

THREAD AND CORD

Type	Names	Sizes	Colors	Description	Strengths	Weaknesses	Best Uses
Parallel filament nylon	Nymo	00–FF	many	Thin nylon fibers are extruded, bundled, and heat-set to form a single-ply thread.	Durable; easy to thread on a beading needle; great color selection.	Some are prone to fraying; stretchy; will break under stress.	Best in beadweaving (both on and off loom), fringe that drapes, and bead embroidery. Not good for stringing or twisted fringe.
	C-Lon	AA, D	many				
	SoNo	A	5				
	Monocord	000, A, B	19				
	K.O.	B	18				
	One G	B	22				
Plied nylon	Silamide	A	21	Two or more extruded nylon threads are twisted together and coated or bonded to enhance ply security.	Strong and durable; some have had stretch removed; more resistant to fraying than parallel filaments.	Somewhat difficult to thread on a beading needle due to round profile and thicker diameter.	Good for twisted fringe, bead crochet, and beadwork that should have a lot of body.
	Hastings Bonded Bead Cord	2/0 (00), 1/0 (0), 2–5	white				
	Stringth	0–7	14				
	Conso	F	22				
	upholstery thread	varies	many				
Plied gel-spun polyethylene (GSP)	Power Pro	8–30 lb. test	black, white, green	Polyethylene fibers are spun to form thread. Two or more threads are braided or twisted together.	Almost unbreakable; doesn't stretch; resists fraying.	Limited color palette; most are too thick for multiple passes through a single bead.	Use for stitching with larger beads, such as pressed glass and crystals, or for beadwork that should have a lot of body.
	DandyLine	15–30 lb. test	black, white				
	SpiderLine Braid	20–40 lb. test	green				
	Tuf-Line	15–30 lb. test	green				
Parallel filament GSP	Fireline	4–10 lb. test	smoke, crystal, dyed crystal	Polyethylene fibers are spun and then bonded to form a single-ply thread.	Extremely strong and thin; doesn't stretch; resists fraying.	Limited colors, unless you get the after-market dyed variety; cord is rather stiff.	Great for bead stitching. Not great for fringe or stringing.
	Wildfire	4–10 lb. test	black				
Polyester	YLI Jeans Gutermann top-stitching	30 E (equiv.)	29 many	Polyester fibers are spun into single yarns and then twisted into plied thread.	Lots of colors; doesn't stretch.	Gets linty from abrasion.	Good for bead crochet and for bead embroidery when thread must match fabric.
Aramid	Kevlar	0	black, yellow	Spun poly-aramid fibers are extruded and gathered to form a single-ply thread.	Extremely strong and thin; bullet-proof and fire-retardant.	Thread will cut itself; negative reaction to skin and UV light; doesn't absorb dyes well.	Works well with beads with sharp edges.