

4-Strand Chevron Dot Braid – “Triangle” Butt Method

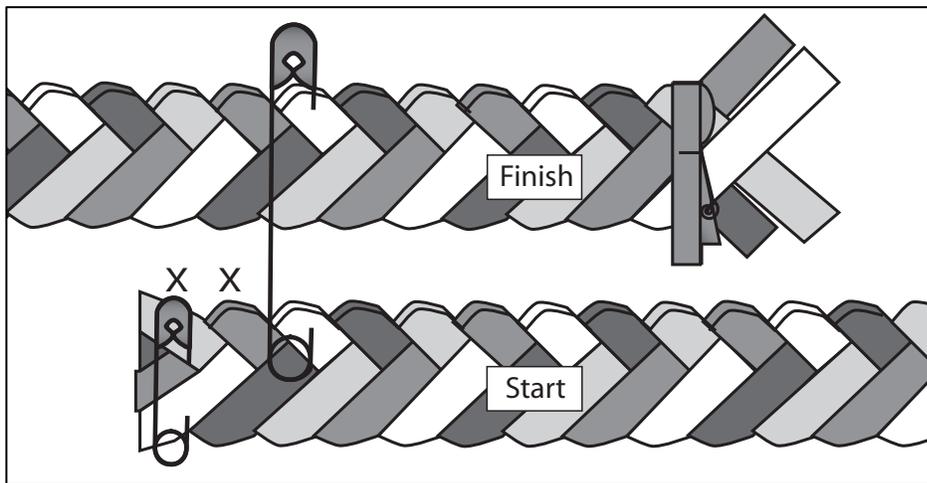
Right Opening Folds

Supplies: 4 small gold pins, 4 small silver pins, 5 large pins, scissors, ruler, needle and thread to match strands.

This method of butting a chevron braid borrows heavily from both the Triangle Butt Method and the Annie’s Fanny Butt method.

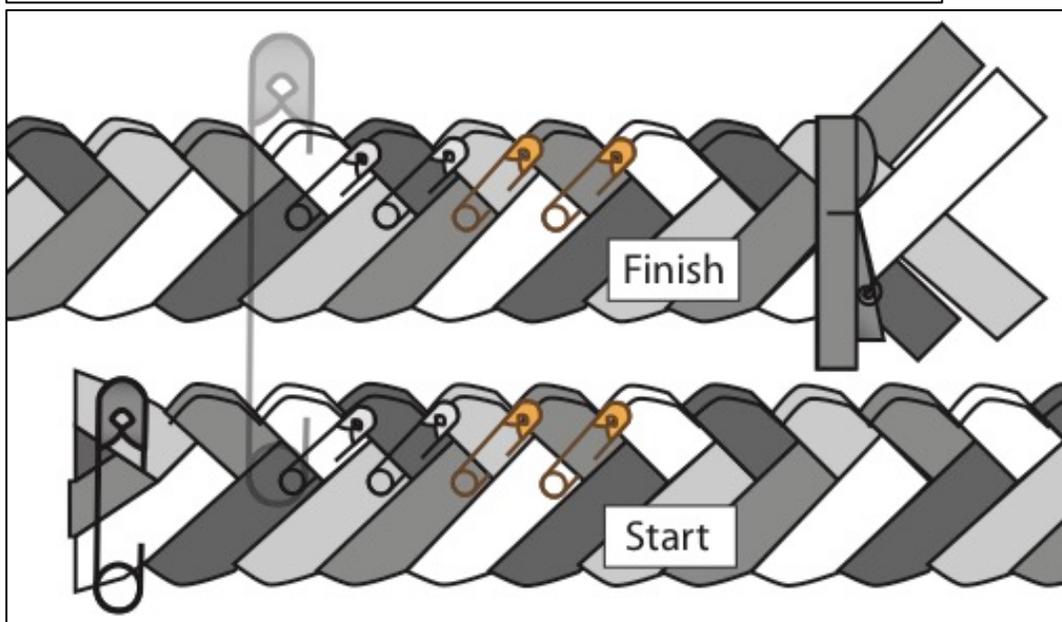
The Triangle Butt gets its name from the matching pins, which are arranged in a triangle for 3-strand braids. Technically, the 4 strands for chevron braids have the matching pins arranged in a rhombus, but the method is the same as the Triangle Butt.

