



5 DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

For best results, please follow these steps and do not remove knots or labels except as directed.

Step 1. BRAID STRING—With partner if needed (or hold between knees). Lay out the 3 strings so they are straight. Take the **right** outside string and bring it across to between the other two (now becomes the center). Take the left string across between the other two (now becomes the new center), straighten strings. Continue braiding “**right over center, left over center**” until about 1-inch (thumb length) from the end. Take the 3 strands together and tie a loop knot in the end to match the starting knot at the beginning.

Step 2. PREPARE TEA BAGS WITH LABELS—Without removing the sticky backing, cut out the squares around the date labels. When you have the bags laid out flat, practice how you will center the labels. Then one at a time, carefully remove the label backing and place a label on each bag.

Step 3. INSERT CANDY—Get pieces of candy (from Crafts helper) and insert one each into tea bags. Pull tea bag strings closed and wrap around top of the bag.

Step 4. PREPARE TWINE STRINGS—Fold braided string in half to find the center of your string. Carefully (not too tight, just once), tie one of your red & white twines around the center of the braided string. Lay out your 5 bags under the braid, matching the center date (“22”) under the center twine and space the other bags evenly to the left and right of the center. Now tie the other 4 twine strings above onto the braid string so they line up above where the bags will go.

Step 5. ATTACH TEA BAGS—Tie tea bags onto the twine strings making a bow in each.

Step 6. HANG UP YOUR DATE STRING—You should hang your “5-Days Before Christmas” string on your tree or mantle at home. Beginning December 20th, you can open one bag each day and eat your candy treat. MERRY CHRISTMAS.