Bits & Pieces, Bead Crochet
by Emily Miller

Handout by Janice Parsons

We are always excited to introduce a classic fiber-arts technique to our
world-wide beading family. Crochet has been used for centuries and we're not the first to
adapt it to beads. This is Emily Miller's style of bead crochet and we're excited to share
both the techniques and Emily's teaching style. We think she's amazingly talented.

This handout is intended as a *companion* to the Facebook LIVE Video of 5.24.17.
Please watch the video to see the nuances of the stitch techniques and learn tips
from Emily and Kate.
If you want to skip the chit-chat between Emily and Kate (and Janice and Kate),
start your viewing at minute 24:00.

The tools and ingredients you'll need to begin bead crochet are:
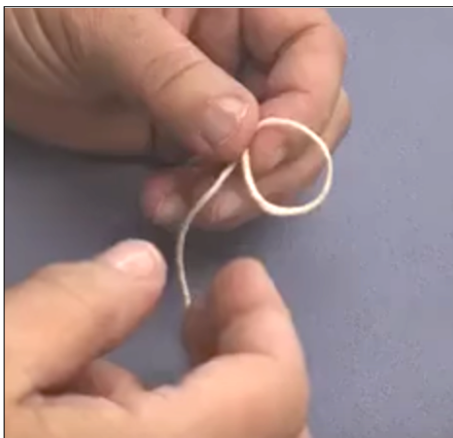Thread Snips
Medium Bob-Eez Bobbin
Size #8 Crochet Hook
Spool of Micro C-Lon (about 10 yards)
Flexible Eye Needles
GS Hypo Cement
A Button
Beads!

Minute 31:08
Emily begins the loop of crochet on cotton twine. Start by crossing your thread over.

She brings the loop through and pulls it closed. Then brings her crochet hook into the knot. Watch how she grabs the cord and always maintains even tension.

Minute 34:55
Emily shows us how she completes the crochet stitch by "yarning over." It's a technique of dipping and catching your thread.

Minute 36:43
"Hook it, turn it, and pull it through" is what Kate recommends as Emily demonstrates the stitch which creates a chain of crochet knots.
Minute 40:47
Emily shows us how to drop a bead down.

Once you understand the Chain Stitch, it's time to bead crochet for real!

Besides your tools, you'll need an assortment of <u>beads</u>, a spool of <u>Micro C-lon</u>, and a <u>button</u>.
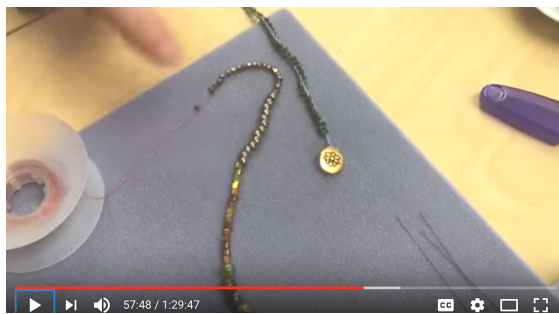
Emily selected palettes for <u>Bits & Pieces</u> that have a variety of bead. She looks for color, shapes, sizes and textures.

All materials are listed on the <u>Project Pages for Bits & Pieces</u>.

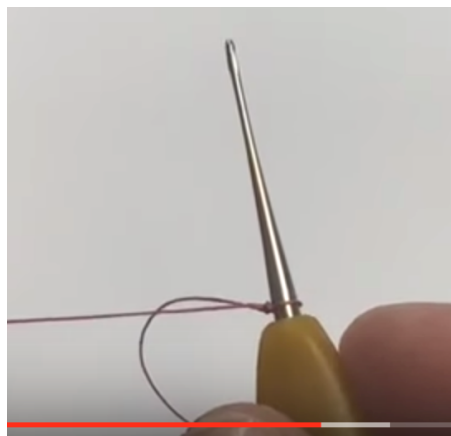We also love <u>Little Storage</u> for storing beads.

Minute 45:58
Emily and Kate demo how they measure and cut 10 yards of cord. Emily begins by winding 9/10 yards of cord around the bobbin. Using a Flexible Eye Needle on the other end of cord, she strings 22 inches of beads.