This method can be used either “on the rug” or “off the rug.”



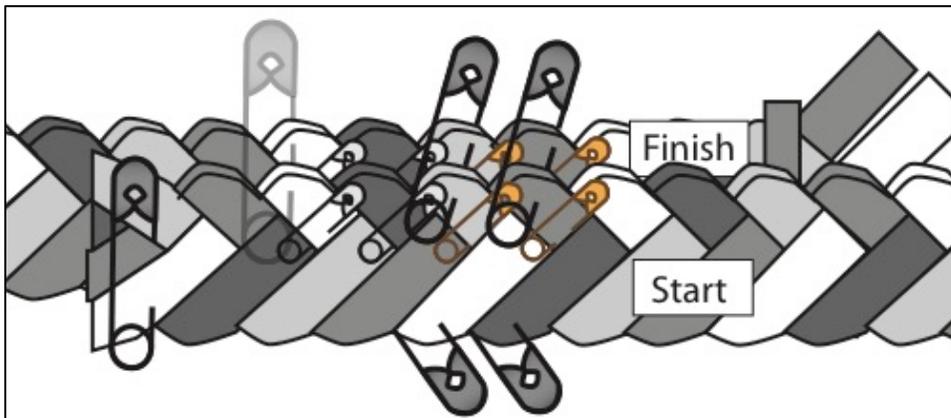
1. Arrange the braids as shown:

- Fronts are facing up
- Folded edges are away from you
- Start braid is in front of the Finish
- Anchor Pin is placed through a loop on both the Start and Finish braid to anchor where the butt will occur
- Skip the first two loops of the Start braid (see X’s in diagram).



2. Place the marker pins. Using 4 small gold pins and 4 small silver pins, mark the bottom corner of the top loops, starting from the loops in the Anchor Pin and moving to the right.

The same color of pins should be placed on loops of the same color, as shown.

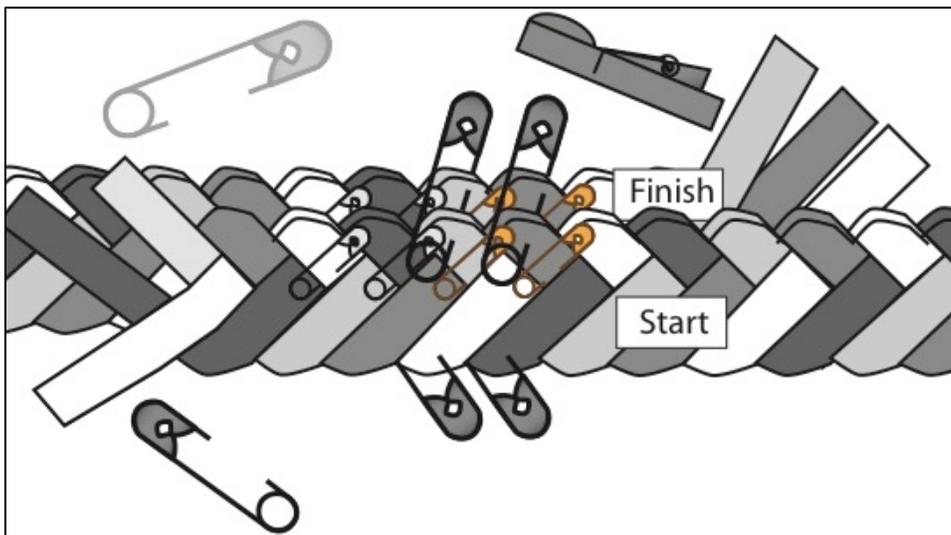


3. 4 Matching Pins.
Place 2 large Matching Pins across the 2 sets of marked loops that are the farthest away from the Anchor Pin. .

