

BRICK STITCH TUTORIAL by Julie Ann Smith

Page 1

Hello Everyone!

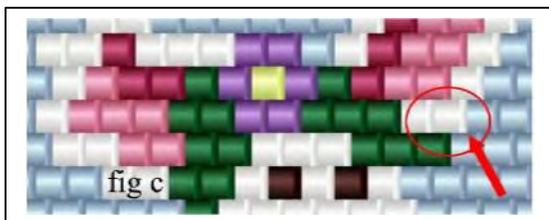
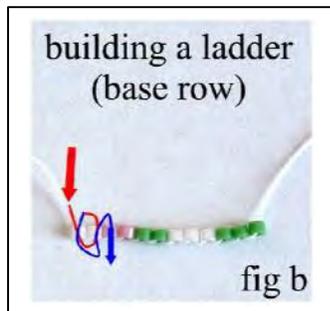
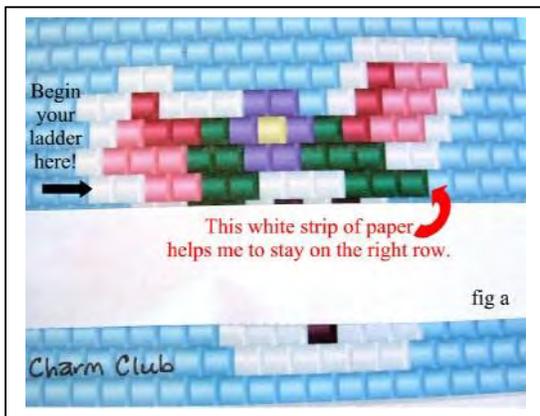
This tutorial is being written to show you how I do the brick stitch. I use this stitch mainly to make my charms. It allows the stitcher to create different shaped items instead of the normal squares or blocks.

I have chosen the pattern to the right to show you how this is done! I hope you have fun learning this and I hope it will open up many doors for you in the way of your creativity.

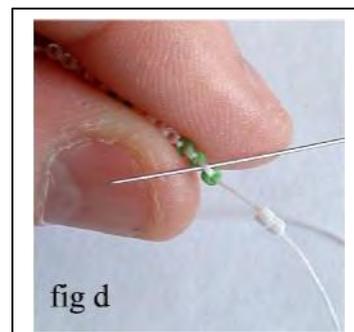
I hope you will visit my web site and join me for lots of fun using this versatile stitch!!

Let's get started!!

COLOR graph is on the last page! Use it for your pattern!



1. **You will need to gather the following:** FIRELINE, 4lb thread and your size 11 Delica beads in these colors: **WHITE-201/DK BROWN-769/DK PURPLE-660/LT PINK-210/DK PINK-1376/GREEN-754/YELLOW-1592.**
2. Pull about 1 yard of FIRELINE thread onto your thin beading needle.
3. **Reading your pattern.** If you will note, I've add a blue background in the pattern. You will **NOT** be stitching those blue beads. They are just there to show contrast for the white bunny.
4. **To start a pattern** using the brick stitch, you have to create a "ladder" of beads (your BASE row). What I do, is select the **LONGEST** row within the pattern and in this case, I've selected the row as shown to you in **(fig a)**.
5. To build a "ladder" string on 2 white beads and follow the red thread path in **(fig b)**. To add the next bead, you will pick up one pink bead, now following the blue thread path (fig b) continue on until your BASE ROW is completed. Notice where your thread comes out in **(fig b)**.
6. Now we will start reading the pattern for the next row, which we will follow from right to left. If you notice the white beads go just to the right of the last green bead on your base row **(fig c)**.
7. We will be **increasing** at the beginning of this row. To do that and remember to read your pattern for the right color, string on two white beads and take your needle and thread it through the 1st "bridge" of thread from on top of your base row as shown in **(fig d)**.



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email: angelamps1234@msn.com

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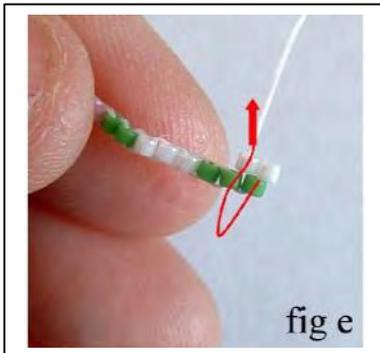


fig e

8. Pull your thread through and then gently “lay down” the two beads so that they lay like BRICKS on top of the base row. Then follow the thread path as shown in (fig e) pulling your thread and needle through the second white bead. This will secure those two beads to the base row. **YOU HAVE JUST MADE AN INCREASE....and remember, you will always start EVERY ROW by picking up two beads regardless of any increases or decreases.**

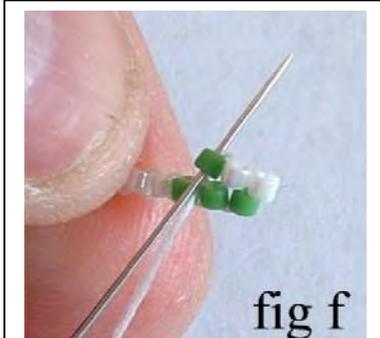


fig f

9. Now pick up the next color on your chart which in this case is a green bead. Attach it to the second bridge that is on top of the base row. Now take your thread and go through the green bead aiming your needle through the top of your bead (fig f). In (fig g) it shows how it will look after you've completed (fig f)

10. You will continue to add beads in this manner, after your 1st two initial start beads for that particular row. **See how easy this is....**

11. In (fig h) we have come to the end of the row and we will be adding our last bead, which is white, in this case. All you need to do, is thread on the white bead and aim your needle downward into the last bead on the base row. Now you have just increased a bead at the end of the second row as shown in (fig i).

