

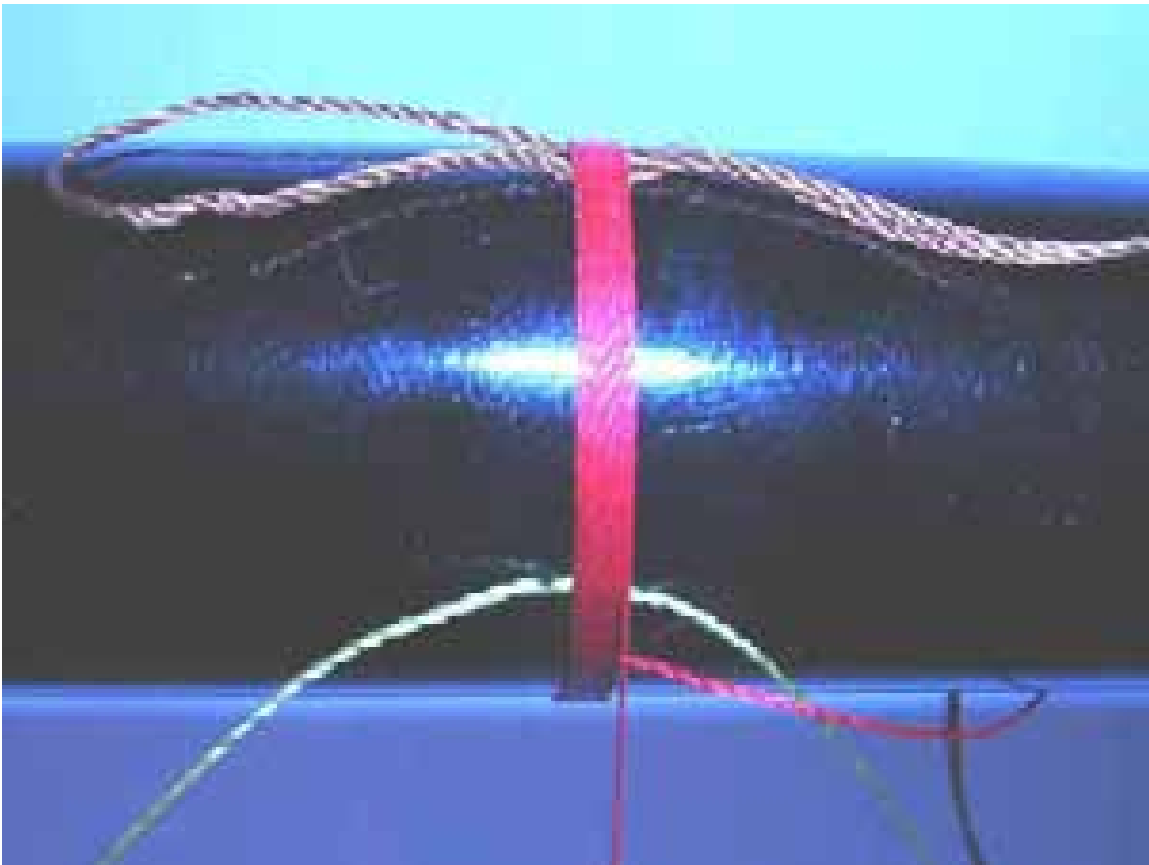
Trim Bands & Inlays

By Raymond Adams

Here are some techniques I have learned to easily add some pizzazz to your thread work. Lets make some trim bands and inlays at the ends and center of an under wrap for a guide or hook keeper.

