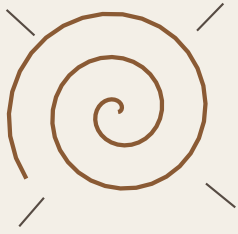
Coil outward keeping the pair flat and touching; 2.5 turns for large, 2 for small.

4



Stitch through every round at four compass points with needle and ecru thread; dry 1 hr.

5



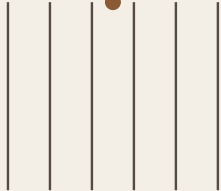
Place in the wing per the map and stitch to the surrounding ray cords at the same four points.

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Deep-Dive 2 — Body Diamond Lattice

Three stacked DDHH diamonds with square-knot fill form the spine of the ray. Tension is everything: pin your filler cords at a true 45°.

1



Mount 12 B cords on the head bar; the two centre ends are your first filler pair.

2



Open the diamond: DDHH each cord over the fillers, travelling down-and-out to both edges.

3



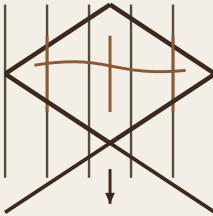
Fill: one alternating SK row across the open cords inside the diamond.

4



Close: bring the fillers back down-and-in; DDHH every cord over them to the centre point.

5



The closing fillers become the openers of the next diamond — repeat twice more below.

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■ Deep-Dive 3 — Tail Sinnet & Barrel Bumps

A tapering square-knot sinnet over a hidden core, interrupted by three barrel-knot beads — the signature stinger.

1



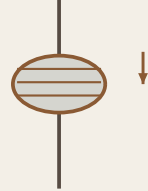
Lash the 24 body ends plus 4 E cores with a 1 in Wrapping Knot at the body base.

2



Work SK sinnet over the core with F cords; swap leading cord every 5 knots.

3



At 3 in: tie a Barrel Knot around the sinnet — wrap 5 times, feed back through, tighten to a bead.

4



Stage-trim hidden core ends every 3 in so the tail tapers; repeat bumps at 6.5 in and 10 in.

5



Collar at 13 in with a Wrapping Knot; mount the 16-strand tassel and brush.