Place the other 2 Matching pins on the two loops at the bottom of the braids.

The Matching Pins on the bottom should go

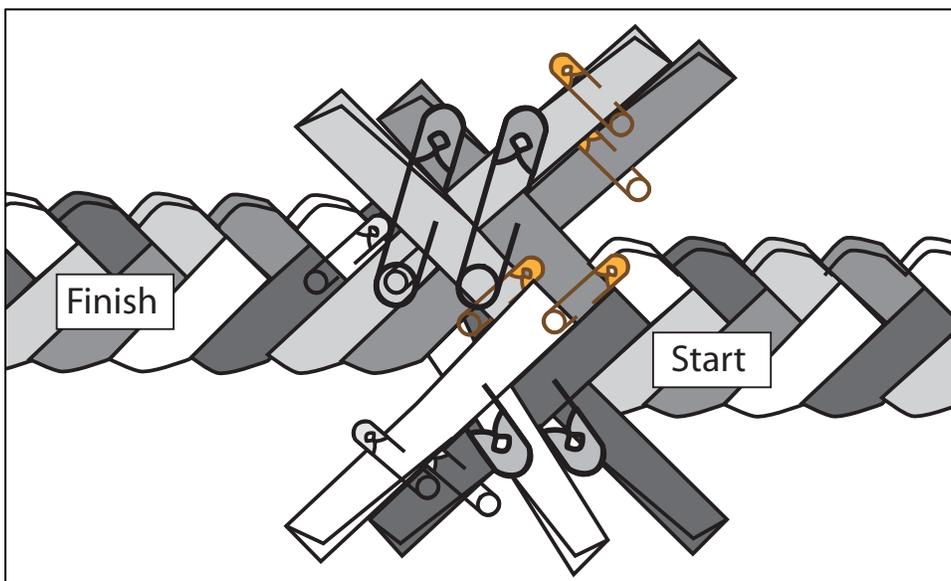
on the two loops down and to the left of the two loops already pinned with Matching Pins at the top of the braids. Make sure that you have not pinned a set of loops twice with the Matching Pins.



4. Remove Start Pin, Anchor Pin, and Finish Clothespin.

Leave the Matching Pins and

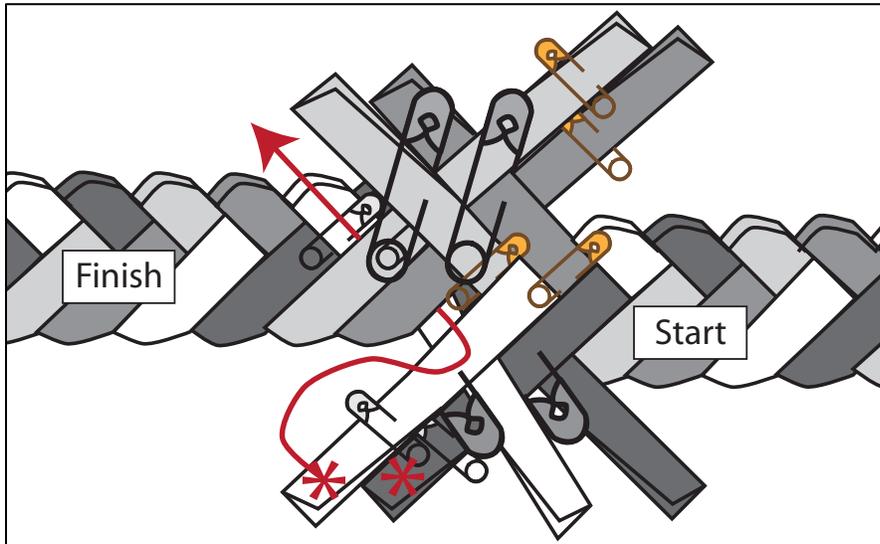
Unbraid back to Matching Pins on both Start and Finish braids.



5. Pull out strands into X's.

Free the strands all the way back to the Matching Pins.

