

facebook LIVE:

8.16.17

Brick Stitch



Facebook LIVE with Emily Miller and Grace Noland
Learning a classic...Brick Stitch!



Welcome to Episode Notes for Facebook LIVE this week. Emily and Grace spend the time bringing to life a classic stitch that is a foundation of bead weaving: the Brick Stitch (aka "Comanche Stitch"). We all agree, Emily makes it look easy and she's so good at teaching that Grace is able to learn and create with Emily. And everyone watching during the broadcast also remarks how mesmerizing and relaxing Emily's voice is and how easy she makes it look!

We start off learning the stitch using the black, white, and turquoise beads from our [Seed Bead School Inna Kit](#) and then, from there, Emily demonstrates how to create a pyramid. Further on, we learn how to attach a button to our two pyramid ends and make a button loop with a decorative picot point. And then, Emily teaches how to add the "rustic netting" of woven beaded strands to complete a multi-strand creation.

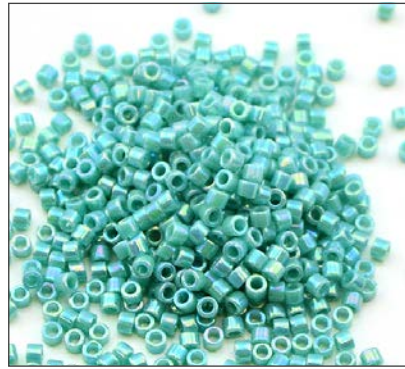
Whether you adapt it to make earrings, a necklace, or stay with a bracelet, this is just a wonderful foundation for a future of beading with seed beads.

Thanks for watching!
~Emily and Grace

Emily begins by referring to different types of beads that will adapt to Brick Stitch. You can do it with 11/0's, Delicas (also 11/0 in size but are smaller), bugles in 3 and 6mm, and 8/0's. Once you have mastered the stitch, you can do it with many different beads.



11/0's or 8/0's

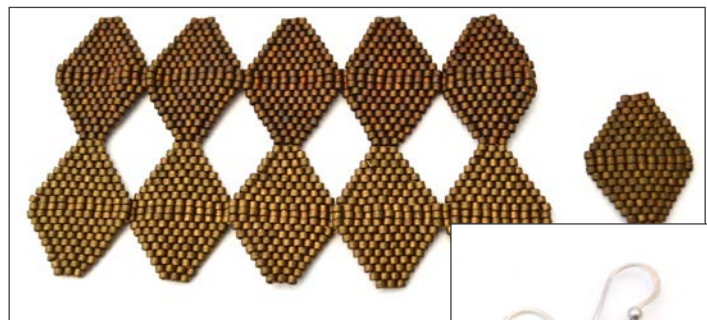


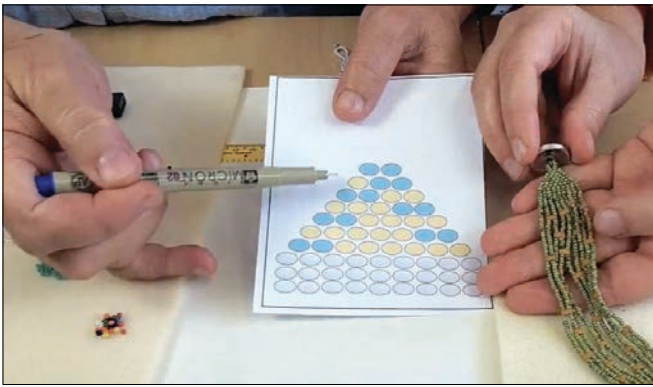
Delicas



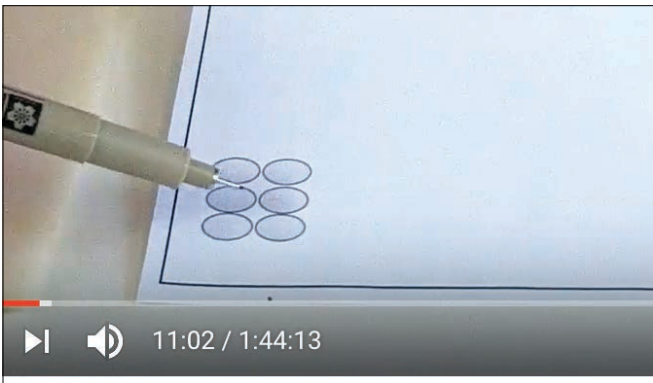
Bugles

And then we were treated to a show and tell of Brick Stitch from the recent and very old past...

