

Mustard Seed
Across Cultures Bracelet
Sample by Beckie TenEyck and Janice Parsons

Across Cultures has been one of our most popular designs and we felt it was time to update the instructions. Done in several sections, it seems to appeal to so many because of the looping of the button, the beads and the leather.

In Mustard Seed, Beckie and Janice collaborated to create a bright patch of sunshine against the deep, rich accents of African Brass Heishi. You can use this style and adapt it to seed beads, semi-precious, glass and wood. It is a timeless style and we hope you enjoy! Please click on the DOWNLOAD PDF for all instructions. Below you will find the materials used and a Project Map for reference.

Studio Essentials: Measuring Tape GS Hypo Cement Flush Cutters

Ingredients:

- 1 Strand Ghana Gold
- 1 Strand Brass Heishi
- 1 Festival Button
- 1 Go Fish Charm and 1 Little Lotus
- 1 Strand/Pkg Drum Beat
- 2-3 Russet Sands Beads in Copper
- 1 Bodom Bead
- 1 Patina Bead

Tuff Cord #3 in Brown

Greek Leather Natural 1.5mm





Always know what your wrist measurement is. Use your tape measure to calculate the total length. For a 7 inch wrist, your final bracelet length is about 8 inches. The bulkiness of this bracelet means it needs to about one inch larger than your wrist.

Cut a length of Tuff Cord #3 about 24 inches. String on about 12-15 inches of glass beads mixed with a little bit of this and that for texture. Add a charm or two along the way.



Tie a square knot of the two ends. As you can see, a bit of string was left showing. This is very important as in the next step, when you fold the beads over, that bit of empty string allows the beads to move on the thread as you double over the strand.



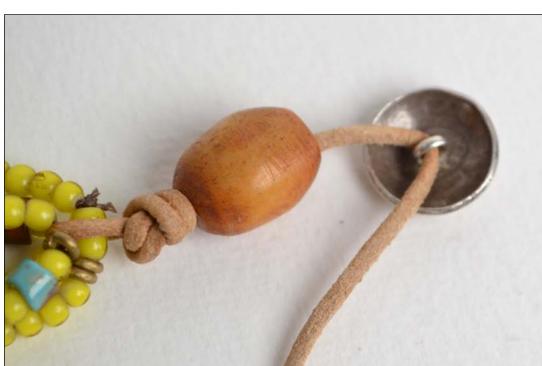
You actually fold over the strand three times so it looks something like this.

Where you knotted the Tuff Cord, add a drop of GS Hypo Cement to secure the knot. Allow it to dry and cut off the tails with flush cutters.



Cut a length of leather about 10 inches. Loop the leather around the 3 strands of beads. Find a place that leaves any charms you have added to be noticeable.

With one end of leather shorter than the other, tie the leather in an overhand knot above the glass beads. Add a drop of GS Hypo Glue into the leather knot right before you tighten it down.
Use your flush cutters to cut off the short end of leather.



String your Patina bead and your Festival Button onto the leather.

Of course, you can use any bead with a large hole and any button that has a shank large enough to fit the leather.



It may not look pretty at first, but tie an overhand knot around the leather and then another overhand knot around the leather. Before tightening down the knot, dab some glue into the final knot. When it is dry, cut off the excess leather with your flush cutters.



Cut two additional lengths of Tuff Cord 20 inches each. String into the middle of each thread about 22 heishi beads or about 1 inch of beads per strand.



Start with one thread at a time.
Loop it under and around the glass beads. String both ends through a few beads with holes large enough to fit your thread twice. As you pull in the excess thread, you will see if you have enough heishi beads to loop around your glass beads comfortably.

Separate the thread after the large hole beads and continue stringing beads on each end of the thread.



Repeat with your second strand.

At this point, you want to measure your project up against your wrist. Please keep in mind you have to make a beaded button loop, so that will add at least another inch to your total length. On our sample, the brass bead section is a bit less than 3 inches in length.



Once you have all four strands the desired length and pretty much the same length, tie an overhand knot to gather them all together.



"Drop" two of the strands and string on a bead with a large hole. You will come back to use those two strands you left behind, so don't cut them off!



A brass heishi bead was also strung on and then enough glass beads to form a loop large enough for the button to fit through.

Always double-check the button will fit through the loop before you go to the next step!



Feed your strands back through the heishi bead and the large Bodom bead. Underneath the Bodom bead, take two threads in your right hand and two in your left and tie the first half of a square knot (Right over left, left over right). Flip your bracelet over and tie the second half of a square knot (left over right and right over left).

Dab the knot with the GS Hypo Cement. Allow to dry and then cut your excess threads with your flush cutters.



We hope you have enjoyed Across Cultures, a project we have grown to love alongside our friends and customers.

There is no "right" bracelet. Make it your own and you will enjoy it that much more.

Happy Beading!