



BEAD&BUTTON SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: JEWELRY PROJECTS

Bead&Button, the leading information source for beaders, helps beaders pursue their passion for making beautiful jewelry by delivering useful and inspiring content. We are an internationally respected bimonthly magazine that is devoted to techniques, projects, and designs of beaded jewelry and accessories. Our readership consists primarily of beading enthusiasts who find satisfaction in making beautiful pieces. As helpful partners in beading, *Bead&Button's* editors fully test projects for clarity and accuracy so that readers can master the skills needed to create beautiful, wearable projects.

We are looking for skilled designers who are willing to share what they know! We invite designers to submit their original beaded how-to projects for publication in the magazine, on our sister website FacetJewelry.com, and in our digital supplement, *B&B Extra*. We accept a broad range of jewelry designs and patterns, primarily using the techniques of bead stitching, bead embroidery, and loomwork. We compensate designers for accepted submissions.

Why submit? Because it's a boost to your beading career! Having your original design published in *Bead&Button* raises your profile as a beading artist. Because we carefully curate all designs, it's a stamp of approval for your work. Your published design can include a link to your website, and will be promoted broadly to our print and online audiences.

OUR SUBMISSION PROCESS: STEP BY STEP

1. **Initial query.** Begin by sending a photo of your original finished piece; a description of the piece (stitches/techniques used); and a list of materials used (beads, crystals, pearls, etc., with sizes, colors, and manufacturers noted). Please make sure to identify U.S. supply sources only. Upload all this information to <http://fileupload.kalmbach.com/contribute/>.
2. **Editors' review.** The editors meet regularly to review new proposals. You will receive an email with their decision. We make every effort to respond within two weeks from the time your submission is reviewed.
3. **Submission.** If the editors are interested in your design you will be asked to send the jewelry along with the step-by-step instructions for further review. If you have not written instructions before, don't worry; we'll send a template to help you. Please be aware that our request for the jewelry at this point is not a promise to publish it.

4. **Acceptance.** If your design is accepted, the jewelry will be scheduled for publication. Due to our careful editing process and our production schedules, this could take several months. We thank you in advance for your patience. Please be aware that publication schedules are subject to change.
5. **Agreement.** Before your jewelry is published you will receive a Freelance Contributor Agreement. It will specify that you are giving us permission to publish your design, will ask you to verify that it is your original work, and will include payment information.

*If your submission is not accepted, the jewelry and information
you sent will be returned. And don't give up!
We're always interested in seeing another design from you!*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do the editors look for when selecting projects? We primarily publish bead-stitching, bead embroidery, and loomwork projects that combine materials and bead shapes in innovative ways. We are more likely to accept projects using materials that can be easily obtained or substituted, and that expose readers to challenging and rewarding beading processes. Other qualities we look for:

- A well-conceived and pleasing, balanced design.
- A high level of craftsmanship.
- Unique, modified or combined techniques.
- A striking color palette.
- Innovative use of quality materials.
- Adaptable elements that encourage creativity.
- Current jewelry or beading trends.

What kinds of designs do you NOT accept? What should I avoid? Projects less likely to be accepted are ones that:

- Use black-colored beads, white beads, or transparent beads, all of which are difficult to photograph.
- Use hard-to-find materials or materials not available in the U.S.
- Lack originality.
- Don't demonstrate good craftsmanship. Examples: threads are showing, clasp isn't sturdy, doesn't lay well when worn.

What kind of format do you require for step-by-step instructions? We prefer a Word doc but will accept a PDF.

What is the editing process like? After your work has been accepted and we receive the step-by-step instructions, materials list, and jewelry, a project editor will be assigned to work with you. She will review your instructions and edit them to fit the *Bead&Button* style. Before the project is

published in the magazine, you will receive a PDF by email to review and will be asked to provide feedback.

Will I get my jewelry back? Of course! Whether it's accepted or not, we always return jewelry. We'll also send you a complimentary copy of the magazine your design appears in (if published). Some exceptions may apply to international shipments, but we will make you aware of these in advance.

I'd love to publish my jewelry in your magazine, but the instructions are too complicated. What should I do? Consider "Your Work," a section of the magazine that showcases beautiful jewelry from people like you! Many of these designs are too advanced for step-by-step instructions, but they offer wonderful inspiration. You can simply email editor@beadandbutton.com with a photo and short description.

"It's not only fun to see your work in print, but it's a huge benefit for artists looking to expand their reach and exposure. The one- to three-page, full-color spread in an internationally respected magazine plus the online exposure is WELL worth your time. And you get paid!"

-Nancy Cain, award-winning bead artist and instructor