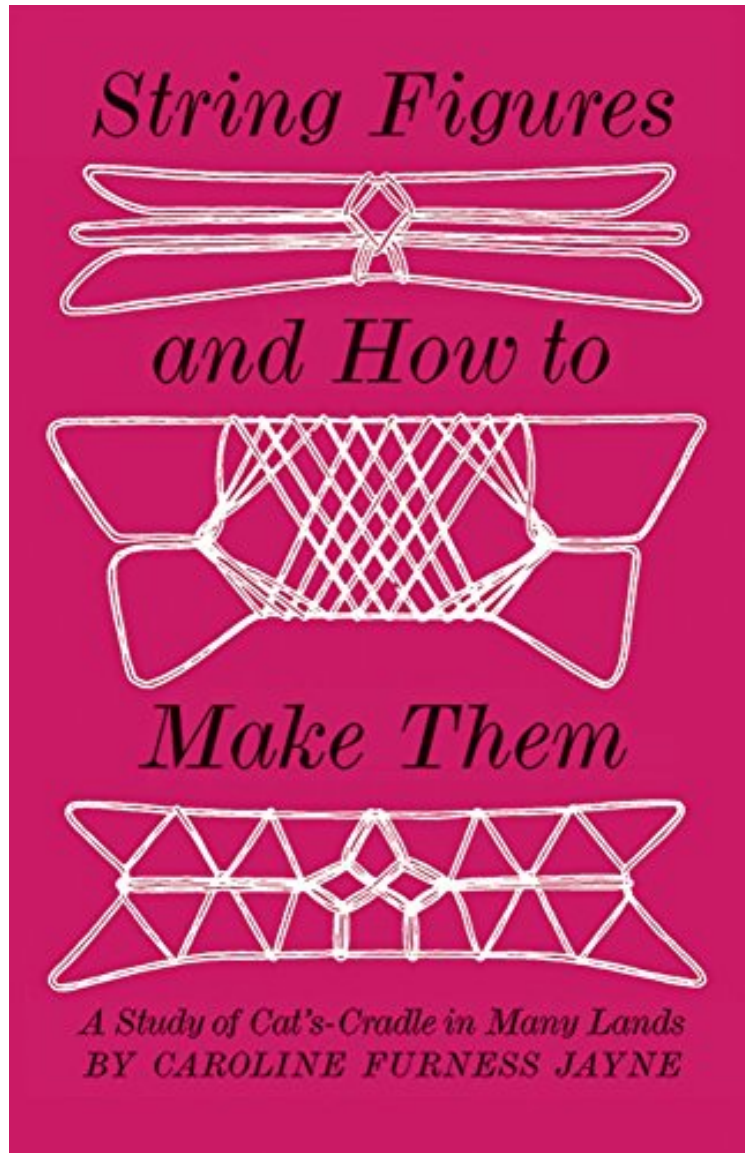


String Figures and How to Make Them: A Study of Cat's Cradle in Many Lands

Caroline F. Jayne

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#522205 in Books Caroline F Jayne 1962-01-01 1962-06-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.40 x 1.10 x 5.40l, 1.01 #File Name: 048620152X448 pages String Figures and How to Make Them | File size: 55.Mb

Caroline F. Jayne : String Figures and How to Make Them: A Study of Cat's Cradle in Many Lands before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised String Figures and How to Make Them: A Study of Cat's Cradle in Many Lands:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Anthropology + string figures = pleasant surprise By savannahI

bought this book for my boyfriend so he'd stop stimming (ADHD) with breakable objects everywhere we go. I think we were both quite surprised by how much information (actual text) was in the book, but that was not a problem. Lots of black and white photos of indigenous tribes displaying their string figures, as the book is really more like an anthropology text, in addition to directions on making the string figures. My boyfriend's only (mild) complaint is that the order of the figures is not easiest to hardest but, rather, a mix, and the author's concept of easy and difficult seems different than ours (but we're only two people so maybe others disagree). Overall, I'm impressed that someone actually wrote this book-- what a great concept to show directions as well as the story behind it!-- and my boyfriend has been happily occupied with his string figures. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Kids really enjoy making string figures. By Douglas van Antwerp My rating is 4 1/2 stars. This is an excellent book. It shows the country and some cultural background for each string figure. The directions are good for making each figure and artist's drawings show how to make each figure. Kids love making the figures! I've taught classes of 9-10 year olds. We used mason line from a hardware store. You need about 6 feet of string for each child. String figures teach a child to follow directions, to remember how to make them, and finger dexterity. A very inexpensive toy--only string and book needed. Two of the best string figures: Apache Door (pg. 12) and Ten Men (pg. 150). On pg. 324, the Cat's Cradle shows 8 figures to make-- 2 children takes turns making a figure, passing the string back and forth. I bet some of you adults played Cat's Cradle when you were a child... 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great book, but not for beginners. By M. Jackson I bought this book for my ten-year-old son who has mastered all the string tricks in his children's string trick book. He says the tricks in this book, on the other hand, are just too hard. I have a feeling that the format, with its small print and MANY words, is the real problem. When we sit down together and talk it through, we can figure out the tricks.

At some time in your youth, no doubt, you took a loop of string and made a "cat's-cradle," a "Jacob's ladder," or some other type of figure by looping and crossing the string between the fingers. But perhaps you were not aware that this is actually an ancient form of amusement, that it is practiced in all parts of the globe, and is especially popular among primitive tribes. And you probably didn't realize what a great variety of figures can be formed by a single loop of string. This book describes, in a simple and easy-to-follow manner, how to make no less than 107 different string figures, just as they are made in their land of origin. It is the only book on the subject in English that gives a thorough and readily understandable treatment, so that a beginner can follow the steps and make the figures without the help of a teacher. The figures offer an excellent means for developing manual dexterity and coordination between brain and hand, and present challenge to personal inventiveness, too, since they are capable of infinite variations. These games are fun for people of all ages: intelligent children can do them easily, and adults find great enjoyment in them. Two people can play the string games together, one using his left and the other his right; and many of the games even require four hands. The description of each figure and the process of making it is accompanied by several simply drawn sketches that show each distinct step as it would be viewed by the person making the figure. The illustrator has taken great care to show in each sketch all the loops, all the intertwinings as they should appear at each stage in the process, so that there is no reason for anyone to have undue difficulty in making any of the figures. Besides those who simply want to use the book as a source of amusement, the book will be of great interest to anthropologists and collectors of string figures, since it greatly increases the knowledge of string games and their distribution around the world.