Seed Bead Earrings:

5 Must-Try
FREE
Seed Bead Patterns

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beadingdaily

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Earrings are a great accessory one can never have too many of. They are fun, add a touch of color to our wardrobe, and can even reveal the real you while you wear your professional outfits to work (which can sometimes be a bit drab and buttoned up). When it comes to seed bead earrings, these also have the benefit of being lightweight and quick to stitch. Even if you're new to seed bead-weaving, learning how to make seed bead earrings is a great place to start, as they give you just enough room to practice the stitch, get comfortable with it, and then, before you know it, you have a pair of seed bead earrings or three!

When looking at design trends and some favorite beads we all love to stitch with, these top 5 seed bead earring designs came about. The clever Celtic Knot earrings can be a stand out design for a special holiday or a meaningful symbol you can wear proudly, any day. The beautiful Enchanted Rivoli Earrings, with their very flattering shape will sparkle till the end of that special night. Ice Drop Earrings are elegant yet bring a bit of beachy flair when stitched as seen in turquoise and white. The Peyote Star Earrings look quite elegant stitched with metallic beads but would also look great worked in any color (can't you see them in red white and blue?), as long as you choose a contrasting seed bead for the corners and outline beads. Desert Thistle is simply beautiful and feminine and makes great use of a few different types of seed beads.

These are some of the most popular bead-weaving tutorials from within the *Beading Daily* community, and these free bead-weaving patterns are complete and ready for you, right now! All you need to do is enter your e-mail, download the free beading projects, gather your seed beads and bead-weaving supplies, then start beading! In addition to receiving these great seed bead patterns, you'll also be signed up to our mailing list and will never miss news, tips, promotions, other free beading projects or discounts.

Tammy Honaman
BeadingDaily.com editor

enchanted rivoli earrings

CSILLA CSIRMAZ

Deceivingly simple to make, these gorgeous earrings are formed by first bezeling a rivoli, then wrapping it with a herringbone-stitched rope.

TECHNIQUES
tubular peyote stitch
ladder stitch
tubular herringbone stitch
square stitch

PROJECT LEVEL ●●◐

MATERIALS

2 g bronze size 15° seed beads (A)
2 g bronze size 11° seed beads (B)
2 g bronze size 11° cylinder beads (C)
2 g matte gold luster size 9° seed beads (D)
2 g bronze size 8° seed beads (E)
8 bronze size 6° seed beads (F)
4 fuchsia AB 3mm crystal bicones (G)
20 fuchsia AB2X 4mm crystal bicones (H)
2 amethyst 6mm crystal bicones (I)
2 foil-backed amethyst 12mm crystal rivolis
1 pair of brass ¾" ear wires
Smoke 4 lb braided beading thread

TOOLS

Scissors
Size 12 beading needle

FINISHED SIZE: 1⅝"

1) BEZEL. Work tubular peyote stitch to form a bezel for the rivoli:

Rounds 1 and 2: Use 3' of thread to string 30A, leaving a 6" tail. Tie the working and tail threads together to form a tight knot; pass through the first A strung.

Round 3: String 1C, skip 1A, and pass through the next A; repeat fourteen times for a total of 15C. Step up for the next and subsequent rounds by passing through the first bead added in the current round.

Rounds 4 and 5: Work 1C in each stitch for a total of 15C in each of 2 rounds. Set 1 rivoli in the beadwork so the back touches Round 1.
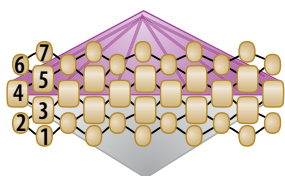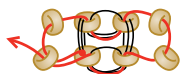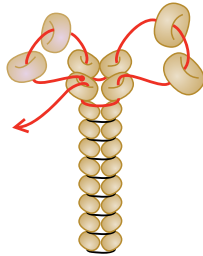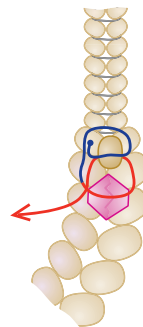
Rounds 6 and 7: Work 1A in each stitch for a total of 15A in each of 2 rounds (**Fig. 1**), pulling the thread tight to secure the rivoli in place. Secure the threads and trim. Set the bezel aside.

2) ROPE. Work a tubular herringbone–stitched rope to wrap around the bezel:

Round 1: Use 6' of thread to ladder-stitch a strip 4A long. Stitch the first and last A together to form a ring (**Fig. 2**).

Round 2: String 2A, pass down through the next A of Round 1, and up through the following A; repeat. Step up for the next and subsequent rounds by passing through the first bead added in the current round (**Fig. 3**).

Rounds 3–8: Work 2A in each stitch for a total of 4A. Repeat five times for a total of 6 more rounds.

Round 9: Work 2B in each stitch for a total of 4B.

Rounds 10–15: Work 2D in the first stitch and 2E in the second stitch (**Fig. 4**); repeat five times for a total of 6 more rounds.

Rounds 16 and 17: Work 2E in the first stitch and 2F in the second stitch; repeat once for a total of 2 more rounds.

Rounds 18–23: Work 2D in the first stitch and 2E in the second stitch; repeat five times for a total of 6 more rounds.

Round 24: Work 2B in each stitch for a total of 4B.

Rounds 25–32: Work 2A in each stitch for a total of 4A; repeat seven times for a total of 8 more rounds. Work a ladder-stitch thread path on the final round to close the end. Weave through beads to exit down through a B in Round 24 that sits above an E in Round 23.

