

## Diagonal Peyote Leaf with Emily Miller



Join Emily for another classic seedbead technique, Diagonal Peyote! This new slant on a traditional stitch has so many cool applications, the leaf is just one! As it's the season for the change of colors, choose a classic green palette or warm bronze and pinkish tones...these are a quickish make, with a bit of a challenge! If you have done a few seedbead projects, used peyote and brick stitch, this will be great fun!

Intermediate level



2-3 hours for a pair of earrings



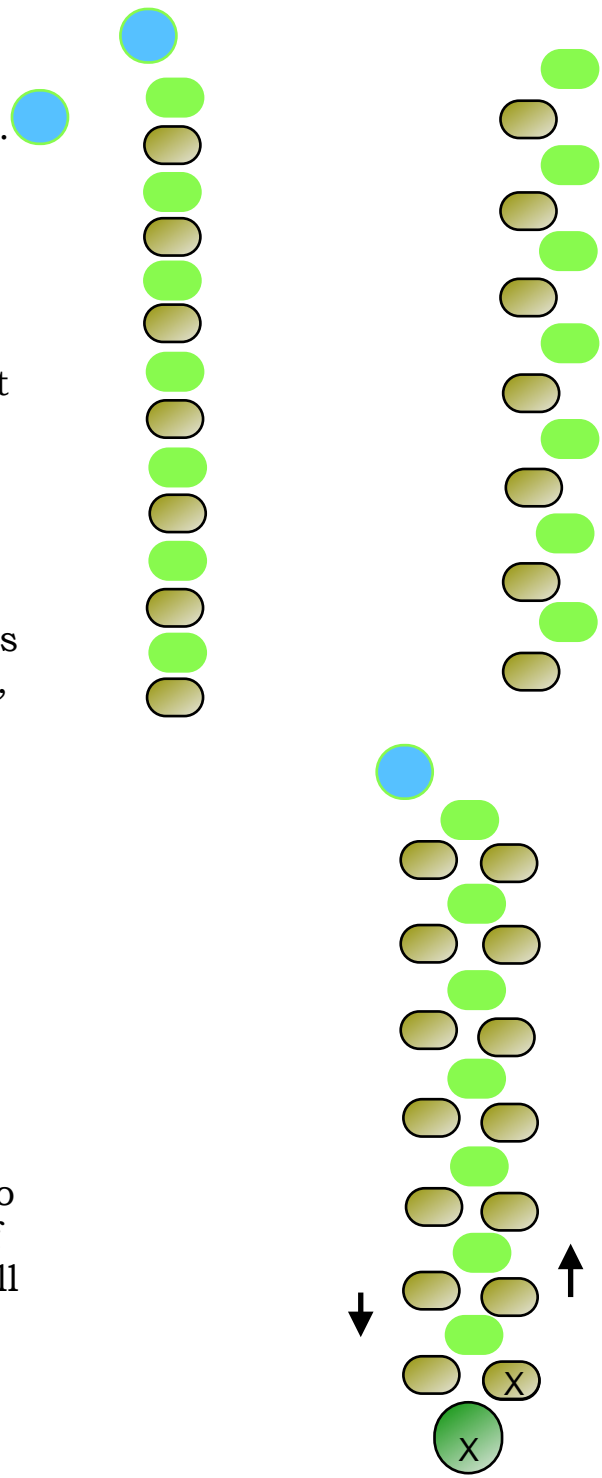
Needle and wax a 1 1/2 yard of thread, add a stopper bead. The stopper bead will be positioned at about 1/2 the length of thread. Ultimately the second half of the leaf will be built using this long tail.

Step 1 String on 14 beads alternating colors. The green sample uses 11-4506  and 11-4215 . For this stitch it helps to have two colors, to establish a rhythm for stitching, each row will be in only one color. More colors or shapes of beads could be used as desired.


The basis for Diagonal Peyote is to shorten at one edge and lengthen at another. It makes for great shaping opportunities, as both edges can be changed at any time. For this first leaf shape, keep the changes to a minimum as the new stitch is learned. Make a pair to show that you really have some mastery of the process.



Step 2 Lower edge turn, Pick up 2 beads, a 2mm bead  and a 4506  skip the last bead in the base row and pass through the next bead. This should look like a picot, (another thing you can apply to regular even or odd count flat peyote!)

It would be helpful here to remember that the base row of beads is actually rows one and two, and that this will grow off to the right and upwards. (if you are a righty, lefty's it will grow off to the left and up) My stopper bead is on the top end of what will become the center of the leaf. I'll need to remove it, and use the long tail to stitch the other half.