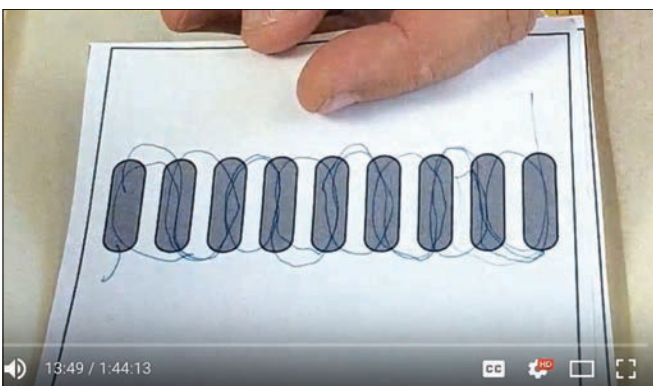
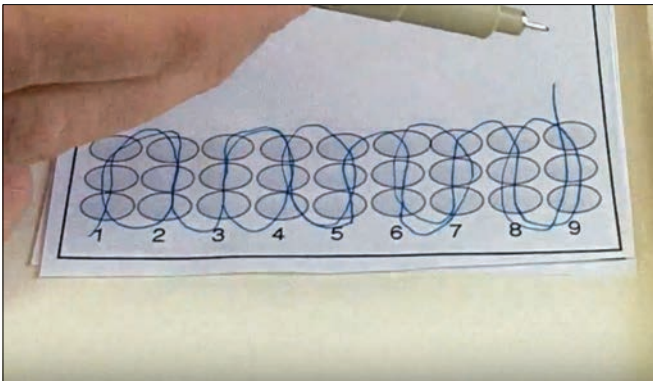




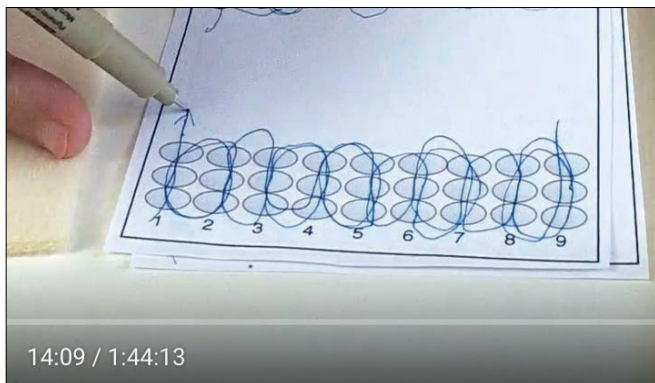
The tutorial begins at Minute Marker 8:12, when Emily begins to diagram brick stitch using a chart she has created. We have added a page at the end that you can print out and sketch with as much as you like. Emily also recommends printing it in black and white if you want to create your own color blocking patterns.



Emily begins with 6 beads to start her "stacks." She will eventually have 9 stacks of 3 beads each. She weaves her thread around clockwise and then counter clockwise with the goal of exiting the top bead in Row 9.



The same section can be done with bugle beads. As Emily says, "one way to learn a thread path is to draw it before you do it."



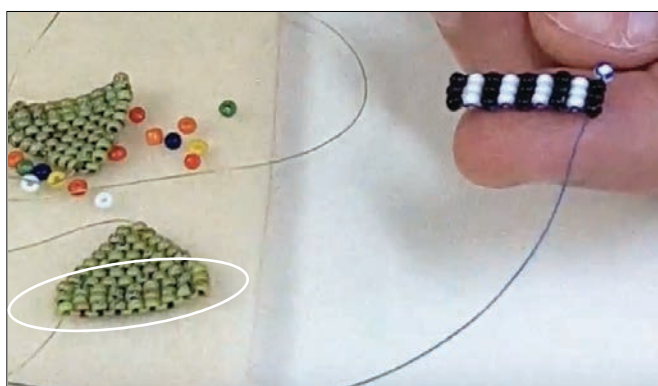
The goal now is to have your needle and thread coming out of the first stack. In order to do this, Emily demonstrates how to weave down and up each row in a serpentine pattern.



