MIRRIX TAPESTRY & BEAD LOOMS

The Viki BEADED CREDIT CARD CASE

WRITTEN BY CLAUDIA CHASE

A Flying Start Tutorial

This tutorial is part of Mirrix's Flying Start Tutorial series.

In this series we focus primarily on teaching technique and design and spend less time focusing on basic skills. For beginners, we provide links to resources to cover those topics.

For example, instead of going over the details of warping, we discuss the basics of warping for this project (sett, project size, which warping method to use) and then direct you to our warping resources for more detailed instruction.

Flying Start Tutorial Series projects are geared towards all weaving levels: Beginners will find links to resources contained in the tutorial to answer questions like how to follow a bead pattern. Those practicing their skills will get focused instruction on technique. Even experienced weavers can enjoy a kit or pattern and design inspiration.



Project Overview

SECTION ONE

Supplies & Materials

- A Mirrix Loom 8" or larger with a 14 dent warp coil
- A Viki Beaded Credit Card Case Kit
- A good pair of scissors
- A measuring tape
- Two beading needles (a long one for weaving, a thin one for finishing).

Project Details

Final Piece: 7 1/2 x 2 5/8 inches or 115 rows by 43 columns Sett: 14 dents per inch

Techniques

Bead weaving (traditional method)

Project Description:

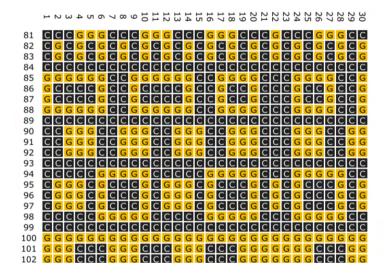
This tutorial will show you how to create a gorgeous, functional beaded credit card holder. If you have never woven beads before this will be an excellent introduction but a fun project for bead weavers of every skill level. One of the lovely things about this project is that we discovered a way to secure the warp threads without having to tie them off or sew them back in. It requires ultra-suede and some glue and is a game changer.

This little pouch can hold a few cards and a few bills and fits in a pocket, purse or the palm of your hand. Maybe after you have woven this you will continue to weave wider bead pieces. So often beads are regulated to jewelry. But with a Mirrix Loom, you can make all sorts of amazing things with beads.

Design

This piece has a beautiful and simple geometric design with a lovely mixture of gold-hued beads popping out from a black background. We have provided a pattern for you to follow.

You can find the bead pattern here.



Warping

SECTION THREE

Sett/Warp Coil: 14 EPI/14 dent warp coil

Number of Warp Threads: 44

Loom Height: Leave a couple of inches of threaded rod showing (not covered by the copper side beams) no matter which loom you are weaving this on.

If you've never warped a Mirrix Loom for bead weaving (without a shedding device) before, check out the resources below.

If you are weaving this piece on a loom larger than an 8" Loom, we recommend weaving it on one side and balancing the warping bar.

Warp your loom at 43 warps wide for head weaving without the shedding device.

Resources:

How to warp a Mirrix Loom for bead weaving How to balance your warping bar

Weaving

SECTION FOUR

Resources:

<u>How to Weave Beads</u> (The Traditional Method)
<u>Starting, Ending and Adding Threads for Bead Weaving How to Follow a Bead Pattern</u>
<u>How to weave a bead piece in sections</u>

Weaving beads is really very simple once you get the hang of it. The number one mistake is to not sew through the beads correctly and there are a variety of ways to fix that. You can unweave rows until you get to the problem spot or you can sew through those beads again with an additional thread. You can also wait until the piece is off the loom sew through any beads that are problematic.

You will have three different sets of beads, black 11/0 Delica Beads, a mix of gold-hued 11/0 Delica beads and a mix of gold-hued 15/0 beads (these will be the smaller ones.)

Let's get started! Print out your bead pattern or open it up on your phone, tablet or computer.

Begin weaving row one, which is 43 black beads.

Remember, click the links under "resources" if you need help with some of the basics like starting and adding threads and how to follow a bead pattern.

Weaving

The first row when weaving beads can be a little tricky to get in. The subsequent ones will be much easier.

Note that you can weave from left to right or right left. Typically someone who is right-handed places the beads behind the warp threads from the left to the right and sews through from the right to the left.

