

## FB LIVE: 1.2.19 Coral Stacks



*Project by Janice Parsons  
With Kate Richbourg on FB Live  
Episode Notes by Drea Carbone  
Photography by Baranduin Briggs and Karen Marshall*

Last year Janice introduced us to Sea Dive Stacks...this year she takes us on another dive, straight to a coral reef! Using Pantone's 2019 Color of the Year, Living Coral, as her inspiration for both our Monthly Mix for January 2019 and this gorgeous stack of bracelets, Janice has taken the color to new heights with this tone-on-tone piece.

There wasn't a lot of chatting today!  
Skip to **Minute Marker 6:30** to learn about Jan 2019's Monthly Mix  
and our inspiration and other products for this project,  
and go to **Minute Marker 23:00** to get right to today's project learning.



### **Minute Marker 6:30**

Each year Pantone announces the “Color of the Year,” and designers worldwide wait with bated breath to find out what it will be! This year we are excited to see it’s the gorgeous pinky-orange that has been gaining popularity in recent years: Living Coral. Inspired, Janice created a fantastic mix for January 2019’s Monthly Mix of the same name using not only the expected seed beads, but also a selection of Tilas and Half Tilas. A first for a Monthly Mix, these two-holed beads add texture and flair to this monochromatic selection.

While our Monthly Mixes are all limited edition, you can absolutely purchase each of these beads from the mix separately and make Janice’s Coral Stacks even after the Mix has sold out. Find the full list of ingredients both on the Living Coral Monthly Mix Page and at the end of these notes.

Like many of our Monthly Mix Projects, we’ll start this one by separating the mix’s components. A Metal Triangle will come in very handy here! These tools also are helpful in storing your separated beads as you work.



### **Minute Marker 17:00**

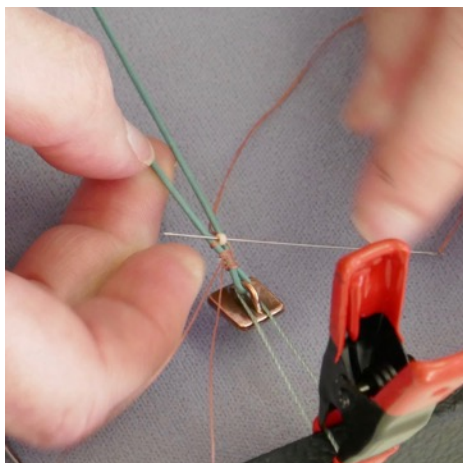
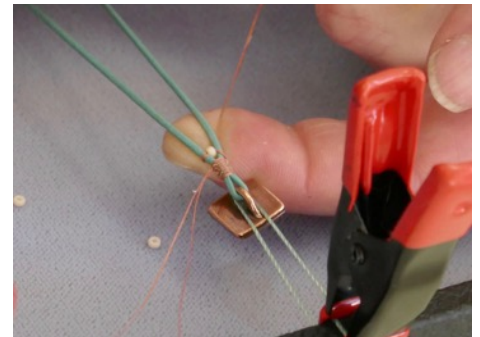
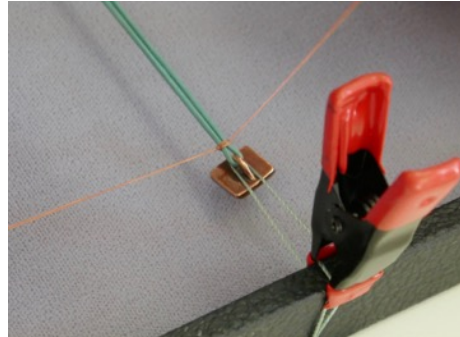
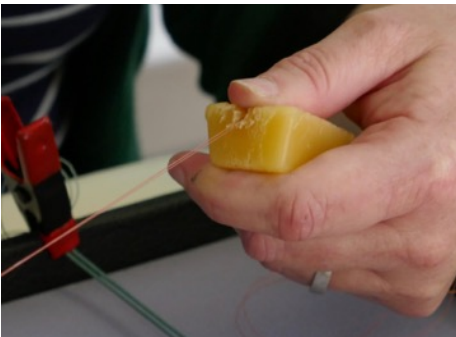
Once her beads are separated, Kate’s ready to start working on the bracelets themselves. She’s using Apricot KO Thread to Infinity Stitch. She’s also using the same leather Janice used, Sea Foam 1mm Indian Leather. You can try Metallic Light Turquoise if you’d like to add more shine, or if you want to go entirely monochromatic Kate suggests Natural 1mm Indian Leather. You can use a thicker leather if you like, Janice chose 1mm to keep her bracelets sleek and skinny. Don’t forget, we have 1mm Surfer Cord as well if you prefer not to use leather.