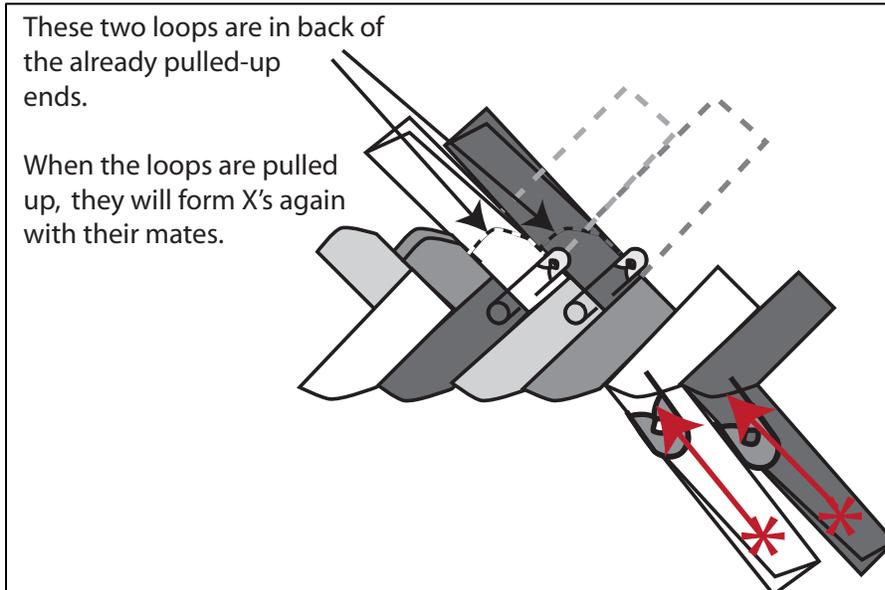
Each set of strands should form an X connected by a Matching Pin.



6. Move lower ends up. The two strands with red asterisks must travel up and to the left, through the path of their mates.

Use a hemostat to travel down along the path of the matching strand. Place the same-colored end in the jaws and pull it upward along the path.

Repeat for the other set of strands on the bottom, pulling one strand up along the path of its mate.



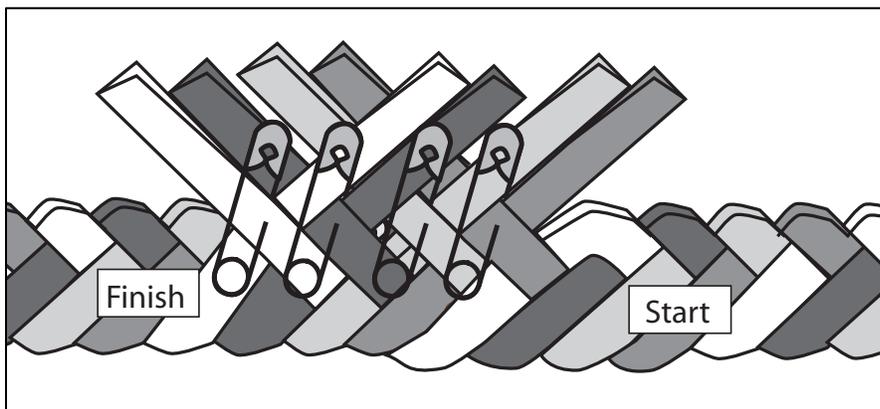
These two loops are in back of the already pulled-up ends.

When the loops are pulled up, they will form X's again with their mates.

7. Pull up the other lower ends. The two ends that are still on the bottom need to be pulled up and to the left through their own tunnel path.

Notice that the diagram has been stripped of details to allow you to focus on the action needed. The two red asterisks indicate the two strands to be pulled up. Remove the Matching Pin briefly and reattach it once the lower strand is in its new location...before working on the next set of strands.