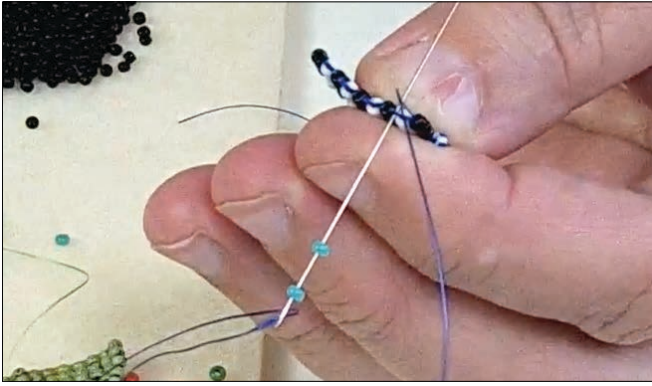
The concept of building the stack from which you can then brick stitch in either direction, is shown beautifully in this lovely woven heart. So, there are limitless possibilities when adapting this stitch.



When you're ready to start beading, cut about 1-1/2 yards of thread. Emily and Grace use KO in contrasting colors so you can see the stitching better. They thread a Size 12 English Beading Needle. At Minute Marker 28:24, Emily shows how to string on the stopper bead near the tail of your thread and then they start building their stacks.



The demo with black and white beads is then translated into the actual beads used to make the bracelet. But everything starts with an odd number of stacks.



Minute Marker 37:32: Emily begins her rows of beads to create the triangle shape. She picks up two beads and then takes the needle through the thread only between stacks 2 and 3. Only at the beginning of each row does Emily pick up two beads at once.



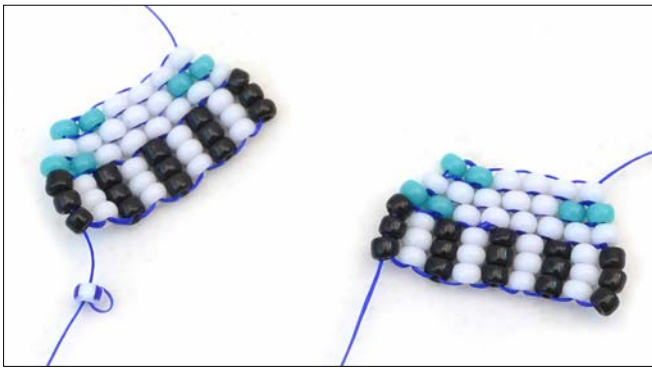
Minute Marker 38:34-39:34: Watch how Emily repositions the first two beads so they sit correctly.



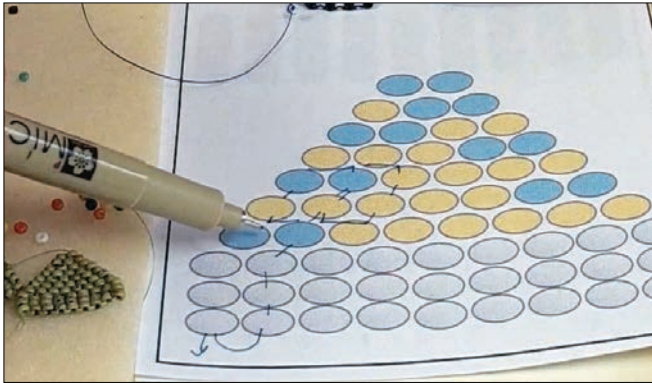
Continue watching to see how Emily adds a bead and sews through the thread and back up the bead to attach the bead in position. Unlike Peyoté, the beads are getting attached via the thread loop of the previous row, rather than stitching back through a bead.



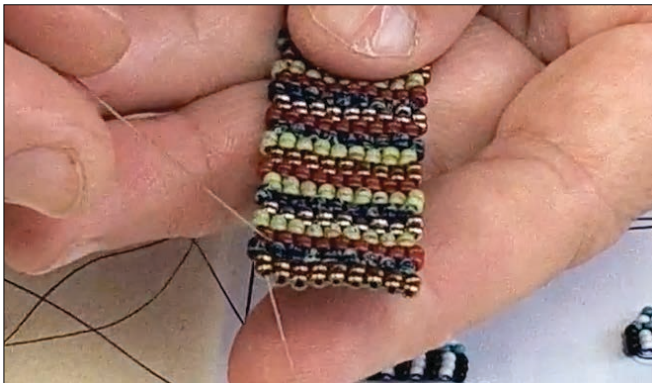
Each row has one less bead so that the pyramid shape begins to form. Again, start each row by stringing on two beads at a time (blue) and then one bead (white) at a time to finish your second row of 7 beads.