3) EMBELLISH. String 1B; pass up through the next B in Round 24 that sits above an E in Round 23, then pass down through the original B exited and the nearest E in Round 23 (**Fig. 5, blue thread**). Working on the same side of the rope where the last embellishment was made, string 1G; pass up through the next E in Round 23, down through the original E exited in this stitch, and the nearest E in Round 22 (**Fig. 5, red thread**). Using the same technique, continue adding bead embellishments along the edge of the rope

Back of earring

Fig. 1: Forming the bezel

**Fig. 2:** Connecting Round 1 of the rope

Fig. 3: Stitching Round 2

Fig. 4: Adding Round 10 of the rope

Fig. 5: Embellishing the rope

in this order: 5H, 1I, 5H, 1G, and 1B. Weave through beads to exit from Round 1 of the rope.

4) ASSEMBLY. Connect the rope ends to form a circle, add a hanging loop, and stitch the bezel to the center:

Rope ends: Use the working thread of the rope to string 1B, 1E, and 1B; pass down through 1A on the other end of the rope and up through the adjacent A and the nearest B just added (**Fig. 6, blue thread**).

Loop: String 7A; pass through the first B added in this step, down through the next A at the end of the rope, and up through the adjacent A (**Fig. 6, red thread**).

Reinforce: Repeat the thread path of the rope-end connection and the loop several times, taking care to pass through each A at each end of the rope to seat the new beads at the center of the rope ends. Exit from 1A of Round 1, toward the inside of the circle.

Bezel: Place the bezel in the center of the rope circle. Use a square-stitch thread path to secure the inside of the rope circle to Rounds 3 and 4 of the bezel (**Fig. 7**). *Note:* It may be tricky to get the needle between the rope and bezel; just do your best to secure the bezel while keeping the stitches neat. It's fine to pass through 2 beads at a time here; just make sure the bezel is snug.

Add 1 ear wire to the loop.

5) Repeat Steps 1–4 for a second earring. ✦

CSILLA CSIRMAZ a Hungarian living in London, United Kingdom, has been making beaded jewelry for six years. Her favorite materials are Japanese seed beads and Swarovski crystals, but her biggest dream is to learn lampworking so she can make her own beads.

RESOURCES Check your local bead shop or contact: Swarovski bicones and rivolis, ear wires, and FireLine braided beading thread: Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, (800) 355-2137, www.firemountaingems.com. Size 9° seed beads: Boundless Beads, www.boundlessbeads.com. Delica cylinder beads and size 15°, 10°, and 11° seed beads: Shipwreck Beads, (800) 950-4232, www.shipwreckbeads.com.
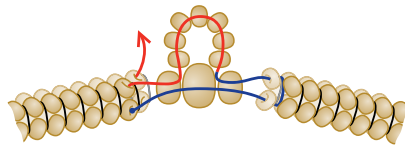

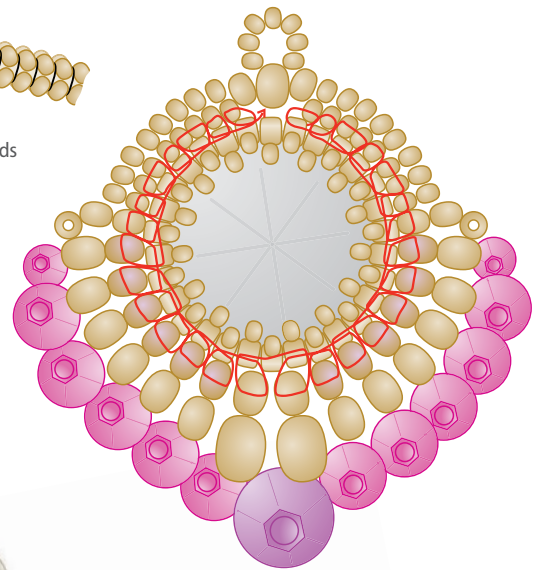Fig. 6: Connecting the rope ends and adding the loop

Fig. 7: Connecting the bezel to the rope (back view)

Artist's Tips

• You may use larger rivolis in this earring. Just adjust the bead count in Rounds 1 and 2 of the bezel and be sure to stitch a longer herringbone rope.

• For an extra glamorous pair of earrings, stitch two or even three of these earring components together.

• If you have trouble finding size 9° seed beads, look for a tube or hank of inconsistently sized 8°s and use the smallest beads in place of the 9°s.

Ice Drop Earrings LINDA McKEE

**Two hours is all the time you need to brick-stitch
these easy earrings.**

PROJECT LEVEL ◐○○

MATERIALS
3 g turquoise size 11° seed beads (A)
26 silver 5×2.5mm 2-hole seed beads (B)
12 turquoise 3mm fire-polished rounds (C)
2 teal 6mm fire-polished rounds (D)
12 indicolite 4mm crystal bicones (E)
2 white 12mm crystal pearl rounds (F)
2 silver 10×20mm ear wires
Crystal 6 lb braided beading thread
Thread conditioner

TOOLS
Scissors
Size 11 beading needle

FINISHED SIZE: 2¼"

Artist's Tips

❯ You may substitute any of the 3mm, 4mm, 6mm, or 12mm beads with fire-polished rounds, crystal bicones, or pearl rounds.

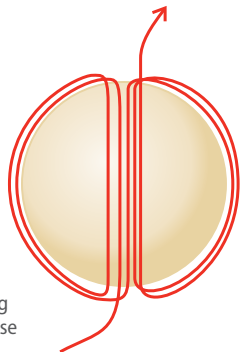❯ For a dramatic look, use bold jewel-tone colors.

1) EARRING. Stitch the body of the earring:

Base: Use 3' of thread to string 1F, leaving a 4" tail. Pass through the F; repeat three times. Arrange the threads to form 2 sets of 2 base threads on each side of the F (**Fig. 1**).

Round 1: String 2A; pass under the set of 2 base threads, and pass back through the second A just strung. String 1A, pass under the base threads, and pass back through the A just strung; repeat seventeen times for a total of 20A. Pass down through the first A of this round and up through the last A added (**Fig. 2**).

