

# Floral Fanfare

Weave colorful  
netted posies

by **Allie Thompson**

Stylishly retro, fast, and fun, these flower brooches are a breeze to make. Pin them on hats, scarves, jackets, shoes, and shirts singly or in clusters. When choosing beads, almost anything goes. Select a color, then find beads of different shades, cuts, and finishes.



[a]



[b]



[c]



[d]



[e]

## stepbystep

### Flower base

**[1]** Thread your needle with a yard (91cm) of Silamide. If you are using Nymo, work with a yard of doubled thread.

**[2]** Stitch the flower's base as follows:

**Round 1:** String an 80 and an 11° six times, leaving a 6-in. (15cm) tail (**figure 1, a–b**). Sew through all the beads plus the first 8° again (**b–c**) to form a circle.

**Round 2:** Pick up one 8° (**c–d**), go through the previous 8°, then go through the new 8° again (**d–e**). Pick up three 11°s and one 8° (**e–f**). Go through the next 8° on round 1 and back through the last 8° on round 2 (**f–g**). Repeat until you have picked up a total of 24 beads and are back at **point d**.

**Rounds 3–6:** Work as in round 2, but pick up five 11°s in round 3, nine 11°s in round 4, 12 11°s in round 5, and 15 11°s in round 6 (**figure 1 and photo a**).

### Petals

**[1]** Weave through the beads to reach round 1 on the base. Exit an 8°.

**[2]** Add three layers of beads on top of each base round. Use different shades of 11°s for each

petal layer.

**Round 1:** Pick up three 11°s, then go through the next 8° on the base round (**figure 2, a–b**). Repeat around to **point a**. Make a second layer, passing through the same 8°s but picking up four 11°s. Repeat for a third layer, but pick up five 11°s (**figure 2 and photo b**).

**Round 2:** Go through an 8° on the next base round (**figure 3, a–b**). Pick up five 11°s, then go through the 8° on the base round (**b–c**). Repeat around to **point b**. Make the second layer with six 11°s between 8°s. Make the third layer with seven 11°s between 8°s (**figure 3**).

**Round 3:** Go through an 8° on the next base round. Pick up eight 11°s for the first layer, nine 11°s for the second, and ten 11°s for the third (**photo c**).

**Round 4:** Work as in the previous

### MATERIALS

flower brooch 2 x 2 in. (5 x 5cm)

- 1g seed beads, size 11°, 5–9 different shades
- 1g Japanese seed beads, size 8° to match 11°s
- Silamide or Nymo D conditioned with beeswax or Thread Heaven
- beading needles, #12
- safety pin or pinback



rounds, but pick up 11 11<sup>s</sup>, 12 11<sup>s</sup>, then 13 11<sup>s</sup> for each layer.

**Round 5:** Repeat, but pick up 14 11<sup>s</sup>, 15 11<sup>s</sup>, then 16 11<sup>s</sup>.

**Round 6:** Repeat, but pick up 17 11<sup>s</sup>, 18 11<sup>s</sup>, then 19 11<sup>s</sup>.

### Pin attachments

I like the durability of a safety pin, but feel free to opt for a pinback. Use the thread tails to sew the pin onto the back of the flower (photo d). Go through the 8<sup>s</sup> and thread bridges, but do not sew through the 11<sup>s</sup>. Weave in the tails, knot them with half-hitches (How-Tos), then trim the excess thread. ●

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

For a center variation, use bugles for the first petal layer (photo e). Pick up a bugle and 11<sup>o</sup> seed bead. Skip the seed, sew through the bugle again, then go through a base bead. Repeat around. After all the petal layers are added, the bugles stand up, resembling stamens.

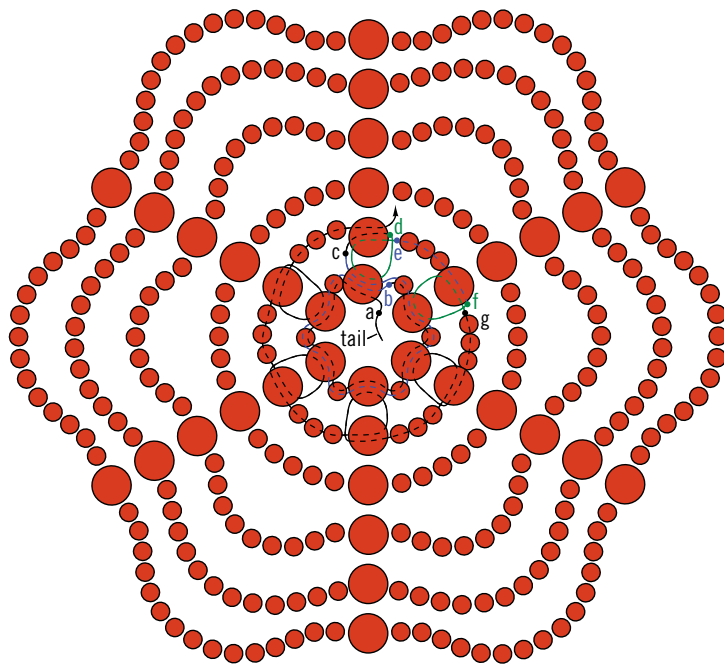


FIGURE 1

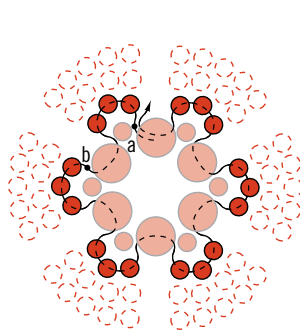


FIGURE 2

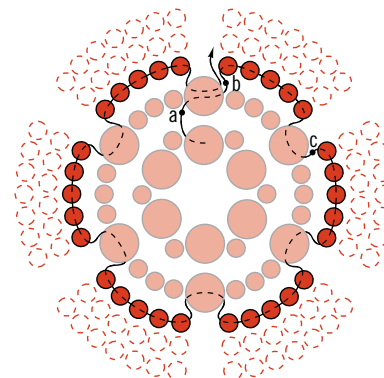


FIGURE 3