Continue by starting each row with 2 beads and decreasing as you go up. You'll see how the shape begins to form. The one concern most new beaders have is tension, which soon resolves itself as you weave.



Minute Marker 48:35: Learn how to end a thread and/or add a thread. Emily diagrams how she "jogs" her thread back through beads, overlapping when possible. And learn from Emily's mistakes...cut the tail of thread somewhere in the middle of your beadwork, not after the last bead of a row.



Minute Marker 53:19: Emily shows us how to add a thread into a tightly woven piece and talks about Brick Stitch that doesn't decrease but stays the same width.



Minute Marker 56:35: Emily shows us how she adds first a button to one pyramid, and then a loop to the other.



First thing is to bury the stopper bead thread within the beadwork. The stopper bead has been removed. "Jog" the needle and thread around in a figure 8 and then cut the remaining excess thread somewhere inside the middle.



Minute Marker 1:01:27: Begin with a needle and new thread, which this time you will be using doubled. Add it into the pyramid near the tip. Then you will string on 6 beads (the right amount for this button shank). Thread through the shank of the button and back into your beadwork. Then repeat the path of thread back through the button shank and into the beadwork to reinforce.



Cut the excess threads and set aside.



Minute Marker 1:06: The next thing is to do the loop side. Start your doubled thread inside the rows near the tip of the triangle and then string on about 30-32 seed beads. Come back into your pyramid with your needle and thread and then come out to the first bead of the button loop. Emily would prefer the loop starts out a bit tight rather than too loose.



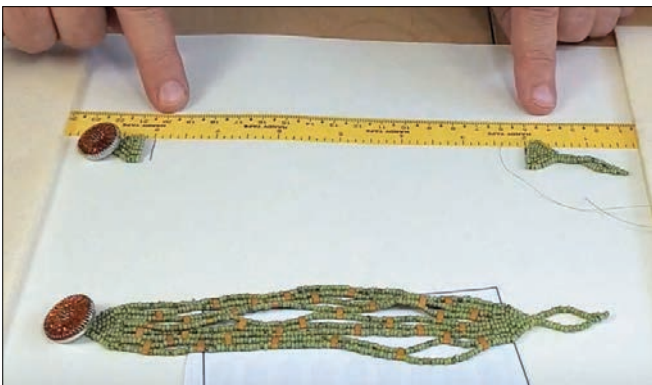
String up through the first half of beads of the button loop coming out the bead at the top.



Minute Marker 1:09:40: Emily shows us how to add a decorative picot point to the beaded loop. And quite interesting is to learn at 1:11, how to take a mistake out...maybe not what you think! Emily wants us to back the needle out in reverse, not go needle first when you want to take a stitch out. Watch why!



Minute Marker 1:15: The clasp portion of the bracelet is complete.



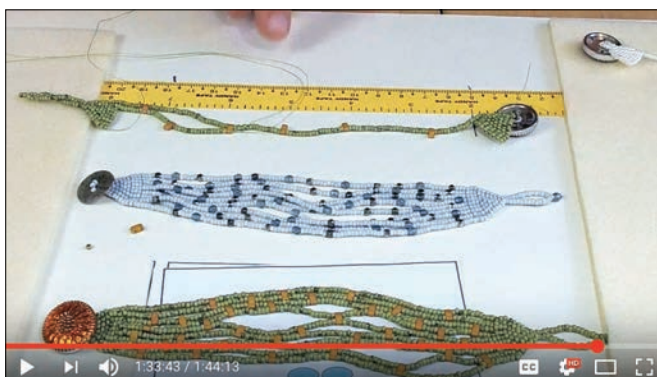
Minute Marker 1:19: After measuring for finished length, which informs the strand lengths for the body of the bracelet, Emily begins to bead and weave her strands. Again, she is using her thread doubled for added strength.