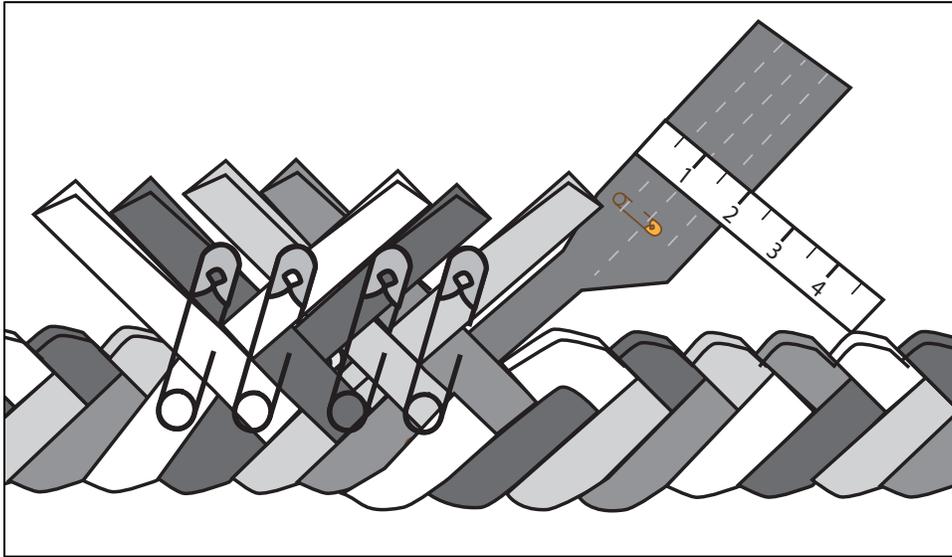
The loops to pull up are found in back of the ends that were pulled up in Step 6.



8. Four sets on folded edges side of braid

The diagram left shows all four sets of strands pulled up and pinned. All four sets are now on the folded edges side of the braid.

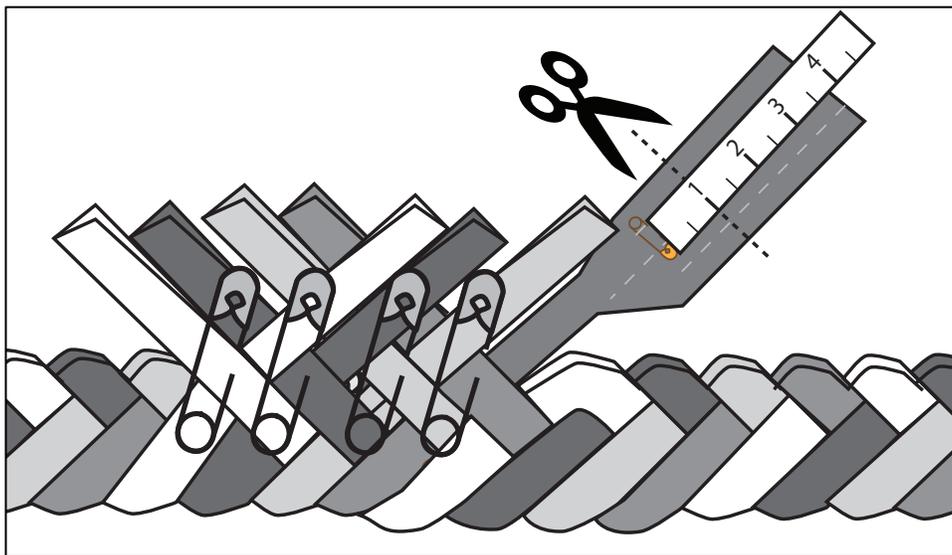
The Matching Pins were carefully moved to catch both strands in X's at the top of the braid.



9. Measure strand width, and divide by 2.

Open out the strand, and measure across the width.

In the diagram, the strip is shown to measure 2 inches. Dividing by two yields a "half-width" value of 1 inch.

