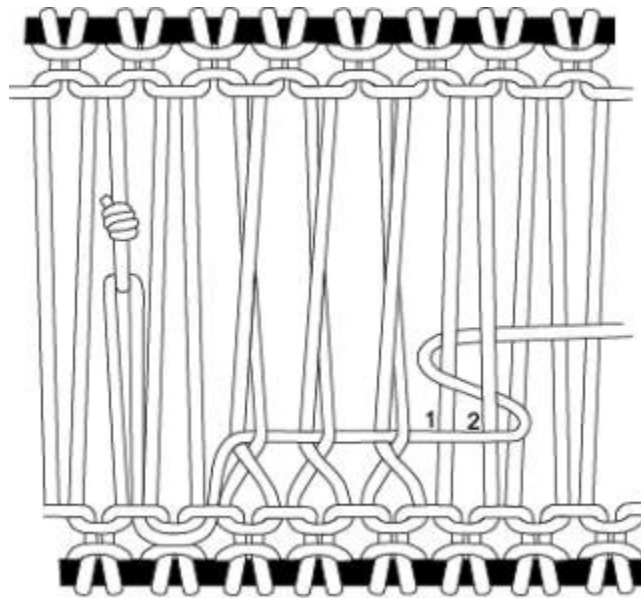


The Mali Weave and General Information



- First pass the rope over the next two verticals. (1-2)
- Then pass the rope back under the second (2) and back over the first.
- Pass the rope back under both (1-2) and pull (hard) to flip.

Tuning

1. The Mali Weave can be done in either direction. As shown in this diagram, this is called the **S-weave**. Reverse this, and then the pattern is backward (**Z-shaped**), but the same approach. The decision as to which way to go is arbitrary and many times the drum builder will start in the direction that needs a little more rope tension.
2. Tuning a djembe in this way is called *pulling diamonds*. The reason is because of the pattern that results after a couple of rows have been pulled.
3. A drum that has a new goatskin head will normally require additional diamonds to be pulled within the first few weeks, then only as needed after that. The goatskin absorbs moisture from the air and occasionally will need a few more diamonds pulled to offset the natural stretching of the skin, especially when it's humid.

General

1. Use shea butter on your hands after you play, especially when playing in winter-time. The only time the goatskin head itself will need moisturizing is if it has not been played for a long time. Otherwise, the oils from your hands are sufficient.
2. Never leave a djembe in extreme temperatures (e.g., a hot car; near woodstove, etc.) or the head may split!