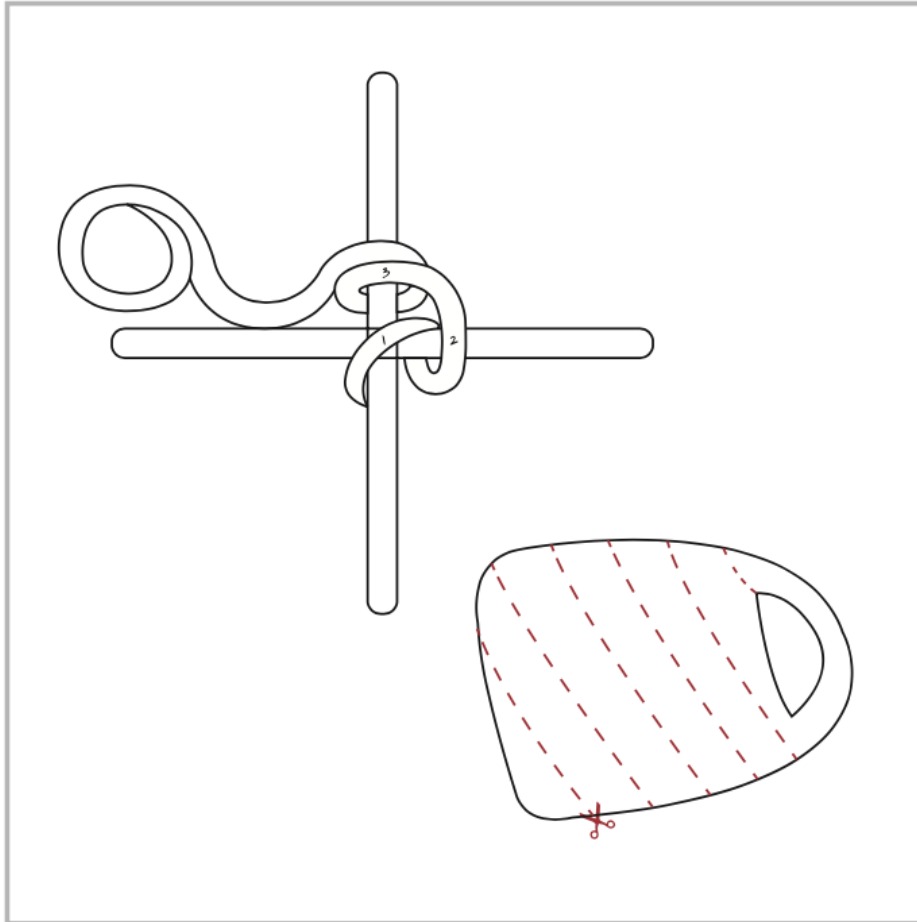


Eye of God Talismans (Ojo de Dios in Spanish)



This art form was traditionally created by the Pueblos of New Mexico and the Huichol and Tepehuán Indians of western Mexico. Posted where people walked along a trail, they identify sacred and important places like a spring. They are also used as gifts for children coming of age and as a blessing for a home. Ojos' meanings differ from culture to culture, although traditionally they have four points representing the four directions and four elements: earth, fire, water and air.

Materials: Two ice pop sticks for each and yarn (any color can be used) or plastic bags of assorted colors cut into strips.

Step 1 If using plastic bags instead of yarn: Cut plastic bags into long 1/4" to 1/2" wide strips by starting at the handle and cutting horizontally around the bag so that it spirals to the bottom of the bag.

Step 2 Glue or tie the two sticks together into a plus sign.

Step 3 Weaving technique that will be used: hold the sticks in one hand and weave the strips or yarn over, under and around each stick. Turn to repeat until each stick has been covered.