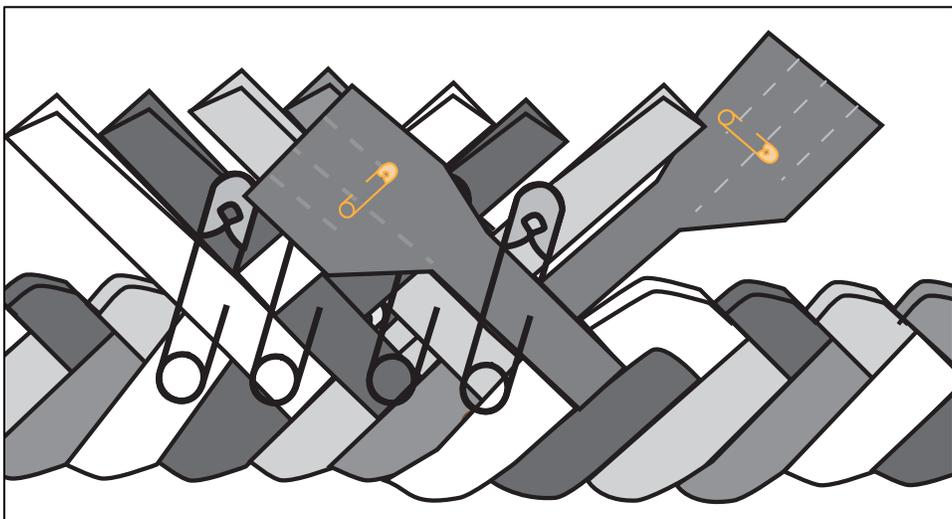


10. Cut a half-width longer than the pin.

Add the half-width to the length below the pin, and trim straight across. The cut is made at a half-width longer than the marker pin.

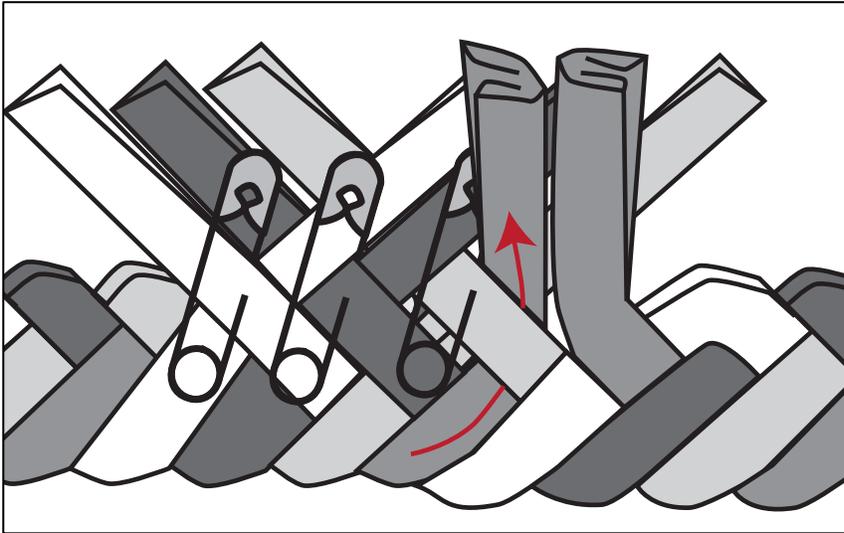
Repeat steps 9 & 10 for *each strand*.

Pull strands longer to get enough length to measure and cut. Adjust the location of the Matching Pins as needed but keep the sets pinned together.



11. Each set of strands should look like this once trimmed.

You can now remove all of the small marker pins (leave Matching Pins in place).

