

HIDING A KNOT IN A RUBBER BAND BRACELET: 3 TIPS

By : Pauline Perles Co



0 minutes

How Do You Hide a Knot in a Stretch Bracelet? 3 Simple Tips

Have you just finished your elastic bracelet, only to find that your surgeon's knot is sticking out, visible between two beads? It's that little detail that can ruin an otherwise successful creation... So how can you hide that knot?

Good news: a few simple tricks can make it completely invisible. Plus, it's really not complicated at all!

Before you begin, if you haven't tied your knot yet, check out our [tutorial on how to close an elastic bracelet](#) first.

Why does the knot remain visible?

A surgeon's knot, even when tied tightly, always forms a small bulge. On thin thread and small-holed beads, this bulge easily slips inside a bead. On thick thread or large-holed beads, however, it remains visible on the surface. There are three solutions to fix this, depending on your bracelet design.

1. Slide the knot into a bead with a large hole

This is the most common and least expensive method. It involves tying the knot and then pulling it inside a bead with a hole large enough to accommodate it.

- Make sure the hole is at least three times the diameter of your thread.
- Apply a small dot of glue to the knot before sliding it into the bead—this prevents it from slipping out.
- Cut off the excess thread 1 mm from the knot before proceeding.

This technique works very well with glass, wood, or metal beads that have large holes, but it's trickier with Miyuki beads or seed beads, which have narrow holes.

☒☒ Avoid using thread thicker than 1 mm in diameter if you want to easily hide your knot inside a bead: the thicker the thread, the larger the hole in the bead you'll need to slide the knot through, which severely limits your choice of beads. Reserve thick threads for projects where you plan from the start to use a bead cover or large decorative beads.

2. Use a crimp bead

A [bead cap](#) is a small metal fitting normally used to cover crimp beads. It closes over the bead and then looks like a round bead.

You can repurpose it to hide the knot on an elastic bracelet. How?

- Tie a surgeon's knot.
- Add a dot of glue to secure the knot.
- Place the bead cap over the knot and close it using pliers.

The bead cover has the advantage of adding a decorative touch to your creation.

This solution is particularly useful if your bracelet combines multiple materials and you don't want to rely on the size of the beads' holes to hide your knot.

3. Choose a thinner thread suited to your beads

If your beads have small holes (Miyuki, Delica, 11/0 seed beads, etc.), the most effective solution is to adjust the thread diameter from the start. A 0.5 mm thread, for example, ties into a tighter knot than a 1 mm thread and slides much more easily inside a small bead.

A thinner thread may seem less sturdy, but rest assured: most modern elastic threads retain good strength even at small diameters, as long as they are pulled tight and the knot is reinforced with glue.

A tip that applies to all techniques

No matter which method you choose, always reinforce your knot with a dab of [jewelry glue](#) or clear varnish before hiding it. This prevents it from loosening over time and the knot from eventually popping out of its hiding spot. If you're just starting out, our [step-by-step tutorial](#) on making an elastic bracelet walks you through the entire process from the beginning.

Finally, if—despite your precautions—your bracelet loses its shape or breaks after a few weeks, the problem may have more to do with the thread or the tension than with the knot itself: check out our article on [why elastic bracelets break or lose their shape](#) to avoid this issue.

Result