Round 2: String 1A, 2B, and 1A; skip 1A of Round 1, then pass down through the next A and up through the following A (**Fig. 3, orange thread**). String 1A, 1B, and 1A, then skip 1A of Round 1, pass down through the next A and up through the following A; repeat (**Fig. 3,**

green thread). String 1A, 3B, and 1A; skip 3A of Round 1, then pass down through the next A and up through the following A (**Fig. 3, blue thread**). String 1A, 1B, and 1A, then skip 1A of Round 1, pass down through the next A and up through the following A; repeat. Weave through beads to exit from the first 1A/2B/1A added in this round (**Fig. 3, red thread**).

Round 3: String 1C and pass through the next 1A/1B (inner hole)/1A of Round 2; repeat. String 1C; pass through the next 1A/3B (inner holes)/1A of Round 2. String 1C and pass through the next 1A/1B (inner hole)/1A of Round 2; repeat. String 1C; pass through the next 1A/2B (inner holes) of Round 2, then step up through the outer hole of the second B (**Fig. 4**). *Note:* The thread will now begin moving counterclockwise.
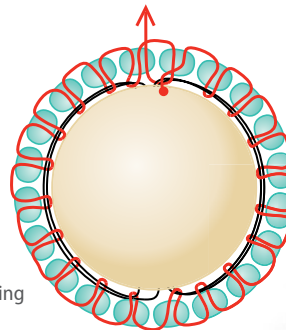

Fig. 1: Forming the thread base
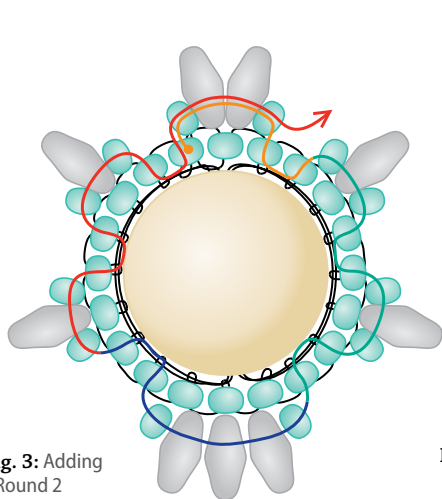

Fig. 2: Stitching Round 1
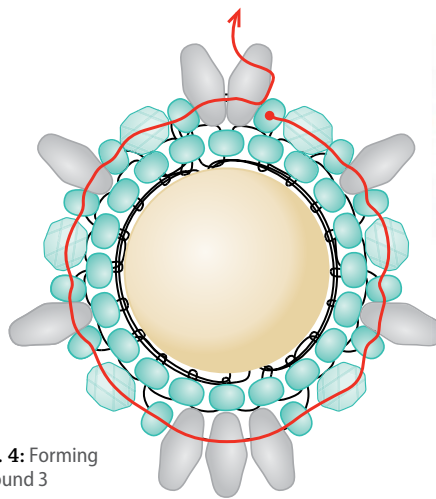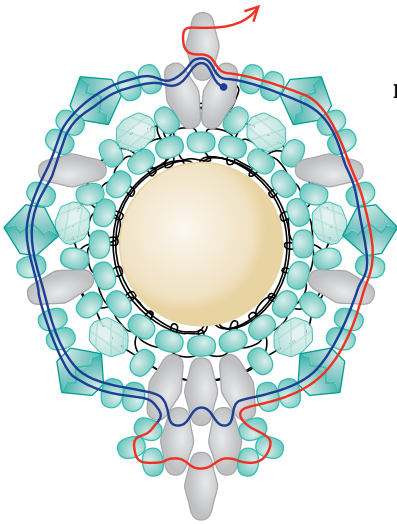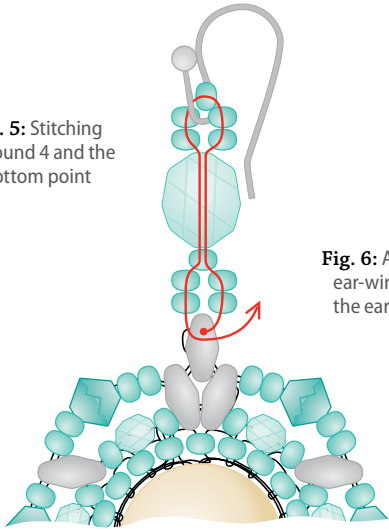

Fig. 3: Adding Round 2

Fig. 4: Forming Round 3

Fig. 5: Stitching Round 4 and the bottom point

Fig. 6: Adding the ear-wire loop and the ear wire

Round 4: String 1B; pass through the outer hole of the next B of Round 2. String 2A, 1E, and 2A; pass through the outer hole of the following B of Round 2. String 1A, 1E, and 1A; pass through the outer hole of the next B of Round 2. String 2A, 1E, and 2A; pass through the outer hole of the following B of Round 2. String 1B and pass through the outer hole of the next B of Round 2; repeat.

String 2A, 1E, and 2A; pass through the outer hole of the next B of Round 2. String 1A, 1E, and 1A; pass through the outer hole of the following B of Round 2. String 2A, 1E, and 2A; pass through the outer hole of the next B of Round 2. Weave through beads to exit from the B of Round 2 that sits right before the second B added in this round (**Fig. 5, blue thread**).

Bottom point: String 3A; pass through the outer hole of the second B added in Round 4. String 1B; pass through the outer hole of the next B added in Round 4. String 3A; pass through the outer hole of the nearest B of Round 2. Weave through beads to exit from the outer hole of the first B added in Round 4 (opposite the point just formed) (**Fig. 5, red thread**).