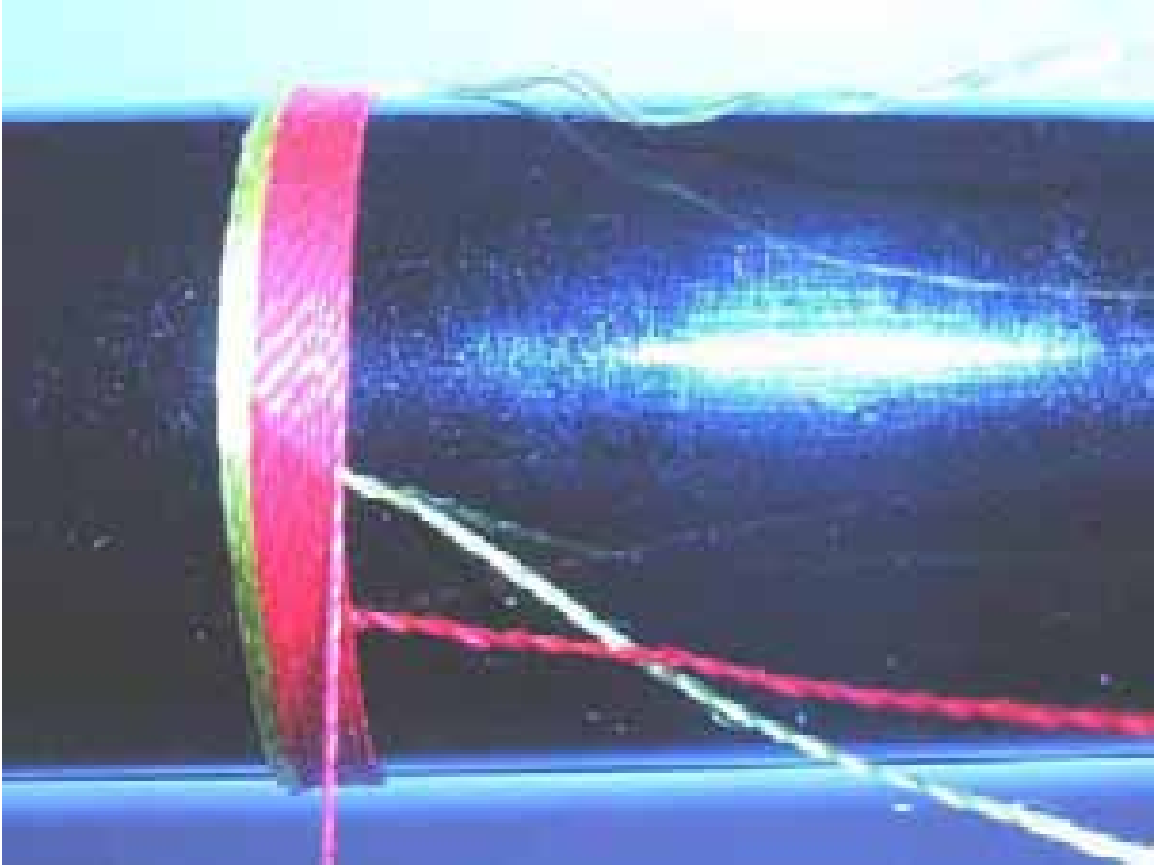
Start your wrap as normal except this time put in a pull loop and a length of thread you want to use for the trim band. If your nimble with your hands and fingers this can be done easily but if your not use a piece of masking tape to hold the loop and trim color thread in place while you start the wrap. Start the main thread (in this case red) and after you get enough wraps down to lock all the tags stop.

(see below) Note: the brown loop should be pulled down closer to the yellow thread so all the tag ends are in the same area hidden from view.