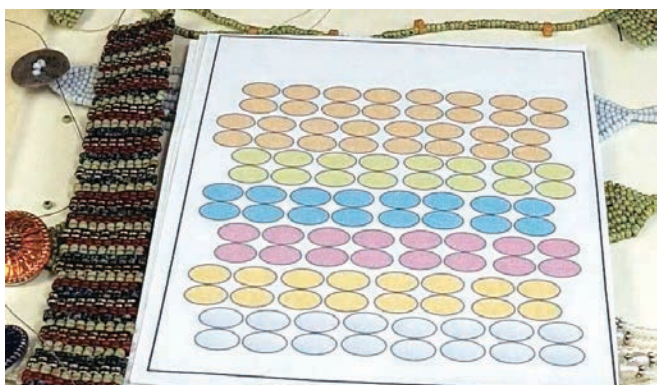
To create the body of the piece, Emily employs a technique she calls Rustic Netting. In this sample, Autumn Garden, a Miyuki Half Tila (a bead with two holes) unites two strands together by stringing through the second hole of the Tila.



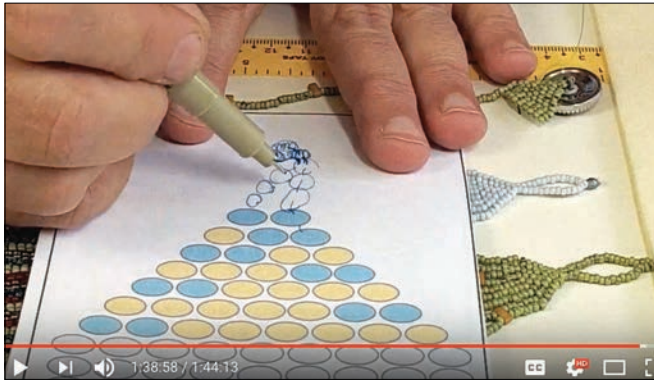
Begin your first strand of netting at one end of the pyramid beadwork. Be sure to stay within your desired length for the netting. As you work to the other pyramid, secure your thread into the end of the opposite pyramid.



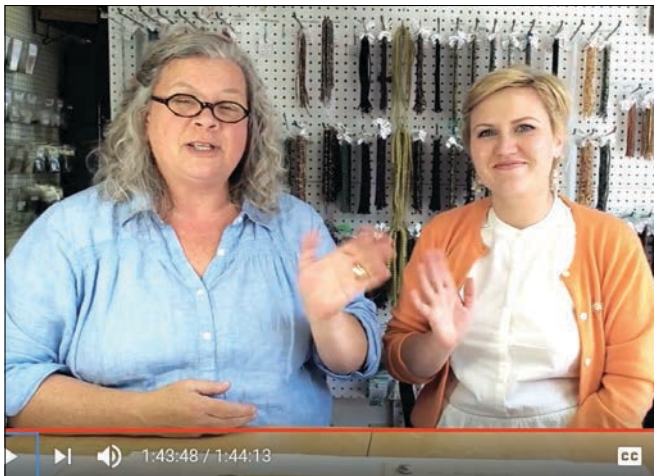
Continue netting and/or stringing the body of your bracelet. Be sure the few beads on each side closest to the pyramids are seed beads so the strands weave nicely and fall in place. Having large beads right at the ends will make the piece look bulky.



Minute Marker 1:36:09: Graphing of straight Brick Stitch.



Minute Marker 1:37:52: Graphing a picot at the end of a beaded loop (or at the tip of a bead). It adds just an extra artisan flair to your design. Emily shows it done several different ways.



Before we know it, the time is up. We hope you enjoyed learning Brick Stitch with Emily and Grace today. We'd love to hear what you made and learned. Please email us at info@beadshop.com and Happy beading!