Loop: String 3A, 1D, 5A, and 1 ear wire; pass back through the D and following A to form a loop. String 2A; pass through the last B exited (**Fig. 6**). Repeat the thread path to reinforce. Secure the thread and trim.

2) Repeat Step 1 for a second earring. ✦

RESOURCES Check your favorite bead retailer or contact: Seed beads and SuperDuo 2-hole seed beads: Discount Beads, (702) 360-4266, www.discountbeadslv.com. Czech fire-polished rounds, Swarovski crystal bicones and pearls, and FireLine braided beading thread: Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, (800) 355-2137, www.firemountaingems.com.

Celtic Knot Earrings

JANET PALUMBO

Use two sizes of seed beads to stitch a single herringbone strip, and then tie it into a classic Celtic trefoil knot.

TECHNIQUES
flat herringbone stitch
ladder stitch

PROJECT LEVEL ●◖◖

MATERIALS
1 g silver-lined alabaster white size 11° seed beads (A)

2.5 g gold-luster green tea size 8° seed beads (B)

2 silver-filled 24-gauge 6mm jump rings

1 pair of sterling silver 10×17mm ear wires

Crystal 6 lb braided beading thread

Thread conditioner

TOOLS
Scissors

Size 11 beading needle

2 pairs of chain- or flat-nose pliers

FINISHED SIZE: **1½"**

1) STRIP. Form a herringbone-stitched strip:

Rows 1 and 2: Use 4' of conditioned thread to string 2B and 2A, leaving a 12" tail. Pass through all the beads again to form a circle, and manipulate the beads so there is 1 A column and 1 B column, side by side. Pass through the 2B (**Fig. 1**).

Row 3: String 1B and 1A; pass down through the A of the previous row and up through the last B exited and the B just added (**Fig. 2**).

Rows 4–45: Maintaining tight tension, repeat Row 3 forty-two times for a total of 45 rows. *Note:* The strip will start to take a curved shape with the A on the inside of the curve and the B along the outside of the curve.

Artist's Tip
Hold the tail thread firmly in your nondominant hand until the beadwork is about an inch long. This will help you achieve the tight tension necessary for a smooth look.

2) KNOT. Working with the curve of the herringbone strip, bend the working end of the strip over previous rows to form a loop that is ⅓ of the length of the strip (**Fig. 3**). Loosely pull the tail end of the strip up through the loop just formed, creating a loose overhand knot; do not pull all the way (**Fig. 4**).
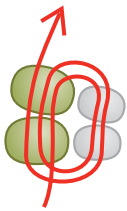

Fig. 1: Stitching Rows 1 and 2 of the strip

Fig. 2: Adding Row 3 of the strip

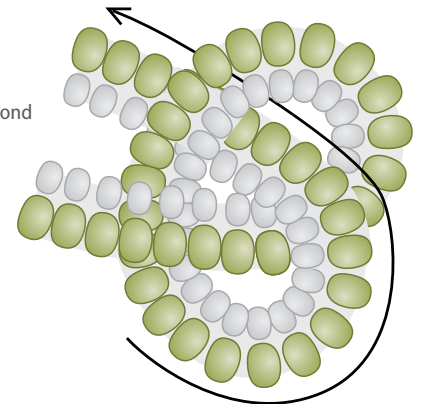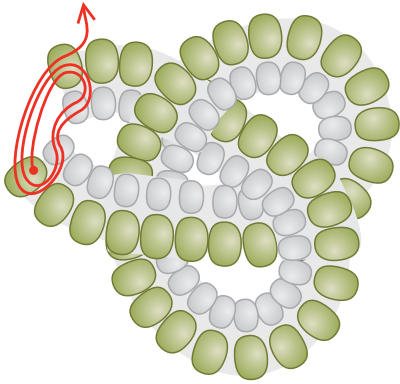**Fig. 3:** Forming the first loop of the knot

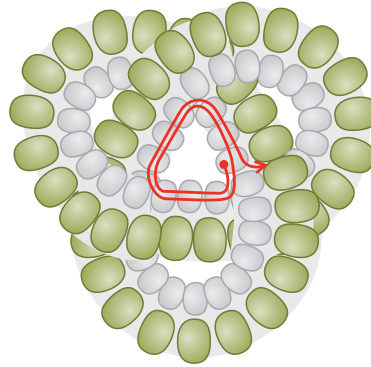**Fig. 4:** Working the second loop of the knot

Option
Instead of using a jump ring, you may attach the ear wire by forming a seed bead loop. Use the tail thread knotted on the herringbone strip to exit the B of Row 1. String 3A, the loop of 1 ear wire, and 3A; pass through the last B exited. Repeat the thread path to reinforce.

Fig. 5: Connecting Rows 1 and 45 to finish the knot

Fig. 6: Securing the knot

3) CONNECTION. Use the working thread to pass up through the B and down through the A in Row 1 of the strip. Pass down through the A and up through the B of Row 45, joining the ends of the strip together to form a Celtic trefoil knot. Repeat the thread path to reinforce (**Fig. 5**). Weave through beads to exit the A of Row 9. Pass through the nearest 8A in the center of the knot (the 3A of Rows 37–39, the 3A of Rows 22–24, and the 2A of Rows 7 and 8); pass through the A in Row 9 again. Repeat the thread path with even tension to secure the center of the knot (**Fig. 6**). Secure the thread and trim.

4) EAR WIRE. Use 1 jump ring to attach the B of Row 1 to 1 ear wire. *Note:* Be very careful when passing the jump ring through the B. Don't hold the seed bead with the pliers; instead, hold the earring with your hand and use pliers to gently push the jump ring through the B. If the B is too tight, do not force it through. Alternatively, form a seed bead loop to attach the ear wire as described in the option on page 132.

