

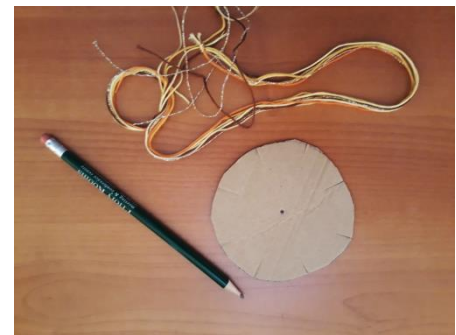
Bath Time Travellers – Bronze Age Monkswood Hoard - Torc

A hoard of Bronze Age metalwork was found near Batheaston in 1894. In the collection was a torc which is a piece of jewellery that was worn as a necklace. Strands of metal are twisted together and interwoven to make a large rigid shape that is left open at the front for the wearer to put it on.

Jewellery like this, made of bronze and gold, was worn in the Bronze Age and Iron Age before the Romans came to Britain. It would have belonged to someone of high status, as metals were expensive. Metalworking was a specialised skill.



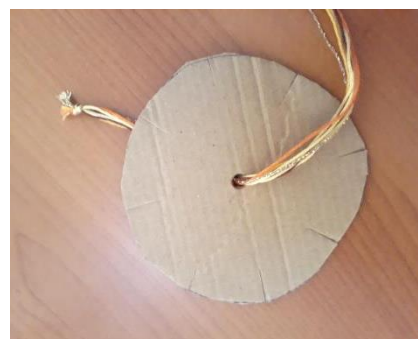
To make our version of a Torc you will need:
cardboard circle (8 -10cm), pencil, yarn/wool.
Cut 8 equally spaced small notches into the circle.
Use sturdy cardboard.



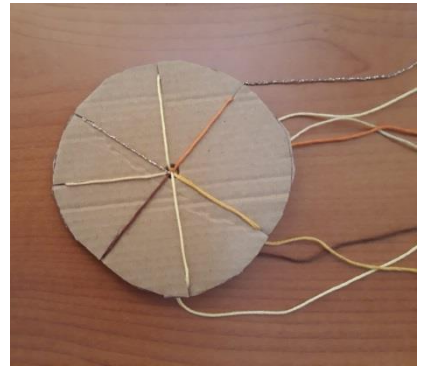
Use the pencil to make a hole in the centre of the circle. Cut 7 long equal lengths of yarn (50cm) – use one colour or try different colours. We are using yellows and golds to make the torc look like it is made of metal.



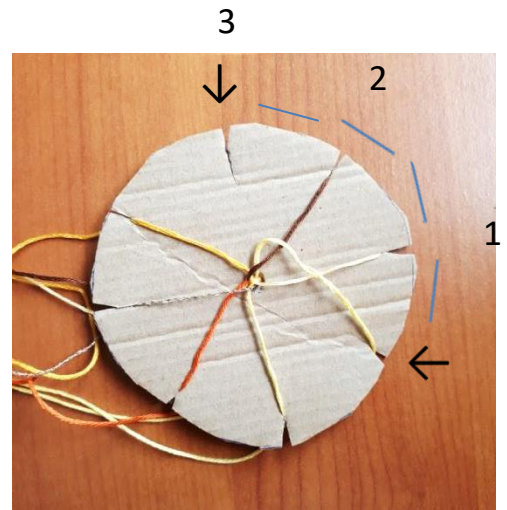
Tie all the ends together in a knot and push the knot through the hole.



Spread the 7 lengths of yarn around the circle and push through the notches. You should have one notch spare.



Take the 3rd piece of yarn and put it into the empty notch. This is your first step. Keep threading the third strand into the empty notch. You will need to turn the circle as you go. Repeat this action over and over again. Pull the knot from underneath as you go so that the braid starts to appear on the other side of the circle. Don't pull too hard just little movements.



Your 'torc' or braid will start to appear underneath the circle.

Continue with the actions until you have the enough braid for a bracelet. Tie a knot and cut off.