To allow for a bit of room in the center of the leaf, there will not be an increase at the top edge for one row. This also leaves an odd number of rows in the center that will accommodate the second half of the leaf symmetrically.

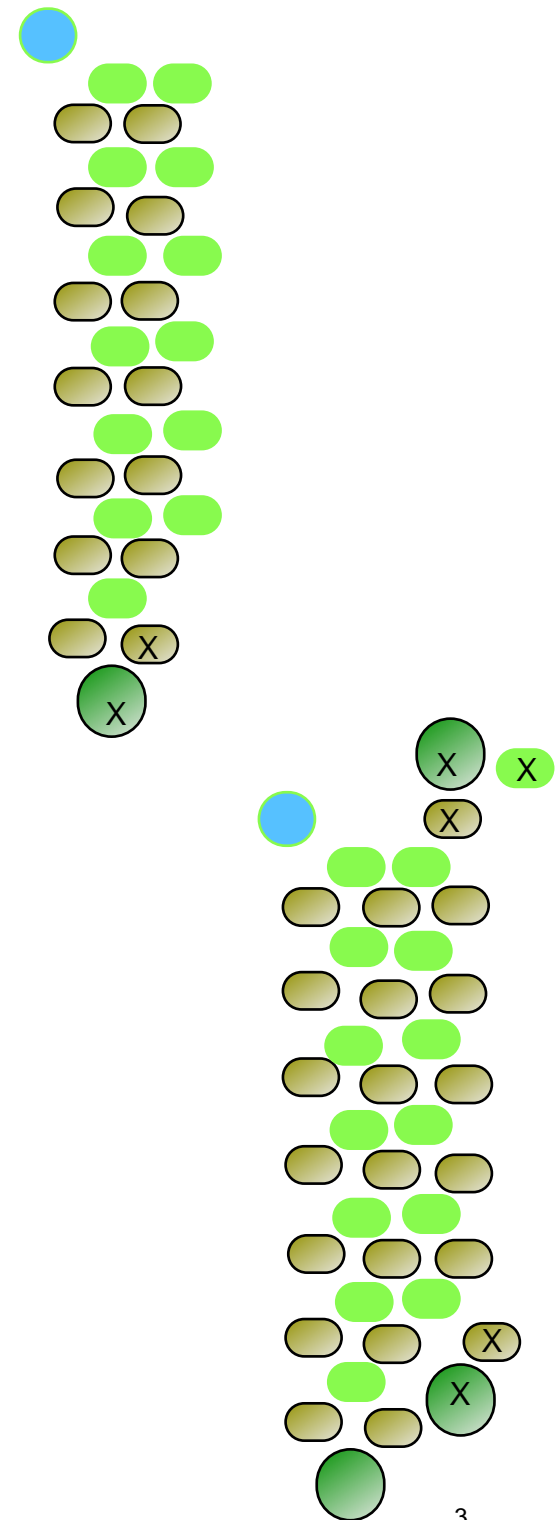
Step 3 The thread with the needle will be emerging from the first bead strung, next to the stopper bead. Add a row of 4215  beads (6 total) stopping one short from the end of the row.







Step 4 Turn using two beads, (as in Step 2), a 2mm bead  and a 4506 . Continue this row with peyote stitch.