5) Repeat Steps 1–4 for a second earring. ✦

RESOURCES Check your local bead shop or contact: Toho seed beads, FireLine braided beading thread, and all other materials: Artbeads.com, (866) 715-2323.

peyote star earrings

Barbara Richard

Work up a few quick rounds of circular peyote stitch to create the versatile star-shaped components spotlighted in these charming dangles.

TECHNIQUES
circular peyote stitch
wireworking

PROJECT LEVEL ●◗◗◗

MATERIALS
1 g dark bronze size 11° Japanese seed beads (A)
1 g gold size 11° Japanese seed beads (B)
2 vermeil 2×3mm cornerless rectangles
4 gold-filled 3.5mm jump rings
2 gold-filled 22-gauge 1½" head pins
1 pair of gold-filled ¾" ear wires
Brown nylon beading thread
Beading wax

TOOLS
Scissors
Size 12 beading needle
2 pairs of chain- or flat-nose pliers
Round-nose pliers

FINISHED SIZE: 2¼"
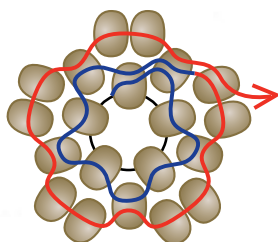
Fig. 1: Working Rounds 1–3
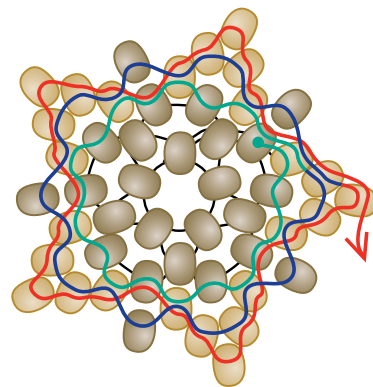
Fig. 2: Completing the large star

1) LARGE STAR. Use circular peyote stitch to create a five-pointed star:

Round 1: Use 18" of waxed thread to string 5A, leaving a 3" tail. Tie a knot to form a tight circle. Pass through the first bead strung.

Round 2: String 1A and pass through the next A of Round 1; repeat four times for a total of 5A. Step up for the next and subsequent rounds by passing through the first bead added in the current round (**Fig. 1, blue thread**).

Round 3: Work 5 stitches with 2A in each stitch (**Fig. 1, red thread**).

Round 4: Work 10 stitches with 1B in each stitch, splitting the pairs added in Round 3 (**Fig. 2, green thread**).

Round 5: Work 1 stitch with 2B and 1 stitch with 1A; repeat four times for a total of 10B and 5A (**Fig. 2, blue thread**).

Round 6: String 1B, pass through the next B of Round 5, and weave through beads to exit between the next 2B pair; repeat four times for a total of 5B (**Fig. 2, red thread**). Secure the thread and trim.

2) SMALL STAR. Use circular peyote stitch to form a smaller version of the large star:

Rounds 1–3: Using 18" of waxed thread, repeat Step 1, Rounds 1–3.

Round 4: String 1B and pass through the next A of Round 3, A of Round 2, and A of Round 3; repeat four times for a total of 5B. Secure the thread and trim (**Fig. 3**).
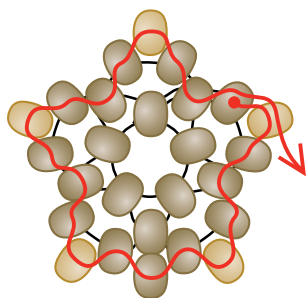
Fig. 3: Stitching the small star

Option

Create a necklace or bracelet with stones using the stars as spacers.

3) ASSEMBLY. Attach 1 jump ring to the B at the tip of 1 point of the large star. Use 1 jump ring to connect the A opposite the previous jump ring on the large star to any B of Round 4 on the small star. *Note:* If you have difficulty inserting the jump ring through the beads, pass a larger needle through the bead to compress the thread inside it.

Use 1 head pin to string 1 rectangle; form a wrapped loop that attaches to the A directly below the previous jump ring. Attach 1 ear wire to the top jump ring (**Fig. 4**).

4) Repeat Steps 1–3 for a second earring. ✦

BARBARA RICHARD, a former Latin teacher, has been beading for about eight years. In addition to loving seed beads, she enjoys wirework, metalwork, macramé, and lampwork. The president of the Connecticut River Artisans Cooperative in Chester, Connecticut, she teaches in local shops and privately. Barbara sells her jewelry in retail stores around the state.

RESOURCES Check your local bead shop or contact: Rectangles: Singaraja Imports, (800) 865-8856, www.singarajaimports.com. Japanese seed beads, SoNo beading thread, and all other materials: Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, (800) 355-2137, www.firemountaingems.com.
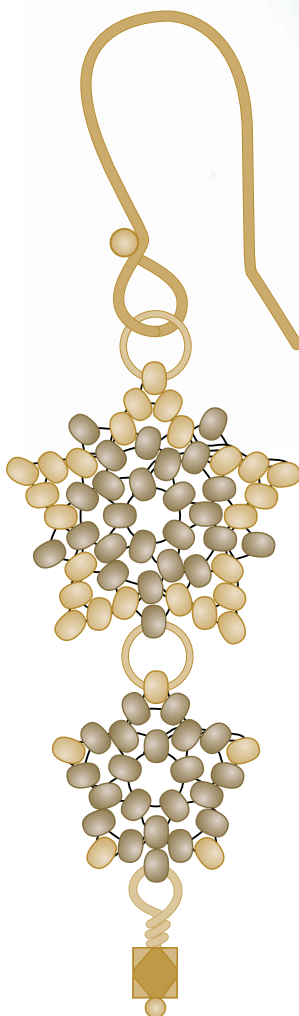

Fig. 4: Assembling the earring

Option

Brighten up your design by pairing silver-lined blue and red seed beads with metallic white Czech seed beads and silver findings.

desert thistle earrings KRISTEN WINTER

Use brick and herringbone stitches to fashion a pair of earrings with desert-inspired colors and subtle Southwestern flair.

