

Bead Strings and Bead Racks

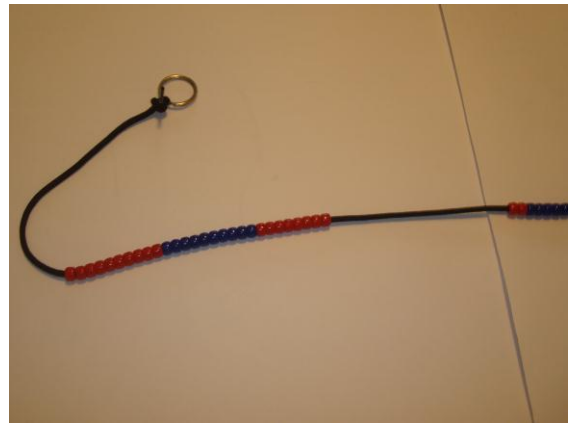
100 Bead string

Materials: Heavy duty boot lace or 1 yard of macreme' cord, 50 red pony bead, 50 blue (or white) pony beads.

Thread 100 pony beads in alternating color groups of 10 (i.e. 10 red, then 10 blue and so) onto cord. Tie a heavy knot or metal key-chain ring onto each end to keep the beads on the string, leaving approximately an extra foot of length for bead movement.

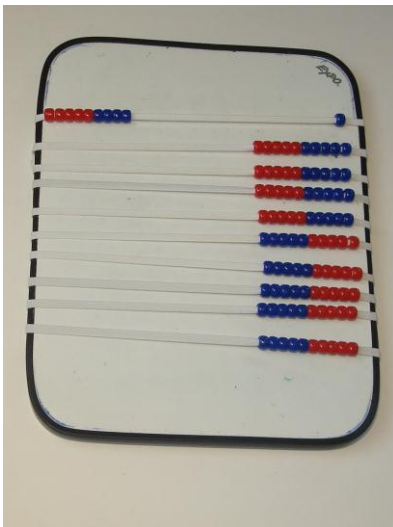


100 bead string



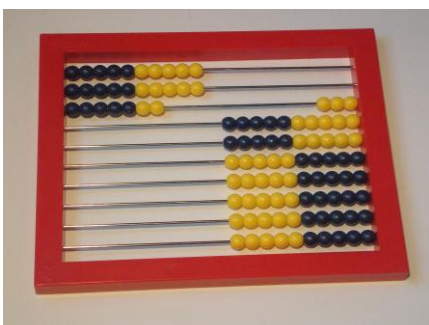
100 bead string showing "28"

100 bead rack



Materials: 50 red pony beads, 50 blue pony beads, approximately 5 yards of 1/4 elastic, clipboard or sturdy student white board.

Thread 10 pony beads (5 each of each color) onto approximately 18" length of elastic. Tie elastic in a loop so the loop fits snug on the student whiteboard or clipboard. Make 10 loops in all. Place the 10 loops on the student white board so that the top 5 loops have the red on the left and the second 5 loops have the blue on the left.

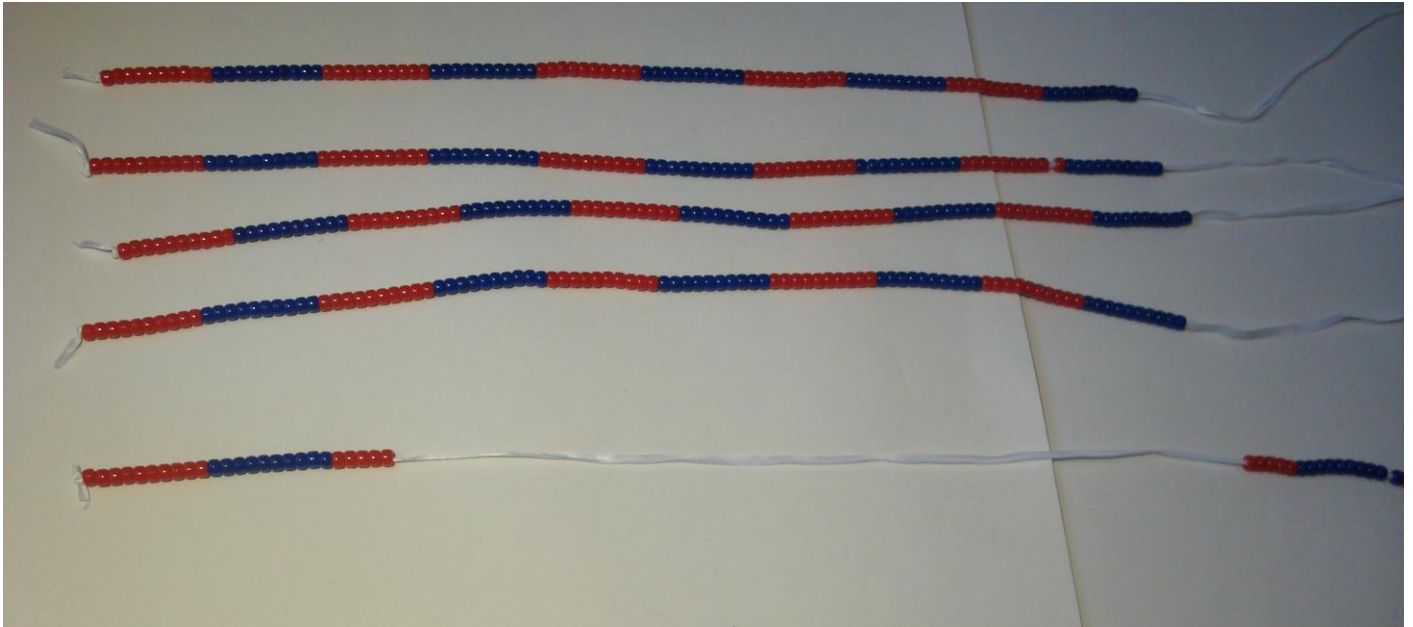


This 100 bead rack can be purchased from Amazon.com. It is called a "desktop abacus". The place value labels on the rows should be turned to the back and/or covered.

Other retailers of bead racks include MathRack (<http://www.mathrack.com/>) and eNasco (<http://www.enasco.com/>) (search for "Rekenrek" at eNasco)

Building quantities to 1000

Lay out 100 bead strings in horizontal rows as pictured below.



Alternatively, multiple 100 bead racks can be used to build quantities to 1000.