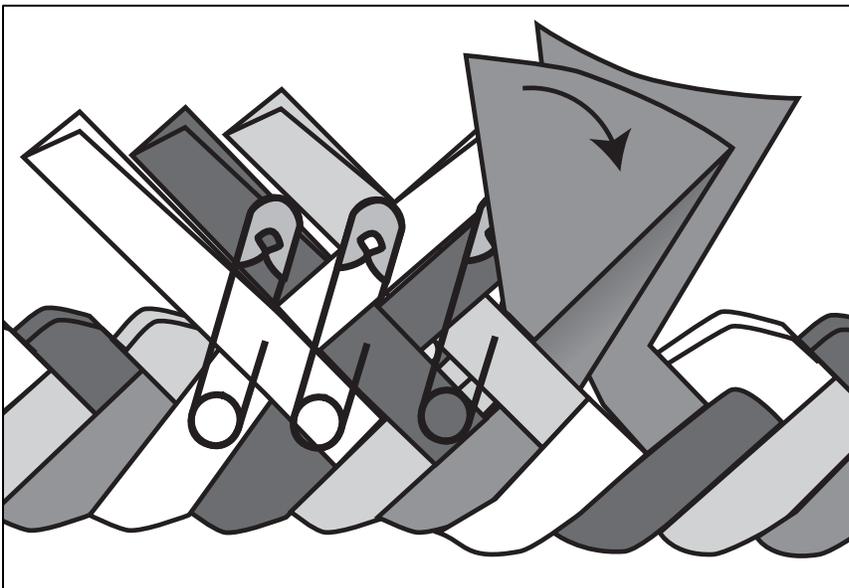


12. Pull on ends to get length; prepare for sewing.

Remove Marker Pin from right set of strands. Pull on ends to get more length.

Make sure the strand coming from the bottom left is coming under one strand (see red arrow).

Position the set of strands so that smooth edges are back-to-back and open folded edges face outward.

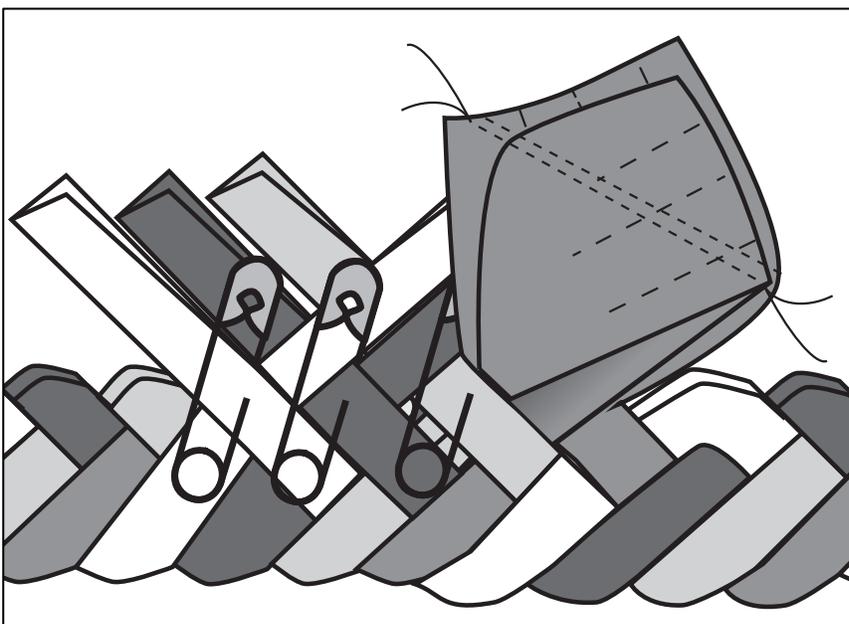


13. Open strands right-sides-together.

Open out the strands again. Matching corners, place right sides together.

Now, turn the strand from the lower left one quarter turn to the right, as indicated by the arrow.