Artist's Tips

• To make a matching pendant, stitch a single component and add a strip of peyote stitch to form an easy bail.

• You may choose thread that blends with the metal ring or with the beadwork.

• Try stitching a component in gradated colors, working from dark in the center to light on the edge.

TECHNIQUES
circular brick stitch
circular herringbone stitch
picot

PROJECT LEVEL ◗◖◖

1) BODY. Use circular brick and herring-bone stitches to form the body of the earring, then add picots:

Round 1: Tie the end of 6' of thread to 1 ring, leaving a 6" tail. String 2E; pass through the ring and back through the second E so the beads sit on the outside of the ring (**Fig. 1, blue thread**). String 1E, pass through the ring, and back through the E just added (**Fig. 1, red thread**); repeat fourteen times for a total of 17E or until the E completely surround the ring. Pass down through the first E added in this round, through the ring, and back through the first E (**Fig. 2**).

Round 2: String 2D; skip one thread between beads (a "thread bridge") in Round 1, pass under the next thread bridge, and pass back through the second D (**Fig. 3, blue thread**). String 1D, pass under the next thread bridge between the following 2E of Round 1,

and back through the D just added (**Fig. 3, red thread**); repeat fourteen times for a total of 17D. Pass down through the first D added in this round, under the next thread bridge, and back through the first D. *Note:* To fit the larger D beads over the smaller E, you will need to decide which will be the best thread bridge to pass under, sometimes skipping thread bridges in order to keep the work even and tight.

Round 3: Work 28 brick stitches with 1A in each stitch or an even number that fits evenly around Round 2. Pass down through the first A added in this round, under the next thread bridge, and back through the first A. *Note:* To fit the smaller A over the larger D, it will be necessary to brick-stitch into some of the thread bridges more than once.

Round 4: String 2C, pass down through the next A in Round 3, and up through the following A; repeat thirteen times

for a total of 14 herringbone stitches (**Fig. 4, green thread**). Step up through the first C added in this round.

Round 5: String 1A, 1B, and 1A; pass down through the next C in Round 4 and up through the following C; repeat thirteen times for a total of 14 picots (**Fig. 4, blue thread**). Weave through beads to exit from 1B.

2) LOOP. String 2B, 1 ear wire, and 2B; pass through the last B exited to form a loop (**Fig. 4, red thread**). Repeat the thread path several times to reinforce. Secure the threads and trim.

3) Repeat Steps 1 and 2 for a second earring. ✦

MATERIALS

- 2 g bronze-lined clear size 8° seed beads (A)
- 1 g metallic antique gold size 8° seed beads (B)
- 2 g transparent amethyst size 8° cylinder beads (C)
- 2 g brown iris size 6° seed beads (D)
- 2 g bronze-lined black diamond AB 3mm triangles (E)
- 2 copper 13mm (outside diameter)/8mm (inside diameter) hammered seamless flat rings
- 1 pair of bronze ¾" ear wires
- Brown size D nylon beading thread

TOOLS

Scissors
Beading needle
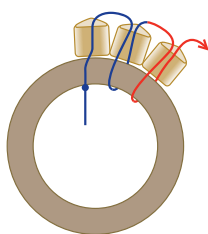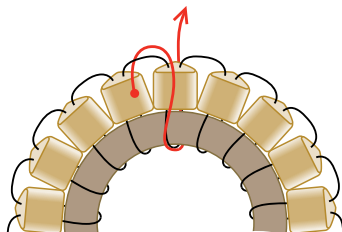
FINISHED SIZE: 2¼"

Fig. 1: Beginning Round 1

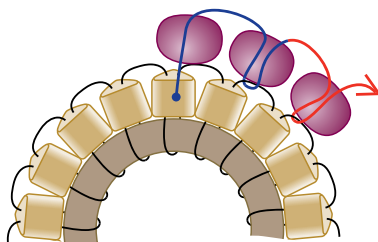**Fig. 2:** Forming the last stitch of Round 1

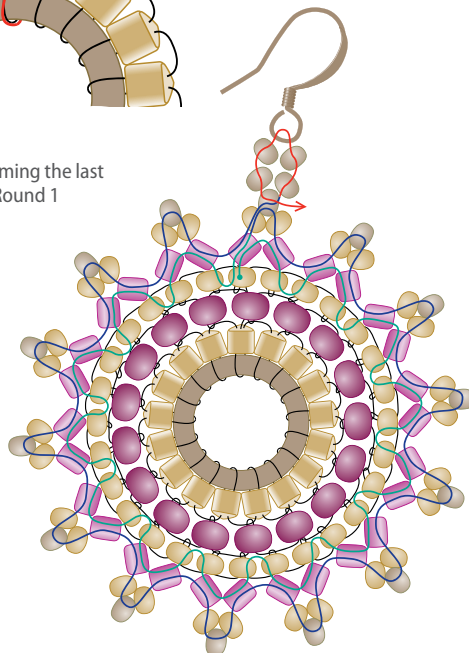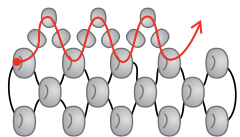**Fig. 3:** Adding the first 2 stitches of Round 2

Fig. 4: Stitching Rounds 4 and 5 and the loop

techniques

PICOT

A picot is a decorative net, most often made with 3 beads, used to embellish a beadwork surface.