~emily and grace

Autumn Morning

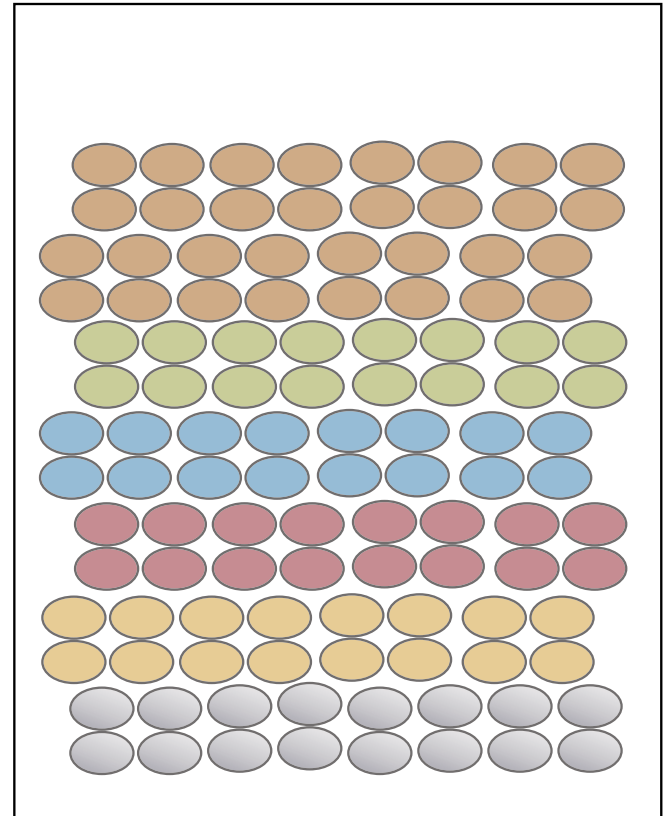
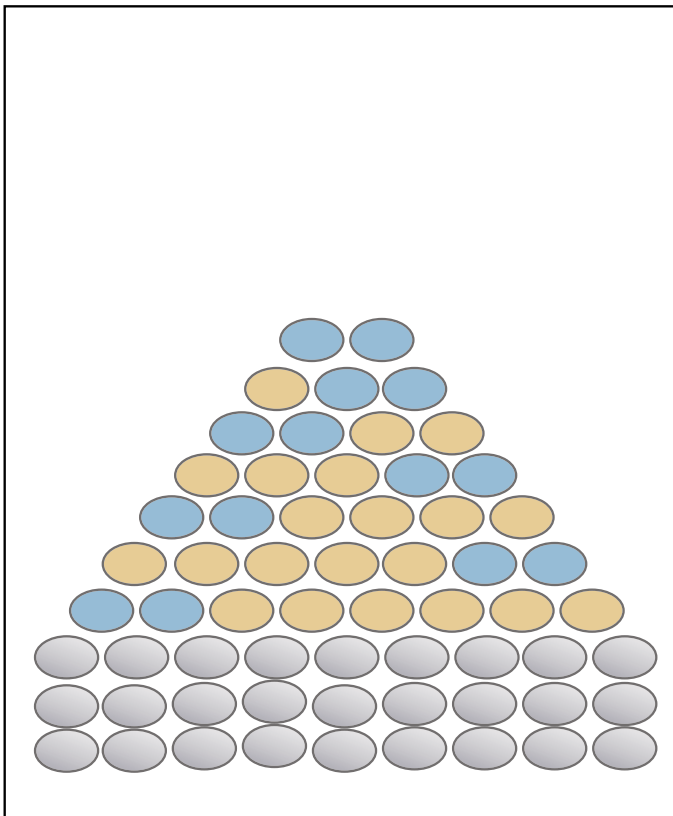
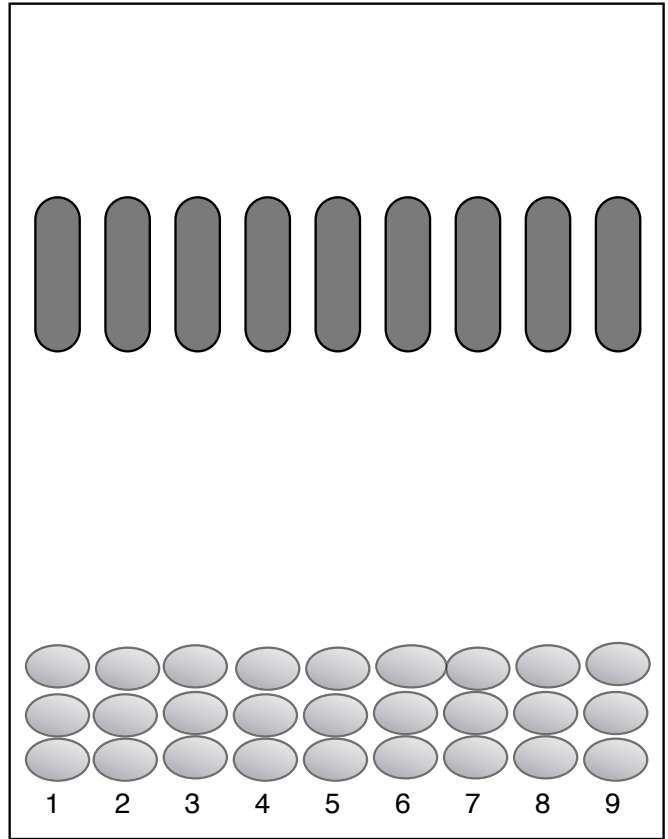
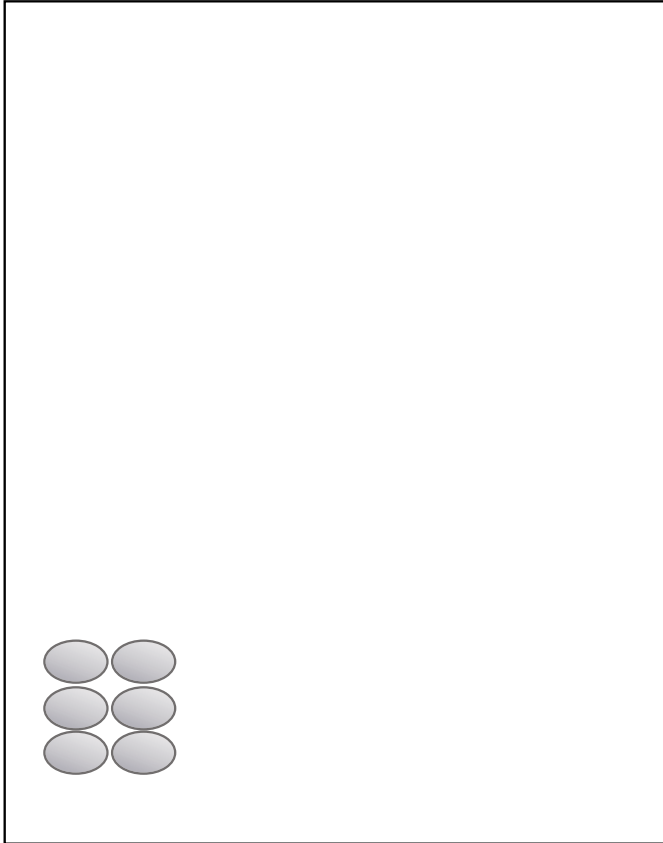


