Leaf clusters made of oval fire-polished beads radiate from curving seed bead spines.

designed by Mary Anne Russell
Inspired by a gold ring’s vine-like design, I re-created the look of twining leaves. The complex thread path weaves back and forth through the leaf veins as fire-polished beads are added to form each leaflet.

**step by step**

**Toggle bar**

[1] On 2 yd. (1.8m) of Nymo or Fireline, attach a stop bead (Basics, p. 134), leaving a 6-in. (15cm) tail.

[2] Pick up 12 11° seed beads, and, working in flat, even-count peyote stitch (Basics), sew a total of eight rows to make a strip with four 11°s on each edge. Remove the stop bead.

[3] Zip up the strip (Basics) to form a tube. Exit an 11° at one end, pick up an 11°, and sew through the 11° opposite the one your thread is exiting. Sew through the beadwork to the other end, and repeat to cover the opening with an 11°.

[4] Sew through the beadwork to the center of the toggle. You will use this thread to begin the leaf design.

[5] Secure the 6-in. (15cm) tail with a few half-hitch knots (Basics), and trim.

**Band**

[1] Using the working thread from the toggle bar, pick up six 11°s, eight 8°s, an 11°, an oval bead, and an 11° (figure 1, a-b). Skipping the last 11°, sew back through all the beads picked up, and continue through an 11° on the toggle bar and the next 14 vein beads (b-c).

[2] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and the end 8° (figure 2, a-b).

[3] Pick up an oval and an 11°, and sew back through the oval and the next 8° (b-c). Repeat, but sew through two 8°s (c-d). Repeat, but sew back through the top four 8°s (d-e).

[4] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and the end 8° (figure 3, a-b). Repeat five times, sewing back through the oval, the 11°, and the next 8°. On the last repeat, do not sew back through the oval and 11° (b-c).

[5] Pick up three 8°s, an 11°, an oval, and an 11°. Skip the last 11°, and sew back through the beads just picked up (figure 4, a-b). Pick up 13 8°s, an 11°, an oval, and an 11° (b-c). Skip the last 11°, and sew back through the next 18 beads (c-d).

[6] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and an 8° (figure 5, a-b). Repeat twice, but on the second repeat, sew through two 8°s (b-c).

[7] Sew through the 11° on the adjacent leaflet, and through the next two 8°s (c-d). Repeat, but sew through the next six 8°s (d-e).

[8] Pick up an oval, and sew through the 11° of the adjacent leaflet, and back through the oval and one 8° (e-f). Repeat, but sew back through two 8°s (f-g).

[9] Pick up an oval and an 11°, sew through the 11° of the adjacent leaflet, and sew back through the 11°, the oval, and the end 8° (g-h).

[10] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and the 16 8°s (h-i).

[11] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and the end 8° (figure 6, a-b).

[12] Pick up an oval and an 11°, and sew back through the oval and two 8°s. Repeat, but sew back through one 8°. Repeat, but sew back through 12 8°s (b-c).

[13] Repeat steps 4 (c-d) and 5.

[14] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, sew through the 11° of the adjacent leaflet, and sew back through the 11°, the oval, the 11°, and the end 8° (figure 7, a-b).
15] Pick up an 11° and an oval, sew through the 11° of the adjacent leaflet, and sew back through the oval, the 11°, and one 8°. Repeat, but sew through two 8°s (b–c).

16] Repeat steps 7–15 for the desired length of the bracelet. Add thread (Basics) as needed. When you are stitching the last cross-bracelet vein, stop after you repeat step 4 in step 13.

17] To form the last leaf, pick up three 8°s, an 11°, an oval, and an 11°. Skip the last 11°, and sew back through the next five beads (figure 8, a–b). Pick up five 8°s and enough 11°s (approximately 24) to circle the toggle bar (b–c), and sew back through the eight 8°s (c–d).

18] Repeat steps 14 and 15 (figure 9, a–b).

19] Sew through the 11° on the adjacent leaflet and back through two 8°s (b–c). Repeat, but sew back through two 8°s, the 11°s in the loop, and the eight 8°s (c–d).

20] Pick up an 11°, an oval, and an 11°, and sew back through the oval and the end 8° (figure 10, a–b).

21] Pick up an oval and an 11°, and sew back through the oval and two 8°s (b–c). Repeat, but sew through one 8° (c–d). Repeat, but sew through the four 8°s, the loop 11°s, and two 8°s (d–e).

Secure the thread with a few half-hitch knots, and trim.

Mary
Anne
Russell
has
always
enjoyed
art, crafts,
and
needlework.
Years ago,
she made her first visit to a bead
store and fell in love with the
beads’ colors and sparkle. She
started learning about stitches
from basic beading books. She now
creates her own designs but still
enjoys stitching other people’s
designs.

Your wrist will get lots of attention
when you wear this wide bracelet
loaded with sparkling fire-polished
oval beads.

MATERIALS
bracelet 6½ in. (16.5cm)
• 133 Czech 6 x 4mm oval fire-polished
beads (Shipwreck Beads,
800-950-4232, shipwreckbeads.com)
• Japanese seed beads
2g size 8°
2g size 11°
• Nymo D or Fireline 6 lb. test
• beading needles, #12