

TUTORIAL TRANSCRIPT: Making A Lei Lā‘ī With Two Leaves

Kupuna (*Elder*): Nona Beamer

Lā (*Date*): Original footage captured July 4, 2001. Edited tutorial created in 2022

Nā Helu Wikiō (*Tape #s*): HPS 0150

Wahi (*Location*): Kāne‘ohe, Ko‘olaupoko, O‘ahu

Ke ‘Ano Wikiō (*Type*): Edited tutorial

[ONSCREEN GRAPHICS]

Supplies: Ti Leaf, Scissors/Blade, Small Cloth, Your Hands

Step 1: Clean and Debone

TIP: Make sure your leaves have long stems! If you need help deboning, go to Tutorial 1

Step 2: Strip the Leaves

NB: There. Okay. You don't have to strip at this point. I do [CLEARS THROAT] because it's easier to do two leaves at once. And then turn it over and keep the veins going the same way. And then holding it so you keep them straight. You can feel at the bottom with your finger at the bottom, to keep both the top and the bottom leaf straight. And then strip away. Oh, it smells good. Okay. Little curly cue down there. All right. Looks fine. Doesn't it look fine?

[ONSCREEN GRAPHICS]

Step 3: Tie Leaves Together

NB: Then now, usually it's better to strip the top a little bit. If you can tear it, fine. If not, use the scissor and make it a little bit narrower. Because it'll be easier to tie, and it'll be easier on the neck rather than a big knot. It'll be easier. Sometimes you can tie twice. So that when it lays on the neck, it's a little more comfortable. And it stands to reason it would be more comfortable than one big, giant knot. So I think the two knots make it a little smoother, and it's not so bulky at the back of your neck. Okay. This is the last. And tighten and make sure so that when it lays down on your neck it'll be a smoother in the back.

[ONSCREEN GRAPHIC]

TIP: If you need to practice making a square knot, use two different colors of string to see more clearly how to make the knot

[PHOTO EXAMPLES]

NB: M-hm. And it doesn't poke you quite, quite so much. And then if you want to tie it, just take whatever is nearest you and ... one little ... flick of the wrist, and you've got the tie. You can do it twice if you like, but sometimes it's not necessary. But that would keep it from blowing off in the wind. And then squish it down with your finger. There. Pretty, huh? Pretty kine!

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NOTE: You don't have to cut the ends in half and make two knots. It just makes it a little more comfortable.

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