



How to Herringbone Ladder with SuperDuos

Learning to Infinity Stitch with SuperDuos can be a challenge! But don't worry, we've got your back. With a little practice and some patience you can master this stitch in no time flat. Be sure to review our Skill Builders on [How to Secure a Project to a Project Tray](#) and [Infinity Stitch](#) before you get started. You may also find it helpful to review [How to Macramé](#), which is how I start this tutorial. Let's begin!



Ingredients used in this tutorial:

[Flower of Life Button- Antique Copper](#)

[Denim Blue KO Thread](#)

[1.5mm Natural Indian Leather](#)

[Raku SuperDuos](#)

You will also want to have:

[Size 10 Beading Needles](#)

[Old School Thread Clippers](#)

[Thread Burner](#)

[Beeswax](#) (note: I did not wax my thread for these photos!)

Find our projects and recipes using this stitch in [Herringbone Ladder](#).

Please note: For the purposes of this tutorial, we have set this up as if it's at the beginning of a bracelet. You can certainly begin this stitch partway through a bracelet, just adjust accordingly.

To begin, thread your needle with KO or Hana thread, doubled over. I like to use a good amount, so I cut 2 yards. Waxing your thread is helpful! Bring your leather through your button and secure with a series of macramé knots tied with the tail ends of your thread. Use a thread burner to singe the short tails, and you'll be ready to work with your long length with needle attached.

Step One

Using Infinity Stitch, secure one seed bead in place. I've used an 8/0, it's a good size to help taper out the leather cords before you add SuperDuos. Choose a bead that matches the rest of your project!

Secure this bead by stitching through it twice. You want this bead anchored into place to help establish the rest of your beadwork.

Step Two

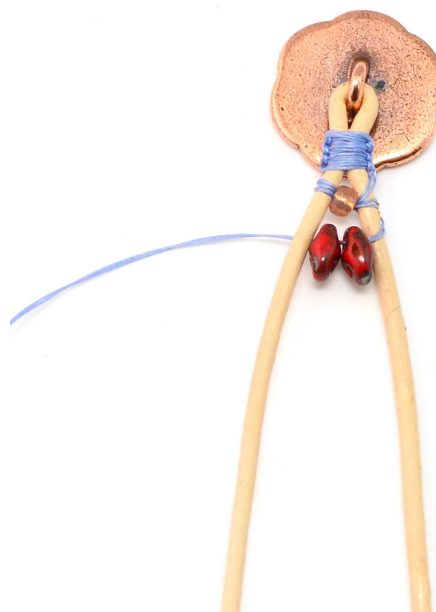
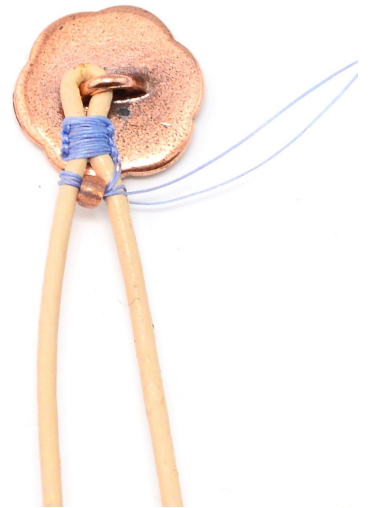
Keep in mind you are using Infinity Stitch, so you are *only* adding beads from one side. In this tutorial, the beads are being added on the right side.

Pick up two SuperDuos, bringing your thread over the leather on the **right**, nestling the two beads between the legs of the leather, then bringing your thread under the leather on the **left**.

Bring your thread back over the leather on the **left** and go back through these same two "top" holes of your SuperDuos and under the leather on the **right**.

