

Beaded bead bracelet



by Julia Gerlach

Add texture to a strung bracelet with nubby beaded beads. Don't be intimidated by the complicated appearance of these beads — they're easier to make than they look.

stepbystep

Beaded beads

[1] On 1 yd. (.9 m) of beading thread, pick up six 11° seed beads, leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail. Sew through all six beads again, and pull tight so you have two stacks of three beads sitting side by side (**figure 1, a–b**).

[2] Pick up three 11°s, sew through the previous stack of three 11°s, and continue through the three 11°s just added (**b–c**). Continue stitching a three-bead ladder (Basics) until you have five stacks of three beads (**c–d**).

[3] Bring the ends together, sew through the first stack of 11°s, and continue through the last stack of 11°s to form the ladder into a tube (**figure 2**).

[4] Sew through the first 11° of the next stack (**figure 3, a–b**).

[5] To add a fringe, pick up an 11°, a 3 mm pearl, and an 11° (**b–c**). Skip the last 11°, and sew back through the pearl (**c–d**). Pick up an 11°, and sew through the 11° your thread exited at the start of this step and the next 11° in the stack (**d–e**).

[6] Repeat step 5 to add fringe over the other two 11°s in the stack.

[7] Repeat steps 4–6 until you've added a fringe over every 11° in the tube. Sew into the beadwork, and end the thread and tail (Basics).

[8] Repeat steps 1–7 to make a total of six beaded beads.

Bracelet assembly

[1] Cut 10 in. (25 cm) of beading wire. On one end, string a crimp bead, a 3 x 5 mm spacer, and one half of the clasp. Go back through the spacer and the crimp bead (**photo a**), and crimp the crimp bead (Basics).

[2] String a spacer, a 9 x 12 mm glass rondelle, a spacer, a pearl, a beaded bead, and a pearl (**photo b**). Repeat five times, then string a spacer, a rondelle, a spacer, a crimp bead, a spacer, and the other half of the clasp.

[3] Go back through the last spacer, the crimp bead, and the next few beads (**photo c**). Test the bracelet for fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp bead, and trim the excess wire. Use chainnose pliers to close a crimp cover over each crimp, if desired. ●

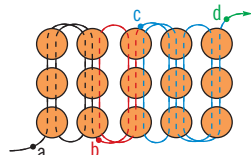


FIGURE 1

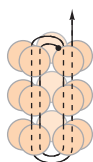


FIGURE 2

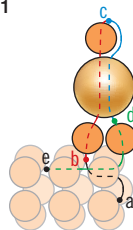


FIGURE 3

materials

bracelet 7½ in. (19.1 cm)

- 7 9 x 12 mm faceted glass rondelles, ruby (Bead Gallery®, 470743)
- 108 3 mm freshwater pearls, amber (Bead Gallery, 467305)
- 5 g 11° seed beads, copper-lined crystal (Toho, 474827)
- 16 3 x 5 mm metal spacers (Better Beads®, 869301)
- 2 crimp beads
- 2 crimp covers (optional)
- toggle clasp (Jewelry Essentials®, 443239)
- nylon beading thread
- flexible beading wire, .018
- beading needles, #12
- chainnose pliers
- crimping pliers
- wire cutters