LADDER STITCH

For **one-needle ladder stitch,** string 2 beads and pass through them again. Manipulate the beads so their sides touch. String 1 bead. Pass through the last bead added and the bead just strung. Repeat, adding 1 bead at a time and working in a figure-eight pattern.
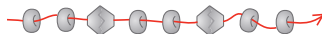
For **two-needle ladder stitch,** add a needle to each end of the thread. String 1 bead and slide it to the center of the thread. String 1 bead with one needle and pass the other needle back through the bead just added; repeat to form a strip.
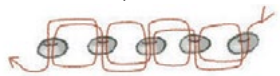
STRINGING

Stringing is a technique that uses beading wire, needle and thread, or other material to gather beads into a strand.

SQUARE STITCH

String a row of beads. For the second row, string 2 beads; pass through the second-to-last bead of the first row and through the second bead just strung. Continue by stringing 1 bead, passing through the third-to-last bead of the first row, and passing through the bead just strung. Repeat this looping technique to the end of the row.
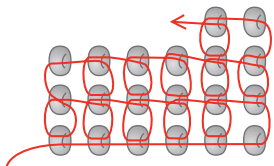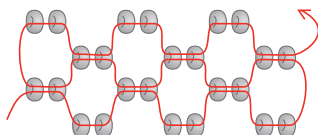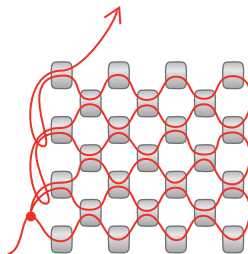
PEYOTE STITCH

For **one-drop even-count flat peyote** stitch, string an even number of beads to create the first two rows. Begin the third row by stringing 1 bead and passing back through the second-to-last bead of the previous row. String another bead and pass back through the fourth-to-last bead of the previous row. Continue adding 1 bead at a time, passing over every other bead of the previous row.
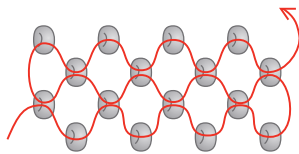
Two-drop peyote stitch is worked the same as one-drop peyote stitch, but with 2 beads at a time instead of 1 bead.

For **odd-count flat peyote stitch,** string an uneven number of beads to create Rows 1 and 2. String 1 bead, skip the last bead strung, and pass through the next bead. Repeat across the row (this is Row 3). To add the last bead, string 1 bead and knot the tail and working threads, clicking all beads into place. Start the next row (Row 4) by passing back through the last bead added. Continue in peyote stitch, turning as for even-count at the end of this and all even-numbered rows. At the end of all odd-numbered rows, add the last bead, pass under the thread loop at the edge of the previous rows, and pass back through the last bead added.

Begin a **midproject peyote-stitch** increase by working a stitch with 2 beads in one row. In the next row, work 1 bead in each stitch, splitting the pair of beads in the previous row. For a smooth increase, use very narrow beads for both the two-drop and the one-drop between.
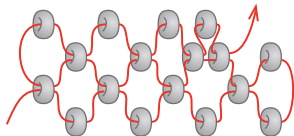
To make a **midproject peyote-stitch decrease,** simply pass the thread through 2 beads without adding a bead in the "gap." In the next row, work a regular one-drop peyote stitch over the decrease. Work with tight tension to avoid holes.
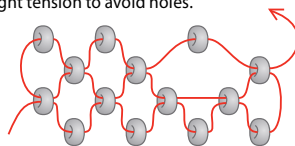
For **circular peyote stitch,** string 3 beads and knot the tail and working threads to form the first round; pass through the first bead strung. For the second round, string 2 beads and pass through the next bead of the previous round; repeat twice. To step up to the third round, pass through the first bead of the current round. For the third round, string 1 bead and pass through the next bead of the previous round; repeat around, then step up at the end of the round. Continue in this manner, alternating the two previous rounds. It may be necessary to adjust the bead count, depending on the relative size of the beads, to keep the circle flat.
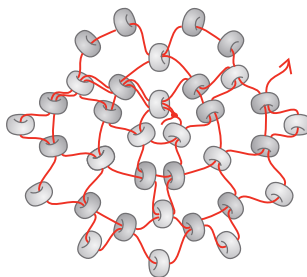
For **even-count tubular peyote stitch,** string an even number of beads and knot the tail and working threads to form the first 2 rounds; pass through the first 2 beads strung. To work Round 3, string 1 bead, skip 1 bead, and pass through the next bead; repeat around until you have added half the number of beads in the first round. Step up through the first bead added in this round. For the following rounds, string 1 bead and pass through the next bead of the previous round; repeat, stepping up at the end of each round.
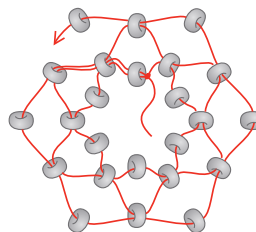
Work **odd-count tubular peyote** stitch the same as even-count tubular peyote stitch; however, it isn't necessary to step up at the end of each round.
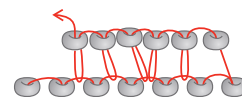
BRICK STITCH

Stitch a foundation row in one- or two-needle ladder stitch. String 2 beads and pass under the closest exposed loop of the foundation row and back through the second bead. String 1 bead and pass under the next exposed loop and back through the bead just strung; repeat.
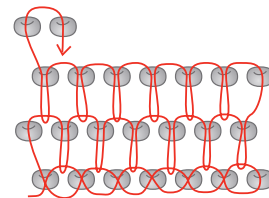
To **decrease within a row,** string 1 bead and skip a loop of thread on the previous row, passing under the second loop and back through the bead.
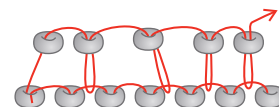
To **increase within a row,** work 2 stitches in the same loop on the previous row.

For **circular brick stitch,** work increases as needed to keep the work flat; at the end of each round, pass through the first and last beads to stitch them together, then string 2 beads to begin the next round.

