**TYING TZITZIT**

* For four corners of a tallit you will need a total of 16 strings: 12 strings about 2 feet long, and 4 strings about 3 feet long.
* Divide up into four sets, each with one long string and three short.
* Even up the strings at one end and put them through the hole.
* Double the four strands in half. You should be left with seven even strings and one long one.

1. Tie a double knot using all the strings.  
2. Wrap the long strand around the other seven strands 7 times.  
3. Tie a double knot using all the strings.  
4. Wrap the long strand around the other seven strands 8 times.  
5. Tie another double knot using all the strings.  
6. Wrap the long strand around the other seven strands 11 times.  
7. Tie another double knot using all the strings.  
8. Wrap the long strand around the other seven strands 13 times.  
9. Make another double knot using all the strings.

There are Rabbinic reasons for every knot and twist.

The first two sets of windings (seven plus eight) equal fifteen. The third set of windings is eleven. Together they come to twenty-six. Every Hebrew letter has a numerical value (aleph is one, bet is two, etc.). The number twenty-six is equal to the Hebrew letters YOD HAY VAV HAY. These letters form the Name of God.

Now the final thirteen wrappings (the last set) equals the Hebrew letters Alef Chet Dalet.  
These make the Hebrew word "Echad," "One." So, whenever you look at the threads, you are reminded of "Hear, oh Israel, the Lord is one".

Also, the number value for the Hebrew letters of the word for "tzitzit" (fringes) is: 400 10 90 10 90. Together, 600. In each fringe, there are eight threads plus five double knots.  
Thus, whenever you look at the corner threads, you see 600 plus eight, plus five, which equals 613, which is the number of commandments. So every time you look at the corner threads, you see a reminder of all of the commandments.