### **Minute Marker 23:30**

Kate sets up her project tray ([check out the Skill Builder here](#)) going the “short way” since two of these three bracelets are single wraps. Your KO Thread will be doubled, so cut a length you’ll be comfortable to work with. Kate cuts her thread four times the length of her board. Don’t be afraid to cut short amounts, not only are these bracelets short, but you can always add thread! Our [Infinity Stitch Skill Builder](#) addresses how to add thread, and Kate goes over it here in this episode as well.

### **Minute Marker 27:30**

After waxing her thread, Kate’s ready to go! She begins just below the button with a small section of macramé using the tail end of her thread. Be sure to leave enough leather beneath the button so the button can move freely. Once she’s tied enough knots to clear the edge of the button she begins to pick up beads to stitch. She also is sure to have her needle end up on the correct side for her to Infinity Stitch. This side will vary depending on what you are comfortable with. Remember, with Infinity Stitch you are adding beads from the same side each time. You add beads, go around your leather and back through the same beads. The thread will follow a little figure-8 (or Infinity  $\infty$ ) path around the legs of leather and through your beads. Janice suggests that you reinforce your first bead to help anchor it and your design.



Don't worry if your first bead is a little wonky at first, reinforcing it by going through it a second time will help hold it right where you want it to be, and once you add more rows below it your design becomes more stable and anchored. Be sure to taper slowly (go from one bead, to two, to three, etc) and to leave a teeeeeny bit of space between each row so your beads have room to breathe.

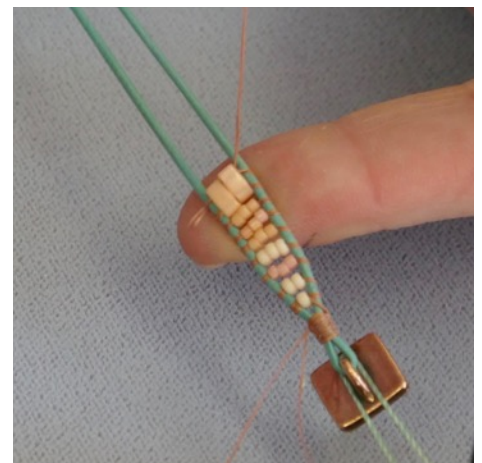
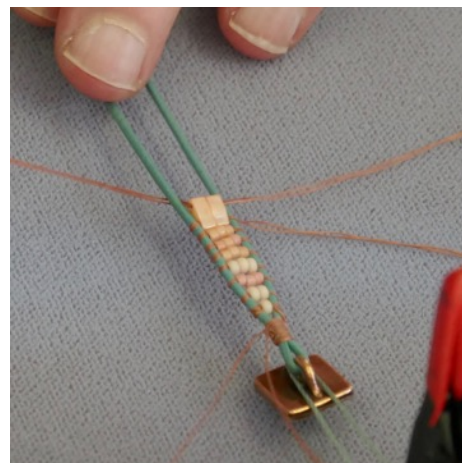
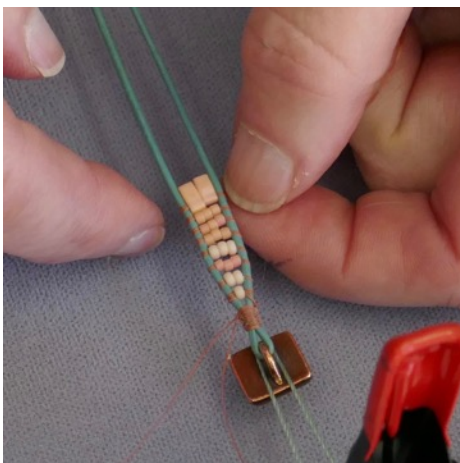
### **Minute Marker 41:00**

