



## MARBLED ROPE VASE

Use your favorite nail polish to color this fun and unique accessory!

**Designer:** *Lynn Rinehart*

**Skill Level:** Confident Beginner

**Finished Size:** 7" x 8"

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### Materials

- 100 feet of natural 100% cotton clothesline rope\*
- 2¼" x width of fabric strip in a coordinating solid fabric for top of vase
- Natural all-purpose thread
- Size 90/14 sewing-machine needle
- Open-toe appliqué sewing-machine foot
- Hand-sewing needle
- 2 or 3 colors of nail polish
- Large disposable container for dipping stitched vase
- Wooden stick or skewer
- Plastic drop cloth
- Clear acrylic sealer spray, such as Mod Podge®

\*Make sure the rope doesn't have a plastic core.

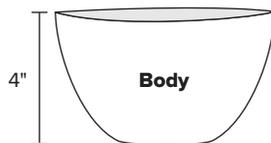
## Marbled Rope Vase

### Make the Vase

1. Insert the 90/14 needle into the machine and put on the open-toe appliqué foot. Thread the needle and wind the bobbin with the natural-color thread. Set the machine for a straight stitch.
2. Turn under the end of the rope a small amount, and then begin wrapping the rope tightly around the end to create a circular shape. When you've completed three or four rounds, stitch from side to side across the rope, backstitching at the beginning and end. Cut the threads and turn the shape 90°. Stitch from side to side again, creating an X shape. Cut the threads and remove the shape from the machine.
3. Set the machine for a 5.5 mm-wide and 3 mm-long zigzag stitch. Place the coiled circle back under the needle at the point where the rope is loose. Take a couple of stitches to make sure the zigzag stitch catches both coils, and then continue wrapping the rope around the circular shape, zigzag stitching across the two coils as you rotate the shape under the needle. Stop stitching when the shape measures 4½" in diameter, remove the coiled circle from the machine, and cut off the excess cord. This will be your template for the vase opening. Set aside the template. *(Photo 1; contrasting-colored thread used to show detail)*



4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 to create the bottom of the vase, but do not remove the coiled circle from under the machine or cut the rope after reaching the 4½" diameter measurement. Lift the coiled rope so the left edge is at the 10 o'clock position. This will create the angled lower sides of the vase. Continue wrapping and stitching the coil until the vase height is approximately 4". Without removing the coiled piece from the machine, cut off the excess rope, and then zigzag stitch over the end of the rope to secure it. Remove the vase body from the machine. *(Photo 2)*



5. To make the shoulder section, pin the end of the rope to the outer edge of the Step 3 template. Wrap the rope around the template once. As you begin the second round, remove the pin and stitch the coils together as you did previously. At the beginning of the third round, tilt the piece up to the 10 o'clock position as before and continue stitching and wrapping until the piece is approximately 4" high and the large opening is the same diameter as the opening of the body piece. Check to make sure the sides line up, and then cut the rope and zigzag over the rope end to secure it. *(Photo 3)*

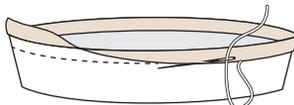


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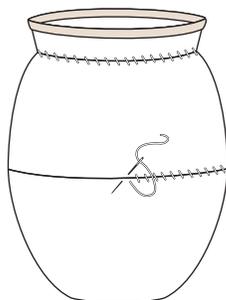
6. Repeat Step 5 to make the neck piece, stitching and wrapping until the piece is approximately 1" high. *(Photo 4)*



7. Measure the perimeter of the large opening of the neck piece (the vase lip), and cut the fabric strip 1" longer. Press one end of the fabric strip under 1/2". Fold the strip in half lengthwise, right sides together. Starting at the place where the rope end is stitched down, place the strip against the inside of the neck piece, aligning the strip raw edge with the lip edge. Stitch the strip in place using a 1/4" seam allowance. When you reach the beginning, overlap the strip end with the folded end and finish stitching the strip in place. Fold the strip over the lip and hand stitch it in place on the outside of the vase. *(Photos 5 and 6)*



8. Using a whipstitch and matching thread, hand stitch the neck piece to the small opening of the shoulder piece. Stitch the joined neck/shoulder piece to the vase body.



### Apply the Color

9. Fill the large container about 2/3 full of water. Pour the nail polish into the water and swirl it around with the wooden stick or skewer.
10. Dip the vase into the water using a swirling motion so the vase soaks up the polish.
11. Remove the vase from the water and turn it upside down on the plastic drop cloth. Let the vase dry overnight.
12. After the vase is completely dry, follow the manufacturer's instructions to spray it with sealer; let dry.



Lynn Rinehart

In addition to being a fiber artist, certified quilt appraiser, quilt designer, fabric lover, fabric collector, and lover of quilts, Lynn is active in several guilds and quilt groups. She designs her own quilts and continues to quilt outside of the box, bringing in her natural curiosity about color and how it affects quilt designs. Lynn is also the co-host of The Stitch TV Show, the first online quilt talk show.

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