Museum of Craft and Design

ROPE BOWL

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project represents a little piece of Dogpatch history, when the Tubbs Rope Walk stood just across from MCD's location today. These bowls can be made using a wide variety of rope types-- so experiment and play with what you might find laying around!

RECOMMENDED AGE/SKILL LEVEL:

Recommended 10+ with adult supervision for youth unfamiliar with hot glue.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

- Rope
- Hot glue (ours has glitter in it!)
- Hot glue gun
- Bowl mold form (cup or bowl made from plastic, glass, or metal)
- Scissors

INSTRUCTIONS

- Trim the end of your rope and glue loose strings together if fraying.

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- Begin your bowl by coiling the very end of the rope in on itself and hot gluing the end together. Hold rope together for a minute or so until the glue has dried. Do not touch hot glue until it's dry.
- Turn your bowl form upside down and use the bottom as a guide as you continue coiling the rope around and gluing.
- Detach the form away every few minutes so that it doesn't adhere to the rope.
  TIP: Only place a small line of hot glue (1 - 2.5 inches) at a time, so that you can stick the rope down before the glue begins to dry.

- Once you've reached the edge of the bottom, begin coiling upwards along the sides. Continue adding more glue in small parts and pressing the rope down.

- *OPTIONAL*: Create a unique shape by trying one of the techniques below:
  - Coil inwards or outwards after establishing a base (inwards seen in sample).
  - Bend rope back on itself and adhere with glue to make a pattern with negative space.
  - Use extra large or colorful rope.
  - Try different colors of glue sticks (shown).

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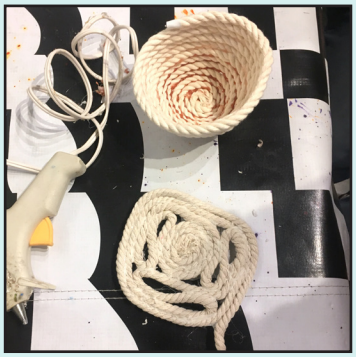
- Wrap embroidery floss around one or more sections of your rope before gluing it down for some extra texture and color.
- For a more accessible project, use a mold form that will be permanently wrapped with rope. Stick directly to the glass or plastic.



- When you have run out of rope or the vessel is tall enough, finish by curling the rope back on itself and securing with hot glue. Hold while it dries.
- When finished, your bowl or vessel will be sturdy enough to retain its shape.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CONNECT SOCIALLY AND LEARN MORE

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