Kate shares one of her favorite design tips. She wants to "audition" her beads to help figure out her pattern before she stitches her beads in place. She uses headpins, sliding beads on and lining them up to see what beads will fit alongside each other as well as what looks nice next to each other. This trick can save you headaches later if you're freely patterning and decide maybe you're not a fan of what you've created...no need to undo, you've already got a pattern in mind!



### **Minute Marker 49:45**

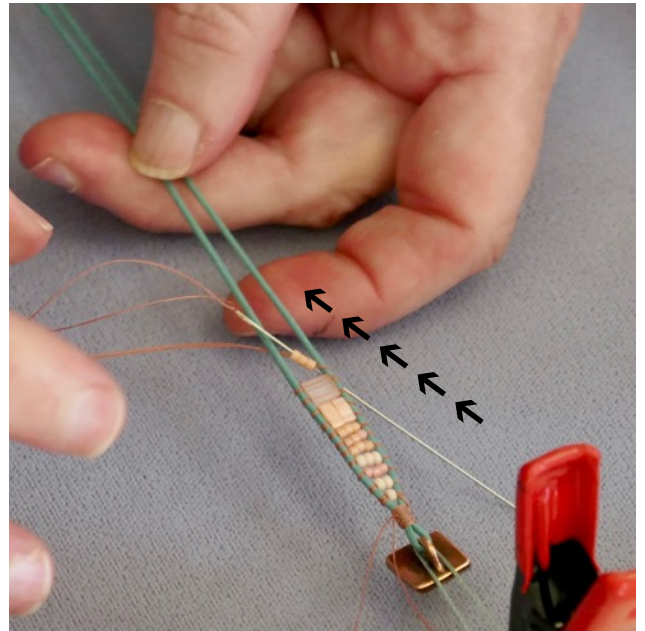
Let's add some of these two-holed beauties! Remember to treat two-holed beads as if they are two separate beads, even though it's one solid bead. Go through your first hole, around your leather and back through your first hole. Then, go down and make your first pass through the second hole and around the leather and back through the second holes. Kate demonstrates this first with a pair of side-by-side Half Tilas, then again with a Tila below it.



### **Minute Marker 55:00**

Have you made a mistake? Not to worry. Watch as Kate removes a row of her beads by backing her needle out. She won't risk splitting her thread if she backs the needle out, and she can successfully remove the erroneous row of beads.

Note how Kate is straightening her threads as she beads. Using her awl, she adjusts the angle of her beads and threads so her rows are straight. Smart!



### **Minute Marker 1:01:00**

Just as we tapered beads in the very beginning, we're adding some shape to our bracelet by tapering again midway down. This just creates some visual interest and allows us to stitch in some 3mm Melons...adding texture and appeal.