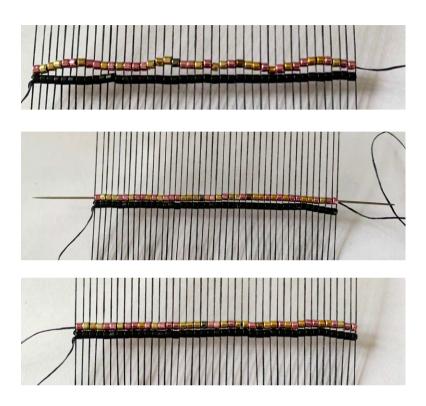
After you've woven your first row, tie a knot on the left edge between the working end of the thread and the tail.



Now, weave your second row (row two in the pattern.) This row should be much easier to weave than the first!

Weaving

SECTION FOUR



Continue weaving the pattern until you reach the end. The piece should be 7 1/2 inches long (115 rows).

End the last row by making a knot around the selvedge thread and sew a bit, make a knot, sew a bit, make a knot and then take it through to the other end and trim.

If you have not yet sewn in the first weft tail, you can do that now.

We have discovered a new and simple way to finish a bead piece, especially a wide one. It takes a few minutes to do and creates a lovely finish to the top edges of the piece. It is also responds well to wear and tear. All you have to do is glue a piece of ultra-suede to the beginning and end of the piece and fold it over securing the beads without having to tie them and creating a really nice finish.

Before cutting the piece off the loom, release the tension enough that you can and raise it up so that the bottom warps are showing. To do this, decrease the tension and pull up on the warping bar. Increase the tension again so that the warp threads are not baggy. Cut the ultrasuede so it is as wide as the piece and about half an inch tall.

Put glue on one side and stick it to the warps just below the first row of beads. Once the piece is removed from the loom, you will put more glue on the backside of the piece and fold the ultrasuede to the back of the piece. Do the same thing for the warps on the top of the piece.



SECTION FIVE

These two photos show the piece still on the loom with the ultra-suede glued to the warps.





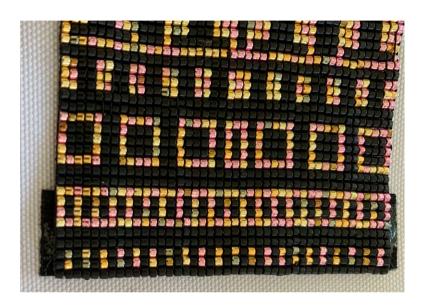
SECTION FIVE

Remove the piece from the loom and place it face down. Put more glue over the warps and ultra-suede. Fold the ultrasuede to the back.

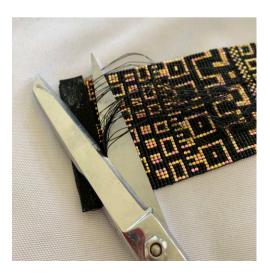




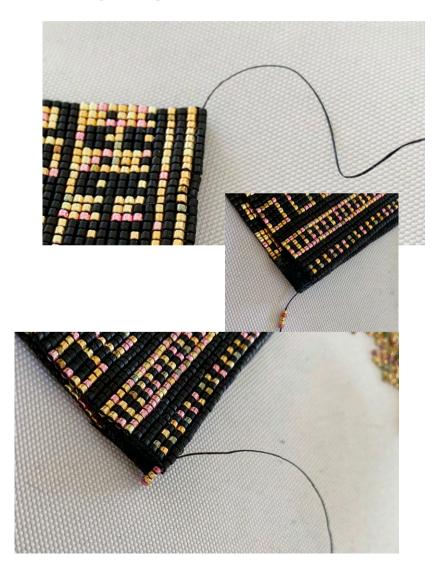
Trim the edges of the ultrasuede flush to the edges of the piece.



Next, trim the warp ends as close to the ultrasuede as you can.



Insert a thread through the top row of beads tying around the warp threads in two places to keep it secure. This thread should emerge from the top row of beads. Fold the piece in half. Thread 5 of the size 15/0 seed beads onto a needle and sew through the beads on the other side of the piece. We like to sew through a couple of beads.



SECTION FIVE

Continue adding beads until you reach the bottom of the pouch.



One side finished! Finish the other side in the same manner.

You're done!

