

BASIC LUCETING

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This is not a graphical description of how to lucet. I tried drawing one up and my drawings stunk—plus there are lots of other ones out there. Below will be a list of some of the URLs currently active, and I'm passing around handouts for your review. The best way to learn to lucet is to watch it done and do it yourself.

Lucets have been around for a very long time. I have not done the research on this at this time so cannot tell you when the earliest one was found, but I know they were found in the Viking era, and that they were in use from the 16th century into the Victorian era.

A basic lucet cord is a square springy cord. It will unravel easily while in progress but is very reliable once completed. It is good for many uses—I make all my own lacing cords now. The cord can be one color or multiple colors. Multiple colors done with a pattern is advanced lucet technique—but you can make two-color cords with a random design with the same technique I'm teaching today.

Lucets have been made out of materials like ivory, mother of pearl, tortoiseshell, bone, plastic & wood. I have seen a homemade one made out of wire. Most current ones are made of wood. Some have handles and some do not. Some have holes and some do not. And there is one design that includes a bobbin to hold the cording fiber. And there is also a double lucet design to make more elaborate cords. They can be as inexpensive as \$5, like the thin handled ones I have today from Wm. Booth Draper. Experiment with different ones to find which one fits best in your hand and easiest for you to use. You can even use a fork—all you need is two prongs and a cord, essentially.

The ones I have for use today come from various places. There are many retailers to sell lucets. I started making a list but they were so easy to find that I left it up to you. Just google "lucet" for vendors. However, here are a few vendors to get you started:

<http://www.hedgehoghandworks.com/about/lucets.shtml>

<http://lucettelady.50megs.com/>

http://www.woodedhamlet.com/needlework_tools/lucets.html

<http://wmboothdraper.com/>

www.thelucetco.uk/

<http://www.spanishpeacock.com/lucets.htm>

ebay vendor clareslair (she makes the animal shaped lucets I brought today)

<http://www.lacis.com/>

Some instruction pages out there are:

http://www.woodedhamlet.com/howto_advice/lucet_instruc.htm

http://www.bayrose.org/AandS/handouts/Lucet_Cord_Variations.pdf

<http://www.geocities.com/damelynnette/Lucet/lucet-2cord.rtf>

<http://www.allfiberarts.com/library/bl/blucet.htm>

<http://brahdelt.blogspot.com/2006/06/tutorial-cord-making-lucet.html>

<http://kws.atlantia.sca.org/photos/lucet>

<http://www.rocknbead.com/wshed/guide.htm>

Left-handed technique: <http://www.rocknbead.com/wshed/guidel.htm>

<http://www.geocities.com/ceryndip/lucet.htm>

Some youtube videos: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3y5K7FiT2Og> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZPe0s9rAuw>

I have also shown you a book by Daniel C. Phelps titled “The Lucette Book,” available from multiple vendors. I bought mine from an SCA vendor at Boar’s Head this last December.

There is also a lucet yahoo group that I just joined: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Lucet/>