

Playful Cords

Solid licorice leather makes a great base for all types of focal pieces, from beads and large charms to bezel cups and even stitched seed bead creations. This design gives you an idea of how to showcase your chosen focal.



Leather Types:
Solid Licorice Leather,
3mm leather cord

With Bonus Alternate Project



Supplies

- 7 in. 10mm X 7mm licorice leather
- 4 feet plus 1.25 feet 3mm leather cord
- 20mm coin bead or other focal piece
- 9 in. 24 gauge craft wire to match the color of the licorice leather
- Licorice leather clasp, glue-on style



1 Lay the licorice leather on a piercing surface and center the focal bead on the leather. Use a pen to mark directly on each side and one inch away from the focal. **(a)**

2 Use a 3/32 inch drive punch with a rawhide hammer to pierce all the way through the leather at the marks. **(b and c)**

3 Load the focal bead onto the 24 gauge wire and center it. Feed the ends of the wire down through the 2 center holes on the leather and back up through the end holes. **(d)**

4 Pull the wire tightly across the top of the leather and wrap it around the wire 2 to 3 times near the holes of the bead. **(e)**



Tools

- Ruler, piercing surface and marker
- Licorice leather cutter
- 3/32" drive punch
- Rawhide mallet or other hammer
- Round nose and chainnose plier
- Cyanoacrylate glue, such as Zap a Gap

5 Cut the 4 foot piece of 3mm leather cord into two. From the back of the leather, load each end into the outer holes and use a drop of cyanoacrylate glue to adhere it into the hole. **(f)**

6 Begin wrapping the cord around the licorice leather, placing the first wrap on the outside of the hole. **(g)**

7 Continue wrapping until you reach the focal bead. Keep the last wrap loose so that you can feed the end of the cord up through the center hole between the last two wraps. Pull firmly to tighten the last wrap. **(h)**

8 Trim the leather, place a drop of glue down the hole and slide the last wrap over the hole so that the glue can hold it in place.

9 Wrap the 1.25 inch piece of cord around the focal and knot it against the back of the focal. Place a drop of cyanoacrylate glue on the knot. Go back around the bead and tie a matching knot on the other side of the bead. Trim the cord and use the glue to adhere the ends of the cord. **(i)**

BONUS!

Alternative design: Cut a 2 inch piece of licorice leather, pierce two holes in the center of the holes 1/2 inch apart. Glue the leather cord into one of the holes and wrap freeform, end the cord in the same way as you did in Step 7.

This pendant is a great example of how you can use licorice leather clasps as cap ends. Simply remove the metal hook and allow the end loops to serve as a bail on top and as a place to hang other decorative beads and charms. **(j)**

