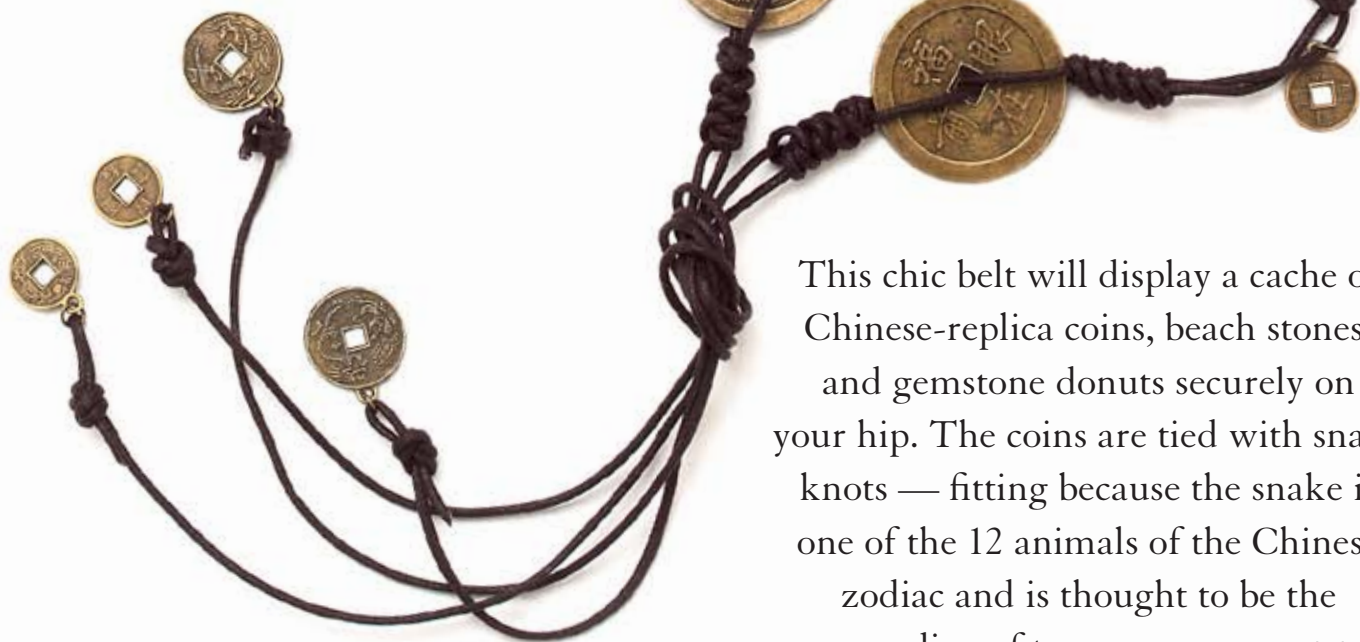


Coined at the hip

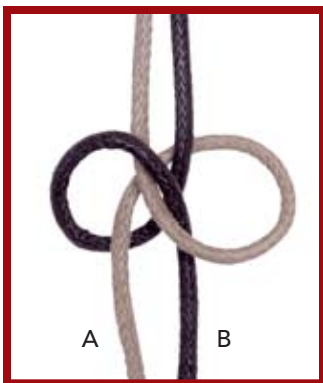


1 a Determine the finished length of your belt. (Mine is 60 in./1.5m.) Multiply that number by 3, and cut two pieces of cord to that length. Center a 38mm coin on one cord.

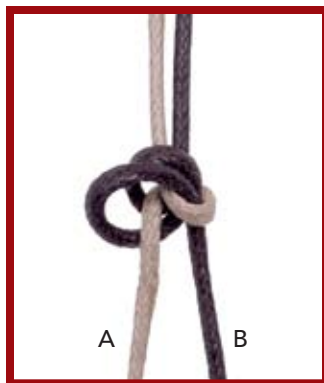
b To tie a snake knot: String cord B under and over cord A, making a loop.



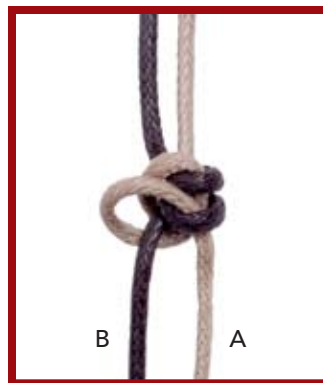
This chic belt will display a cache of Chinese-replica coins, beach stones, and gemstone donuts securely on your hip. The coins are tied with snake knots — fitting because the snake is one of the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac and is thought to be the guardian of treasure. — Jane Konkel



2 String A over B and through the first loop, making a loop with A. Pull both ends to loosely close the knot.



3 String B under A and down through A's loop. Pull B to loosely close the knot.



4 Turn the cords over. String A under B and down through the lower of the two loops. Pull cord A to loosely close the knot.



5 Turn the cords over. Approximately 1 in. (2.5cm) from the knot, tie a snake knot. String a donut, crossing each end through the center.

Tie a snake knot.

EDITOR'S TIPS

- To distinguish cord A from cord B, the photos in steps 1–4 show cords in different colors.
- Learn how to tie a snake knot and other decorative Chinese knots in Suzen Millodot's *Chinese Knots for Beaded Jewellery*.



6 Continue stringing donuts and 38mm coins and tying snake knots until the knotted section is within 2 in. (5cm) of half the desired length.

Approximately 1 in. (2.5cm) from the last knot, tie a snake knot. Turn the cords over, and repeat steps 3 and 4 four times. String a 38mm coin.



7 Tie a snake knot. Turn the cords over, and repeat steps 3 and 4 four times.



8 Open a jump ring (Basics, p. 108) and attach a single-loop coin. Close the jump ring. On the end of one cord, string the coin, leaving a 2-in. (5cm) tail. Tie an overhand knot (Basics). Trim the excess cord. Repeat with the remaining cord.



9 To finish the other half of the belt: Center the 38mm coin (from step 1) on the second cord. Repeat steps 1b–8. Use jump rings to attach single-loop coins to the cord between knots. ❖

SupplyList

- 3–5 38mm coins, center drilled (all coins from Fire Mountain Gems, 800-355-2137, firemountaingems.com)
- 2–4 beach-stone donuts, approximately 35mm (Riverstone Bead Company, 219-939-2050, riverstonebead.com)
- 6–8 20–30mm gemstone donuts, in two sizes
- 14–18 15–20mm single-loop coins, in two sizes
- 14–18 5mm inside diameter antique-gold jump rings
- 9–11 ft. (2.7–3.4m) 2mm woven cord
- chainnose and roundnose pliers or 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters