



“Be kind to one another.” (*Ephesians 4:32*)

My First Rosary

A Hands-On Craft to Teach Children How to Pray the Rosary

“String beads together to learn how to pray the Rosary, a beautiful prayer to Mary.”

How to Make a Wooden Bead Rosary for Kids (Illustrated-Style Guide)

Materials You’ll Need

- 53 small wooden beads (Hail Mary beads)
- 6 slightly larger wooden beads (Our Father beads)
- 1 wooden or plastic cross/crucifix
- Strong cord or nylon string (about 4–5 feet)
- Scissors
- Optional: small knotting tool or tweezers

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Prepare Your String

Imagine a long piece of cord stretched across a table, with a little extra at each end for tying knots.

- Cut your cord to about 4–5 feet.
- Tie a small knot at one end to keep beads from sliding off.



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2. Start with the Cross

Picture the cross-lying flat, with the string passing through its top loop.

- Thread the cross onto the cord.
 - Tie a double knot above it so it stays in place.
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3. Make the Introductory Section

Visualize a short “tail” of beads above the cross.

- Add **1 large bead** (Our Father).
 - Tie a knot.
 - Add **3 small beads** (Hail Mary’s).
 - Tie a knot.
 - Add **1 large bead** (Our Father).
 - Tie a knot.
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4. Create the Five Decades

Think of a necklace with repeating bead patterns.

For each decade:

1. Add **10 small beads** (Hail Mary’s), tying a knot after each bead or after the group.
2. Add **1 large bead** (Our Father).
3. Repeat until you have 5 decades.



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5. Close the Loop

Imagine the rosary forming a circle with the cross hanging down.

- Tie the two ends of the cord together securely.
 - Trim any extra string.
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6. Optional Decoration

Picture colorful knots or painted beads.

- Kids can paint the wooden beads with safe, non-toxic paint before stringing.
 - Add small charms or spacer beads for fun.
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Kid-Friendly Tips

- Use **larger beads** so little hands can handle them easily.
 - Bright colors help kids remember the prayer order.
 - End with a gentle prayer moment.
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