

## European Chainmaille Bracelet

This bracelet is the original weave used to create medieval chain mail armor. The weave is called European 4-in-1, because each ring in the weave has 4 others pass through it. This weave is very versatile and can use almost any size rings. Larger rings produce a more open, loose chain and smaller rings produce a tighter, stiffer weave. European 4-in-1 can be made as a single strip or as a wider sheet. Instructions for making a sheet are at the end of the handout.

### **Step 1**

Close 4 rings. Open 1 ring, slide the 4 closed ring on to it, and close the ring.



### **Step 2**

Lay the rings out as shown, with two rings on each side. Be sure that the rings are oriented correctly: all side rings leaning away from you and center ring leaning towards you.



### **Step 3**

Add an open ring to the top two side rings. Use the previous center ring as an orientation guide, but don't put the open ring through it!



### **Step 4**

Add two rings to the center ring from the previous step. Position the rings on either side, leaning away from you.



**Repeat step 4-5** until the chain is the desired length.



**Finished!**



**To make a wider chain/sheet:**

Add an open ring through the first two of the side rings. This ring should be oriented (leaning) the same way as the rings one row above it. Next, add an open ring through the second and third side ring. Continue adding new rings, going through one ring from the last step and one new ring. The chain can be made as wide as you'd like this way.