Ivory and Pearls



Shadows in the Mist





Links to This Project's Ingredients...

[Brick Stitch Bracelet Project Page](#)

[Autumn Garden](#)

- 1 [Daisy Tangerine Czech Glass Button](#)
- 1 Spool [Apple Green KO Thread](#)
- 1 Tube [Picasso Chartreuse Matte 11/0 Seed Beads](#)
- 1 Tube [Mustard Half Tila Beads](#)

[Shadows in the Mist](#)

- 1 [Run Around Button](#)
- 1 Spool [Light Blue KO Thread](#)
- 1 Tube [Matte Opaque Pale Blue 11/0 Seed Beads](#)
- 1 Strand [3mm Montana Blue Firepolish Beads](#)
- 1 Strand [Antique Silver Plate Little Shadows](#)

[Ivory and Pearls](#)

- 1 [Daisy Cobalt Czech Glass Button](#)
- 1 Spool [Ivory KO Thread](#)
- 1 Tube [Ivory Pearl Ceylon 11/0 Seed Beads](#)
- 2 Pkgs [Antique Silver Tierra Daisy Spacer](#)
- 1 Strand [Petite Rice Freshwater Pearls](#)

Tools needed in each:

1 Pkg [Size 12 Beading Needles](#)

[Foam Bead Mats](#)

[Beeswax](#)

Optional: [Ezy Mag Hands-Free Magnifier](#)

Links to Events...

[Last Week's Facebook Live Broadcast: Pathways Cuff](#)

[Free Tip Friday Youtube Playlist](#)

[Color By Design Bead Retreat Information](#)

[Bead Fest Tacoma](#)

[Kate's Class Schedule at Bead Fest Tacoma](#)

Links to Products...

[Seed Bead School Inna Kit](#)

[Delica Seed Beads](#)

Seed Beads: [11/0s](#) - [8/0s](#) - [6/0s](#)

[Half Tila Beads](#)

[Bugle Beads](#)

[Seed Bead Needles](#)

[KO Thread](#)

[Beeswax](#)

[Xuron Thread and Cord Scissor](#)

[Buttons](#)

[Czech Glass Buttons](#)

[Shell Buttons](#)

[Heishi Metal Beads](#)

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kate@beadshop.com

janice@beadshop.com

emily.beadshop@gmail.com

grace.beadshop@gmail.com

info@beadhshop.com

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