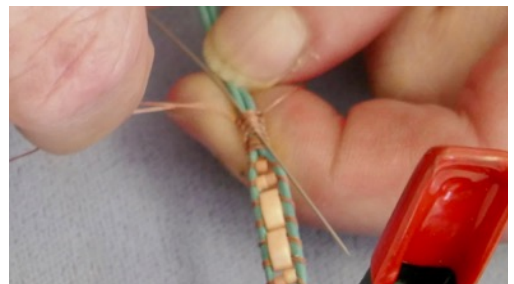
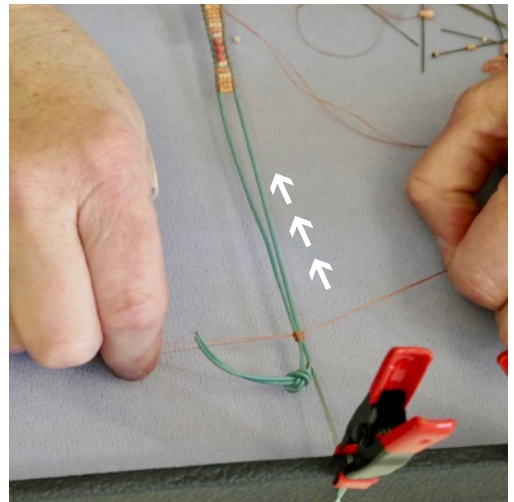
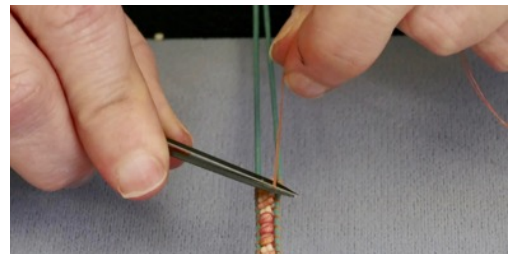
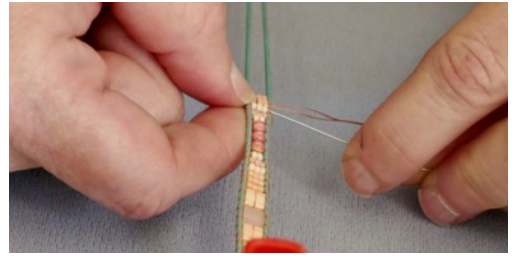
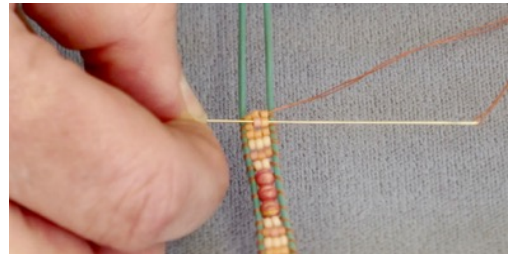
### **Minute Marker 1:07:30**

Running low on thread! Don't panic...

Weave your needle and thread back up through your beads. Zig-zag a bit and go up several rows without going back around your leather, just through your beads. Clip under tension, and you're good to go! Start your new thread several rows up into your beadwork and zig-zag in the same manner down to where you need your thread to come out so you can continue to stitch. This is explained at the end of the [Infinity Stitch Skill Builder](#).

OR, watch Kate...she wants to do something a little different. Since this is a single wrap she's going to actually start her bracelet from the *bottom* and work her way *up* to meet her unfinished beadwork in the middle. Just as she started the bracelet, she macramés with the tail end of her KO, tapers her beads out, and repeats her mirror-image pattern back down until she meets the completed beadwork. Be sure to measure your bracelet...you need to take the button hole closure into account when you measure, so you know where to begin this macramé.

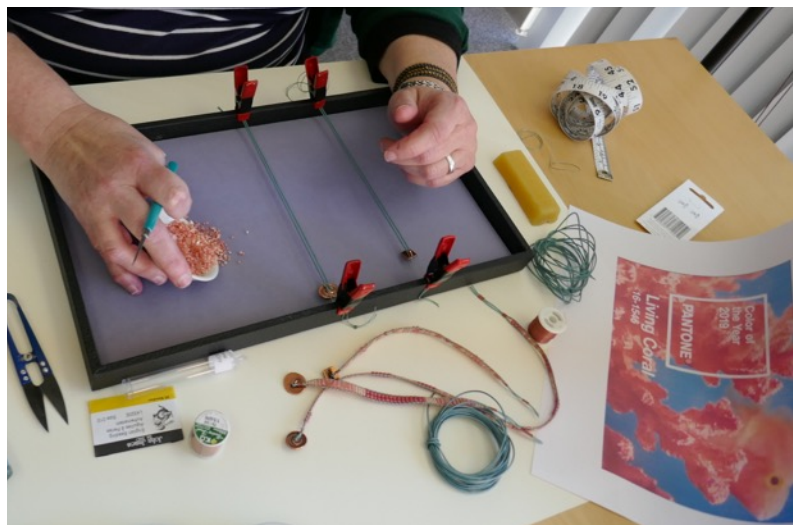
If you don't want to work backwards, continue to work your way down til your bracelet is going to be the correct length (measure!) and taper back down to one bead. Separate your strands of KO *and* use a second length of KO to macramé. This ensures your KO thickness will match what your macrame looks like at the button end of the bracelet. Use a needle to slide your thread ends right underneath the knots you've tied, and trim. Add a drop of GS Hypo Cement if you like. Macramé a second set of knots to complete a button loop for your closure. Tada!