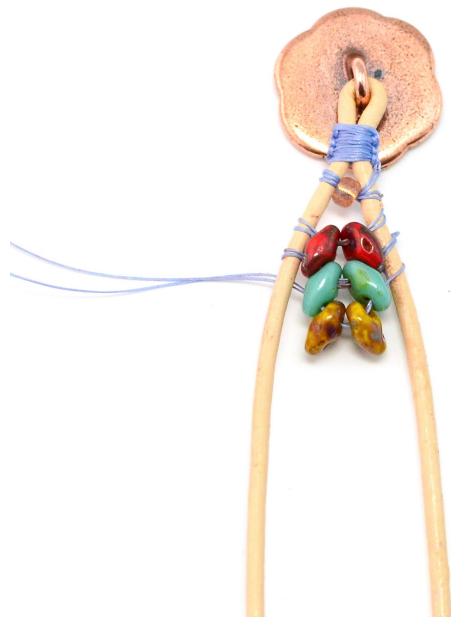
It's helpful to remember that with two-holed beads you want to treat each hole as a separate bead. You make a pass through the top holes going left, then over the leather and reverse right, then move on to the second set of holes.

With Herringbone, as you go through these second holes you will also be adding your next beads in between in the V formed by these two beads. This is where folks often get confused. Don't be daunted! You got this.



Step Three

Time to add your next beads! Bring your thread up and over your **right side** leather, then go through the bottom hole of your right-most SuperDuo only (*top **right** red bead in photo*). Pick up two new SuperDuos (***middle** two aqua beads*) and then go through the bottom hole of the left-most SuperDuo (*top **left** red bead*). Weave your thread under the **left side** leather, over the **left side** leather, and back through those same four bead holes. Tighten up your thread as you work. You'll find you need to angle your needle to fit through these holes, and you may need to go through two bead holes at a time and then the next two...do what works best for you. Just be careful to avoid needling through your established thread—that can cause headaches!

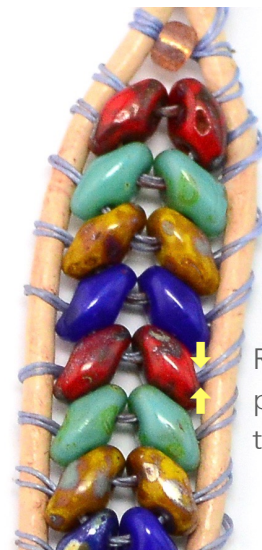


Step Four

Lather, rinse, repeat! Add two new SuperDuos (*middle two yellow beads*) between the bottom holes of the ones above each time. Make a complete pass with each stitch, going right to left, then left to right through each set of bead holes.

Look at you! You're laddering in a herringbone pattern with SuperDuos...like a pro! Keep going as long as you wish.

Need to add more thread? I prefer to complete one pass, then tie off my old thread around the threads next to a bead. Tie a double knot, and carefully singe the tails with a Thread Burner. Add a new thread by tying the tail ends around the leather cord on the right, then continue to stitch.



Right here! A perfect spot to tie a knot off.

Step Five

Let's end it! When you've laddered the length you desire, end with one single SuperDuo. Nestle this single bead between your last two SuperDuos above it. Complete a full pass through all three beads holes, then...

Step Six

Make two complete passes through the bottom bead hole on the final, single SuperDuo (*the final red bead*). Again, this is to anchor the bead in place securely. See how your leather tapers in to hug the sides of the beads? It's perfect.

You can either tie off your thread or continue to use it in the next section of your bracelet—whatever it is you're working on. You do you!

Adjust your threads and tension as you bead. If your beadwork is popping up or curving, your tension is too tight—give those beads a little air to breathe and move. Remember, we're beading on a flat, taut surface. Once the bracelet is complete it will be curving around your wrist, and those beads will need to move accordingly.

Had I waxed my thread before working on this tutorial, you'd see my stitches would look a bit neater! I definitely recommend using beeswax, it's super helpful. The only reason why I didn't here was because I wanted to have clean photos without any residue on them—trust me...wax that thread!

A final note...if you don't have a Thread Burner, use a dab of GS Hypo Cement on your knots and clip the tails once the glue has cured. Easy-peasy!

