

Crisscross Chain – Basic Directions

Prerequisite: Jens Pind's Linkage

a.k.a. Forars Kaede, Spring Chain, X-weave

Aspect ratio: 3.9-4.0

Class exercise ring size:

- 1 ring to start with – 14 AWG (1.63mm) 0.203" (5.2mm)
- 16 AWG (1.29mm) 0.203" (5.2mm)

The Crisscross Chain has a small aspect ratio that results in a very tight weave, and the exact placement of each added ring is critical to a correct chain. Be sure to read all the directions before starting the chain as the ring placement may not become clear until near the end

1. Close the larger gauge red ring and place it on a tail wire. The larger gauge red ring is used as the first ring to help stabilize the chain as it is being started. It may be either left in, or removed, when the chain is finished.



2. Close the second ring (blue) through the first ring (red). Align the two rings as shown.



3. Close the third ring (green) through both the first ring (red) and the second ring (blue). Align the rings as shown.



4. Close the fourth ring (plain) through the first ring (red), second ring (blue), and third ring (green).



5. Close the next red ring through the three previous rings (blue, green, and plain), going through the same hole as the previous red ring.



6. Close the next blue ring through the three previous rings (green, plain, and red), going through the same hole as the previous blue ring.

Note the relationship of the adjacent red rings to each other. In this picture the red ring on the right is in front of the red ring on the left. The blue ring on the right must be placed so that has the opposite relationship to the blue ring on the left. In this picture it is above (or behind) the blue ring on the left.



7. Close the next green ring through the three previous rings (plain, red, and blue), going through the same hole as the previous green ring.

Note the relationship of the adjacent red rings to each other. In this picture the red ring on the right is below the red ring on the left. The green ring on the right must be placed so that has the opposite relationship to the green ring on the left. In this picture it is above the green ring on the left.

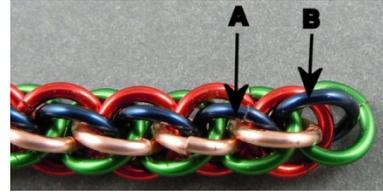


8. Close the next plain ring through the three previous rings (red, blue, and green), going through the same hole as the previous plain ring.

Note the relationship of the adjacent green rings to each other. In this picture the green ring on the right is below the green ring on the left. The plain ring on the right must be placed so that has the opposite relationship to the plain ring on the left. In this picture it is on top of (or behind) the plain ring on the left.



9. When adding a ring to the chain you must look at the 4th previous ring to see which side to add the new ring on. In this example the previous plain ring at arrow A went through the hole above the plain ring before that. Therefore we will insert the new plain ring in the hole at arrow B above the previous plain ring.



Note that each color forms a zigzag-like line and that unlike Jens Pind's Linkage where the direction of zigzag is opposite from each of the adjacent lines, the Crisscross Chain has two "seams" where the direction of the zigzag is the same for two adjacent rows. Check the chain every four rings to make sure all four rows have the correct zigzag.

10. Repeat the previous step until complete.