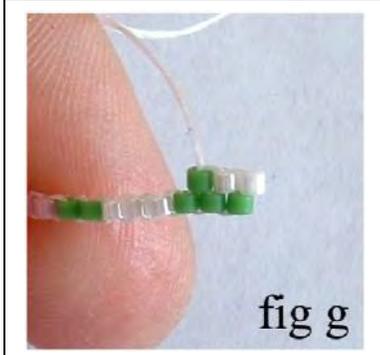


fig g

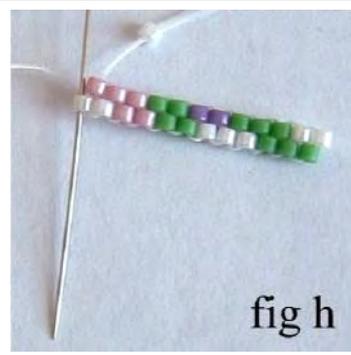


fig h

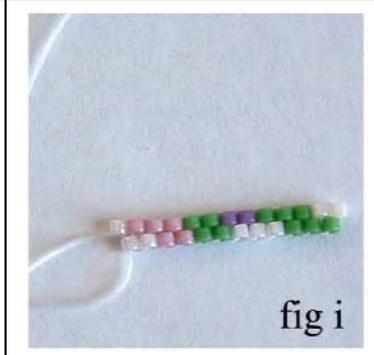


fig i

12. Now that row 2 is complete, we will start row 3. If you notice on the color graph, we will be decreasing a bead as shown in (fig j).

13. To decrease it's very simple. Again, since this is the beginning of the row you will pick up 2 beads (according to the graph) which in this case is a white and a pink, and skip the 1st bridge and insert your needle into the second bridge area (fig k). Pull your needle on through and again “settle” the beads down to lay flat on top of the previous row.



fig j

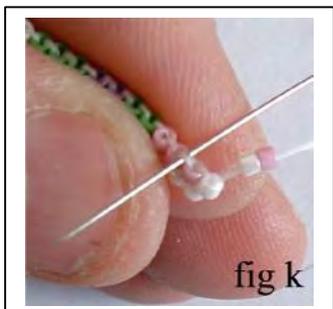


fig k

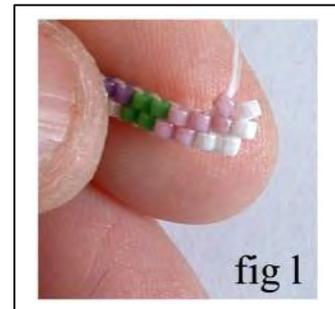
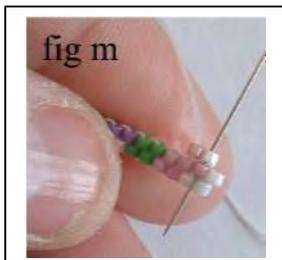


fig l

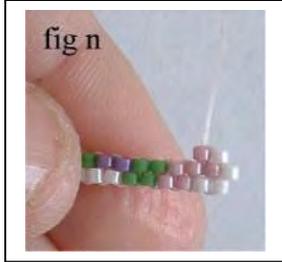
14. If you notice in (fig l) the beads I've just added are NOT settling down. They are kind of “bowing” upward. We will need to SECURE these beads so our work will be of high quality.

On the next page, I'll show you how to secure these beads....

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15. If you notice in **(fig m)** we have made a decrease. Now we need to secure these 1st two beads so they won't be "wonky" on us. To do that go back through the 1st white bead and secure it by going into the second bead on the previous row. Then you will go back through the bead next to it and back up through the pink bead.



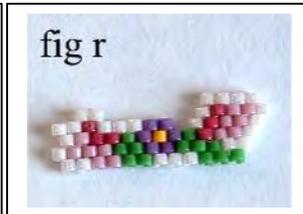
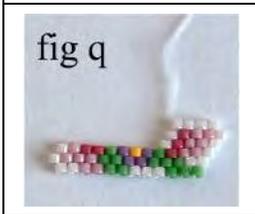
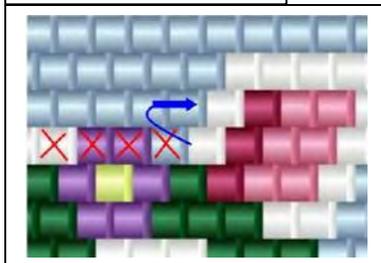
16. As you see in **(fig n)** the beads lay nicely on the 3rd row. Just continue on with your piece, reading the graph **and REMEMBER that when you come to the end of a row, you will be flipping your work horizontally, so remember to read that side of the color graph.**



17. In **(fig o)** you see that I have continued to work the pattern, increasing and decreasing where needed. But if you look at the graph you will see that the pattern separates into two different pieces. To work this, all you need do is to NOT work the pattern as shown in **(fig p)** where I've "X" out the beads. Just continue on working up the bunny's ear following the chart and using the tips I've given you so far in this tutorial.

18. As you can see in (fig q) I've completed the right ear of our little bunny! In (fig r) I've completed the left ear. In (fig s) I'm showing you the completed bunny charm.

Now wasn't that easy!?



Finished Charm!

I hope you have enjoyed this tutorial! I sure did enjoy creating it for you! If you have any questions, please write to me at angelamps1234@msn.com. Please visit my web site at julieannsmith.com for more WONDERUFL patterns and tutorials!

It has been my pleasure!
Kisses,
jules

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COLOR GRAPH