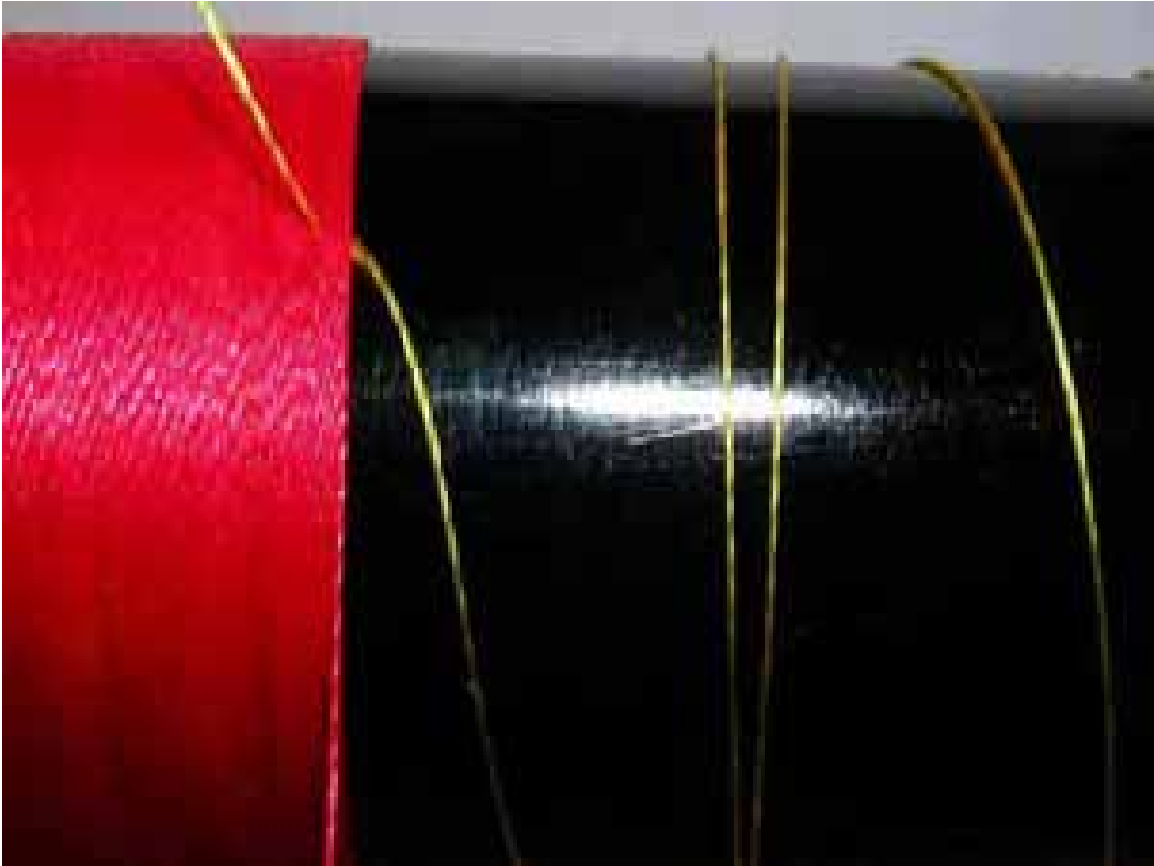


2) Now take the length of trim band color (in this case yellow) and wrap it around the blank by hand for as many turns as you want (I did 3) while the blank remains still then put the end thru the pull loop and pull it under the main wrap (red).

(see below) Note: if you do like I did and fail to put the loop in a good place you can pull the tag end till it's in the best area not to be seen.



- 1) Now pull all the tags at an angle to tighten things up, pack the wraps you have so far and cut the tags flush and then continue with the main wrap (red) until you get close to the center of the wrap. When you get close to the center stop and put in another loose length of the color you want next (I'll stay with the same yellow) and continue wrapping till you get to the spot for the inlay. (Note: the loose inlay thread will wrap itself around the blank when you continue with the main thread so just unwind it after you stop the main wrap) see below



Actually, you don't have to unwind the inlay thread completely, just to the point where there are the number of wraps for the inlay you want. You can manipulate the inlay thread up to the main wrap and tighten it up quite easily. If you have trouble just unwind the inlay thread completely and then put in the wraps you want. (I did 3 wraps)

Now cross over the inlay wraps with the main thread and after a few wraps pull the tags to tighten the inlay up. I decided to put in 2 inlays about 6 threads apart. Just repeat the process. If your main thread tension is not too tight you can use a thread tool or pick to move the cross over thread so it aligns up where you want it (center of the blank) and cut the tags.



Now continue with the main thread till you get close to ending the wrap. When you get to the point where you are about 6 or 8 threads from the end of the main color (red) put in 2 pull loops and complete the main color.



Now put your trim band color (yellow) thru one loop (the trim color can be loose or ran thru your tension device) then cut the main wrap color (red) and put the red end into the SAME loop with the trim color (yellow) and pull them both under together.
. Note: in the photo the yellow and red ends are far apart. I slipped and turned the rod a bit by mistake when taking the photo! OOOPS! No problem though, I can move it before I wrap the band.



Now either finish the trim band by hand if you used a loose piece of thread or turn the blank if you ran from the spool thru your tension device to the blank and pull the tag end under..



Pull the tags at an angle if you need to tighten up the band then cut them off. Look the wrap over, pack and burnish as needed then sit back and admire your work!

Completed wrap



I'll close by saying that there are a couple different ways to put in an inlay where the cross over is not seen but I kind of like the look of the cross over and I can't quite explain how to do it the other ways. LOL!

If my tutorial helped you PLEASE share it!