For **tubular brick stitch,** join a ladder-stitched foundation row into a ring by passing through the first and last beads of the row, with the holes facing up. *String 1 bead and pass under the closest exposed loop of the foundation ring. Pass back through the same bead and repeat, adding 1 bead at a time. Finish the round by passing down through the first bead and up through the last bead of the current round, then string 2 beads to begin the next round.

techniques

NETTING

String a base row of 13 beads. String 5 beads and pass back through the fifth bead from the end of the base row. String another 5 beads, skip 3 beads of the base row, and pass back through the next bead; repeat to the end of the row. To turn, pass back through the last 3 beads (one leg of the last net). String 5 beads, pass back through the center bead of the next net, and continue.
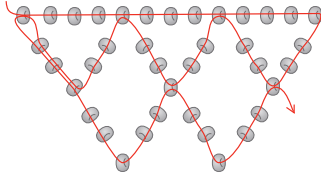
For **tubular netting,** string {1A and 1B} six times; pass through them again to form the foundation round. *String 1A, 1B, and 1A; skip 1B and pass through the following 1B in the previous round to form a "net". Repeat from * twice, then step up for the next round by passing through the first 2 beads of this round. **String 1A, 1B, and 1A; pass through the middle bead of the nearest net in the previous round. Repeat from ** twice, then step up as before. Work each round the same way.
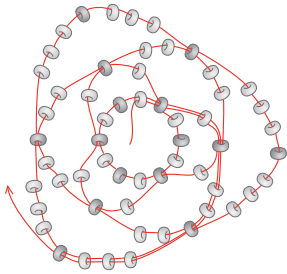
HERRINGBONE STITCH

Form a foundation row of one- or two-needle even-count ladder stitch and exit up through the final bead. String 2 beads, pass down through next bead in the ladder, and pass up through the following bead; repeat to the end of the row. Step up for the next row by wrapping the thread around previous threads to exit up through the last bead strung. To form the next row, string 2 beads and pass down through the second-to-last bead of the previous row and up through the following bead. Repeat, stringing 2 beads per stitch, passing down then up through 2 beads of the previous row and stepping up as before. The 2-bead stitch will cause the beads to angle in each column, like a herringbone fabric.
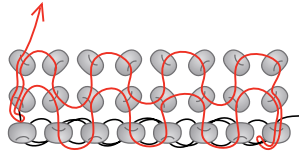
Begin tubular herringbone stitch with a foundation ring of one- or two-needle even-count ladder stitch. String 2 beads. Pass down through the next bead and up through the following bead in the ladder. Repeat around the ring. At the end of the round, pass through the first beads of the previous and current rounds to step up to the new round.
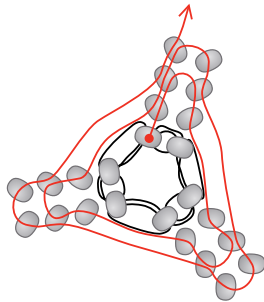
WIREWORKING

To open a **jump ring**, grasp each side of its opening with a pair of pliers. Don't pull apart. Instead, twist in opposite directions so that you can open and close it without distorting the ring's shape.
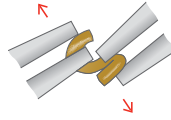
For a **simple loop**, use flat-nose pliers to make a 90° bend at least ½" from the end of the wire. Use round-nose pliers to grasp th[e] the tip; roll the pliers toward the b[end] not past it, to preserve the 90° be[nd] the pliers as needed to continue t[he] around the nose of the pliers. Trim next to the bend. Open a simple loop by grasping each side of its opening with a pair of pliers. Don't pull apart. Instead, twist in opposite directions so that you can open and close it without distorting the loop's shape.

To form a **double simple loop,** 90° bend at least 1" from the en[d] wire. Make a simple loop and c[ontinue] wrapping the wire around the n[ose] pliers to form two complete loc[ps.]

To form a **wrapped loop,** begin with a 90° bend at least 2" from the end of the wire. Use round-nose pliers to form a simple loop with a tail overlapping the bend. Wrap the tail tightly down the neck of the wire two or three times. Trim the excess wire to finish. Make a thicker, heavier-looking wrapped loop by wrapping the wire back up over the coils, toward the loop, and trimming at the loop.
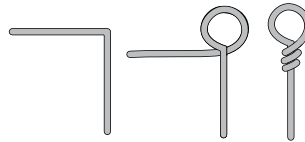
For a **wrapped-loop bail**, center a bead on a 3" or longer piece of wire. Bend both ends of the wire up the sides and across the top of the bead. Bend one end straight up at the center of the bead, then wrap the other wire around it two or three times. Form a wrapped loop with the straight-up wire, wrapping it back down over formed coils. Trim the exces[s]

For a **coil**, use one hand to [hold] the wire against a mandrel. [With the other] hand, wrap the wire around [the mandrel in] tight loops. To remove the coil, slide it off the mandrel and cut the w[ire from the] spool. Add vertical loops [to] use the coil as is, or cut th[e coil at] intervals to make jump ri[ngs.]
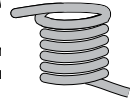
For a **spiral**, form a small loop at the end of a wire with round-nose pliers. Enlarge the piece by holding onto the spiral with chain-nose pliers and pushing [the wire into the] previous coil with your [thumb.]

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More Resources:
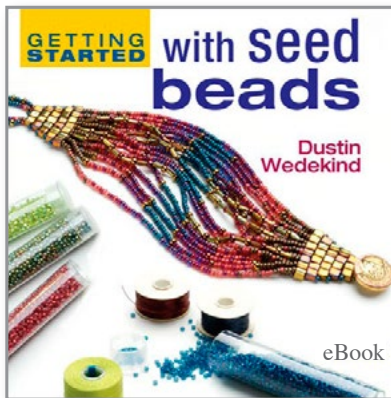
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