Depending on the tension of your knots and the size of your beads, you will finish with a necklace about 36 inches in length.
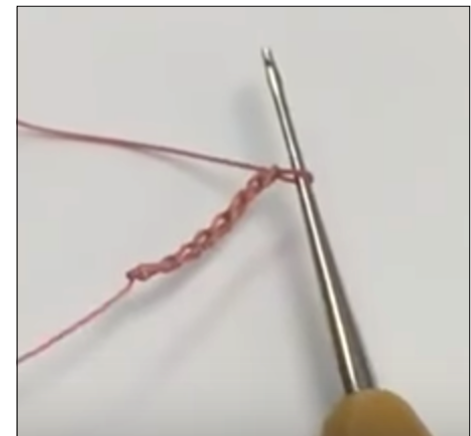
Minute 57:48
Emily orients us: The first bead strung on is the last we crochet. The last bead we string on is the first one we crochet and it's next to the button.
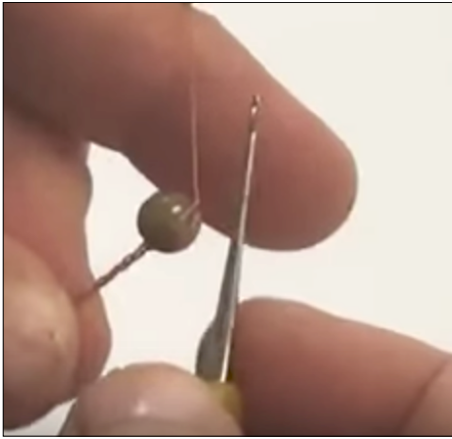
Minute 1:00:44
Crochet begins with that first knot. Slide it down to the thicker end of the crochet hook to ensure it is large before you being crocheting.
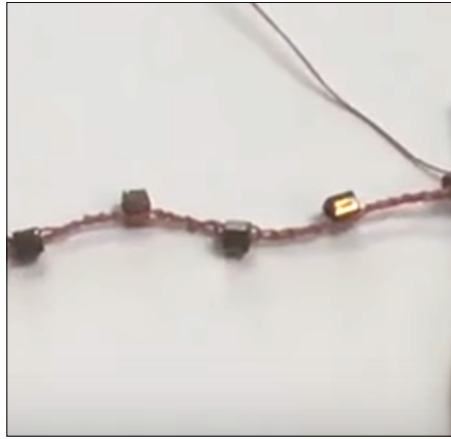
Minute 1:02:16
Emily does a series of knots that will be the loop for the shank of the button. You can also use a button with holes; the technique is the same.
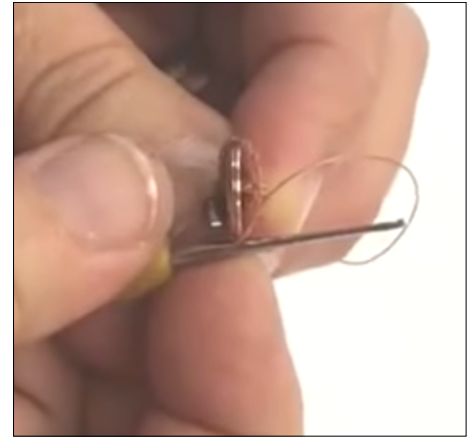
Minute 1:07:45

With the confidence of an experienced crocheter, Emily shares with us how to incorporate large beads, adding it's good to give bigger beads more thread (larger loop) so they lay correctly within the loop.

Minute 1:10:39

Emily glides through bead crochet and shows us how the chain starts to take form. Be random! Be planned! Be yourself! You can always take the stitches out.

Minute 1:15:03

Once Emily gets to a comfortable stopping point, she will begin to measure and chain crochet a button loop.

Follow along as Emily makes the loop secure and finishes off both ends- the button side and the loop. She demonstrates a clever knot to secure the threads. Then she adds GS Hypo Cement. Emily recommends you wait 24 hours before snipping away the excess thread.

We hope you've enjoyed Bead Crochet with Emily (and Kate). Stay tuned for more projects, including Circular Crochet.
Don't forget, you can always send us your questions and share your newest creations with our Learning Team. Just send us an email to info@beadshop.com.
Happy Beading!
Kate and Emily