Kate mentions, in closing, that you can also use the mini macrame board, which is what Janice used when she made her stacks. Use whichever board is right for YOU.

That's all she wrote! The Ingredients listed are enough to net you three bracelets, just like Janice made...hers include two single wraps and one double wrap. If you're purchasing the Monthly Mix beads separately, you'll have more than enough to make several sets of sets! So maybe create some earrings and a necklace to match!

Happy beading...and see you next week.



### Links to Events and More...

- [Last Week's FB Live Broadcast: Year End Wrap 2018](#)
- [Facebook Live Youtube Playlist](#)
- [FB Live Archive Page](#) on [beadshop.com](#)
- [Free Tip Friday YouTube Playlist](#)
- [FTF Archive Page](#) on [beadshop.com](#)
- [Kate's 2019 Tucson Classes](#)

### Links to Us...

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## Links to This Week's Ingredients...

[Bracelet Stacks](#) and [Recipe](#)

### **Coral Stacks:**

- 1 [Beachcomber Button- Antique Copper](#)
- 1 [Swirl Button- Antique Copper](#)
- 1 [Off Beat Button- Antique Copper](#)
- 1 Pkg [Sea Foam 1.0mm Indian Leather](#)
- 1 Spool [KO Thread- Apricot](#)
- 1 Strand [3mm Melons- Pacifica Watermelon](#)
- 1 Tube [Living Coral Monthly Mix](#)

### **Separated Living Coral Monthly Mix Ingredients:**

- 1 Tube [DB2112 Delica Duracoat Dark Salmon](#)
- 1 Tube [DB2113 Delica Duracoat Lychee](#)
- 1 Tube [11-2023 Matte Opaque Blush 11/0s](#)
- 1 Tube [8-9642 Dyed Salmon S/L Alabaster 8/0s](#)
- 1 Tube [TL2556 Silk Pale Coral Tila Beads](#)
- 1 Tube [TLH596 Semi Matte Opaque Salmon Half Tila Beads](#)

### **Leather/Cord Alternates:**

- 1 Pkg [Metallic Turquoise 1.0mm Indian Leather](#)
- 1 Pkg [Natural 1.0mm Indian Leather](#)
- 1 Pkg [1mm Surfer Cord in Lagoon and Navy](#)  
(\*we also show Melon and Cream Surfer Cords, which are being discontinued, so I'm not adding links!)



### **You will also want to have:**

[Thread Snips](#), [GS Hypo Cement](#), [Size 10 Beading Needles](#), [Beeswax](#)  
[Mini Macrame Board](#) or a [Project Tray and Insert](#), and [Clampers](#).



## **Links to Learning, Products, & More...**

[Class Handouts and Skill Builders](#)

[Main Project Page](#)

[Bracelet Stacks](#)

[Sea Dive Stacks](#)

[How to Secure A Project to a Project Tray](#)

[Infinity Stitch](#)

[How to Macramé](#)

[Beads & Gems](#)

[Monthly Mixes](#)

[Miyuki Seed Beads](#)

[Miyuki Tilas and Half Tilas](#)

[Czech Glass Melons](#)

[Cords](#)

[1mm Leather](#)

[1mm Surfer Cord](#)

[Stringing Materials](#)

[KO Thread](#)

[Components](#)

[Buttons](#)

[Tools](#)

[Thread Snips](#)

[GS Hypo Cement](#)

[Size 10 Beading Needles](#)

[Beeswax](#)

[Mini Macrame Board / Project Tray and Insert](#)

[Clampers](#)