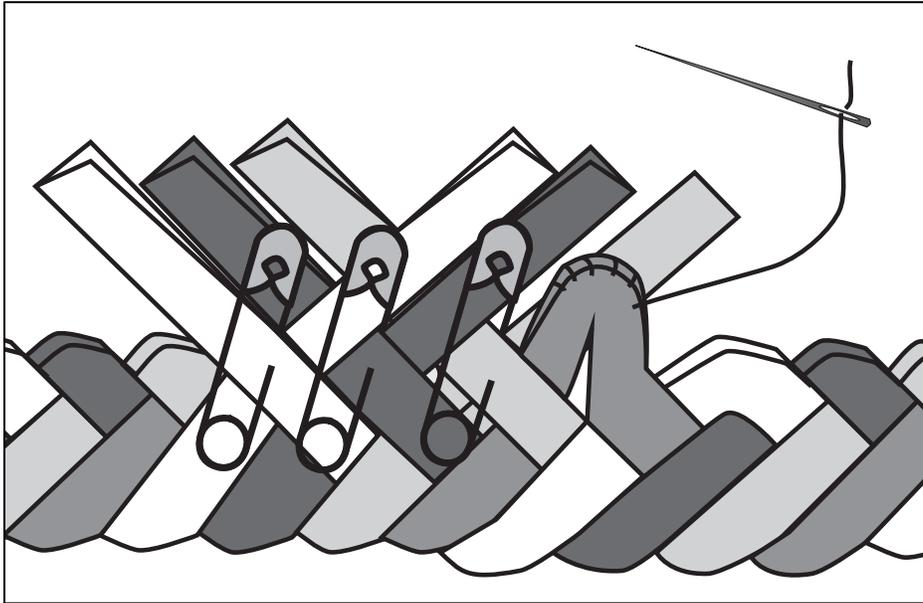
This is the exact same maneuver as when you add on length to braiding strips. Match the new corners together.



14. Sew the seam; trim.

Sew the seam twice on a machine, or use a backstitch by hand.

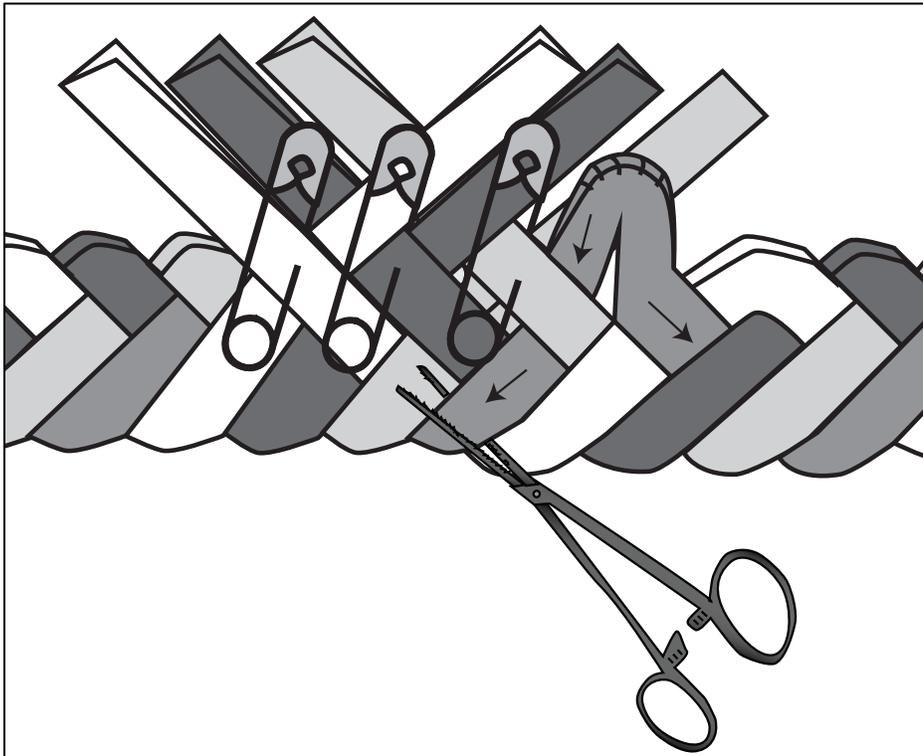
Trim raw edges 1/8" away from the sewing line.



15. Sew folded edges closed.

Refold the sewn strip as for braiding, tucking raw edges inward.

With overcast stitches or ladder stitches, use matching thread to sew the folded edges closed neatly.



16. Restore the strand.

Replace the strand within the braid, using a hemostat to move the strand. Hide the seam under a braid loop.

Repeat steps 12-16 with remaining sets to complete the butt.