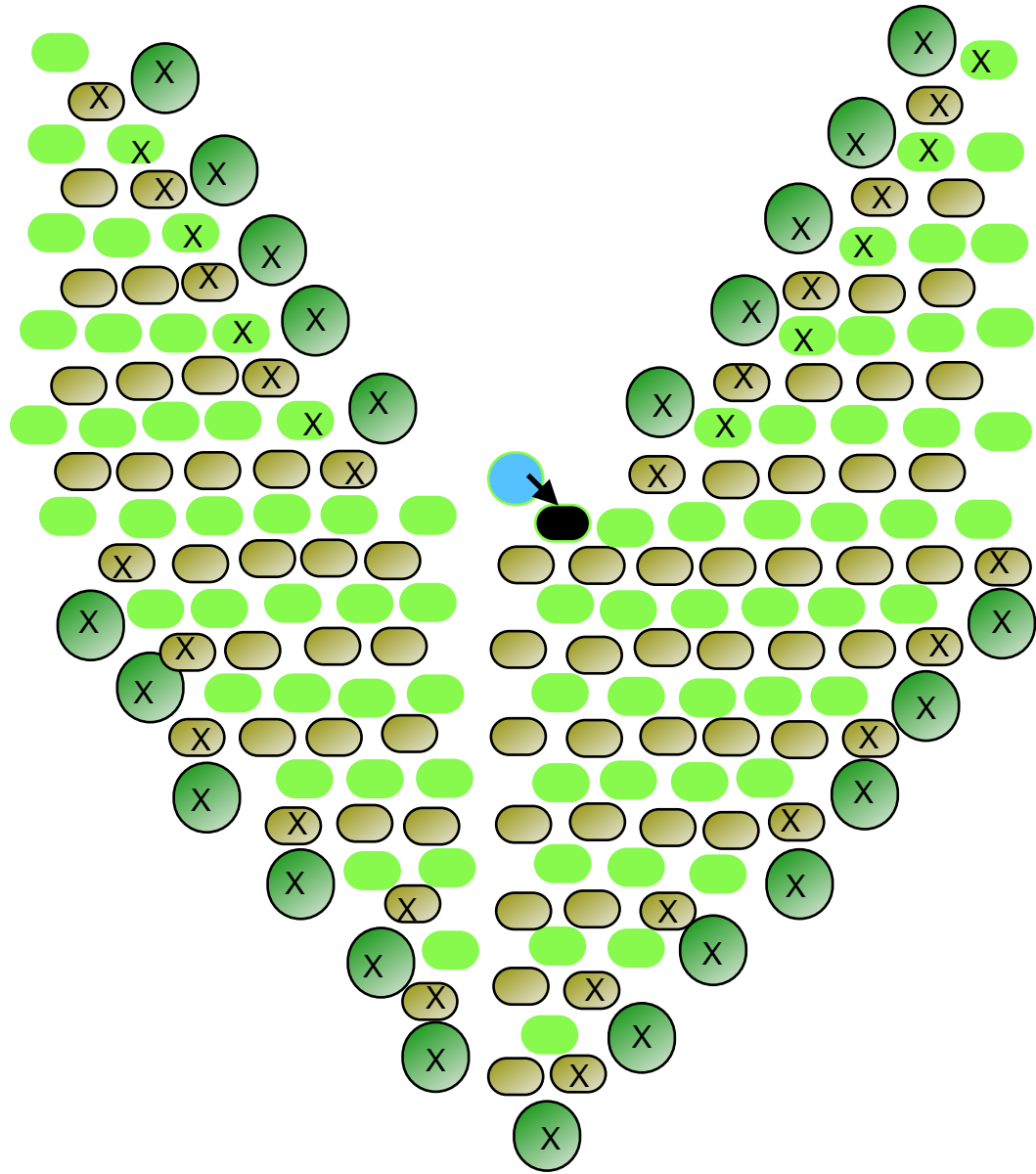
N.B. Good to notice here, each row is in only one color of bead, and from here on out each row will be 6 beads long. Since a decrease and an increase happens on each row.

\*\*\*When peyote stitching flat normally, it is usually illustrated with the rows oriented from left to right. In practice, how one holds the work could be different (and confusing!) Diagonal peyote is easiest shown and worked up and down, each row will alternate. Down rows have a decrease at the bottom, and up rows have the increase at the top.

Step 5 Increase turn! The thread will be emerging from the 4215, at the top edge of the work, add 3 beads, a 4506,  a 2mm,  and a 4215  to the thread. Pass the needle back through the 4506 and continue to peyote the rest of the row, 5 beads total. (the 6th bead for this row was added in the increase)



4215	
4506	
2mm	
beads added as increases	
	
	
	



Step 6 Continue to stitch, increasing and decreasing until there are 5 of the increase rows on the inside of the right hand diagonal.

Step 7 Finish the side with one row of 4215, without an decrease at the bottom. Weave the thread back into the beadwork and cut or burn off the excess.

Time for the other side! Simply flip the work over and remove the stopper bead! Bead again as you did from step 1.

Remember that the first row will have no increase at the center top, this leaves a symmetrical gap between the two sides. And LITERALLY the base row of beads is being used again, for the second half. If you look carefully at the chart, you'll notice that the left and right sides are different. All this being said, you may want to ignore the left hand chart, and just continue with the right hand side....

When both sides are complete, use the thread that is emerging from the last increase, and weave into the beadwork a bit. then add 4 of the 2mm beads to form a bridge from one side to the other. Pull to bring the tip tops together. Reinforce by passing through the beads a second time. Weave in the thread and clip or burn excess. Add an ear wire and make a second one to match!

