

THE BEAD HOLD

FABULOUS BEADS, FINDINGS, CLASSES

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GARDEN BRACELET INSTRUCTIONS

Full kitsets, filament cord, silamide and beads are available
online at www.thebeadhold.co.nz



LADY COCKLIN-BAY'S GARDEN BRACELET

INGREDIENTS

- 50cm of Japanese filament cord
- Beading needle and Silamide thread
- 70 - 100 beads of different shapes and sizes
- A selection of seed beads, different shapes and sizes to contrast and compliment your main beads
- A button for the clasp

YOU WILL NEED

- A beading mat to work on
- A sharp pair of scissors

RECIPE

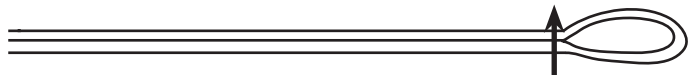
1. Measure off 2 nose - to - arm lengths of thread from your card. Thread your beading needle and then bring the needle to the centre of the thread.



2. Take the bracelet cord and fold it in half.

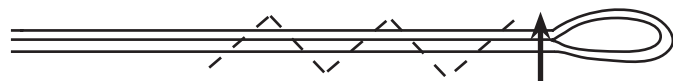


The folded end will form the loop that goes over your button. The loop should be approximately 2/3 the length of your button. Grip the appropriate spot and, using your needle and thread, stitch through both pieces of cord leaving a 5cm tail.

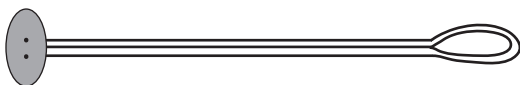


Stitch through both pieces of cord (in almost the same place) back and forward five more times. This is your anchoring stitch. Trim the tail when done.

3. Now, we want to join the two pieces of cord together. Using a zig-zag stitch, tack your way down the cord away from the loop until it is the right size for your wrist. The end of the stitching should come to the middle of the loop when the cord is around your wrist.



4. Lay your button on top of both pieces of cord at the end of your stitching. Sew the button on, keeping your tension tight, going through the cord every time you go up or down a hole. Make sure the toggle is sewn down very firmly.



Cut the remnants of the cord off under the button and sew through the ends several times to stop them from fraying. This is the base of your bracelet.

START TO EMBELLISH YOUR BASE

Tack down the back of the cord approx 2cm away from your button. Stitch up to the top side. Make sure you are coming through the middle of one piece of cord.

NOTE: Every time you sew on a bead, you want to be as close to the middle of the piece of cord you are working on as possible, otherwise the beads will start to roll under the bracelet and be lost to the design.

Now you will start to embellish the your base with your feature beads, using the techniques shown on the reverse of this page.

It is important that you embellish in several 'passes.' First, you will stitch down your main feature beads. Then you will come back down the base for a second 'pass' to with smaller feature beads. You will then make another pass to start filling in the gaps. All in all, you may work up and down the bracelet several times.

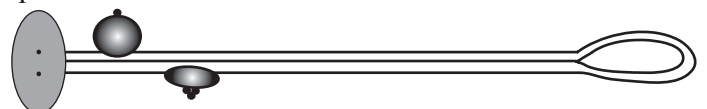
Please note: the following instructions are a guide only. You can make whatever changes you like!

THE FIRST PASS

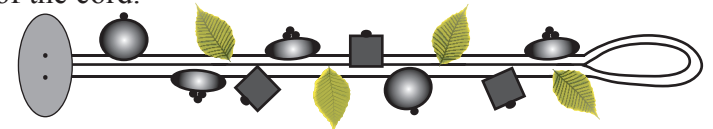
1. Separate out your largest beads and leaves from your bead mix.

2. Pick up a large feature bead then a seed bead and stitch back through the large bead, the same hole and the cord (all together) and pull tight, as per embellishment technique #1. *If you have a large or heavy bead, you will need to go back through it another time or two to keep it from being floppy. It is also a good idea to use 3 - 4 stitches to hold your leaves down in the right direction.*

3. Bring your needle and thread up through the base again, approximately 1cm away from the bead you have just stitched down. You should be on the opposite piece of cord to the first bead. Pick up another feature bead and stitch it down. This time, try using 3 seed beads on top instead of one.



4. Continue in this fashion until you reach the loop end of the cord.



CHANGING YOUR THREAD

Your thread will probably be quite short now. If so, it is a good idea to change the thread before you start your second pass. Come to the back of the bracelet. Stitch through the cord in almost the same place 4 - 5 times, keeping your tension nice and tight. With the last stitches, wrap the thread around the needle before taking the stitch to make a knot.

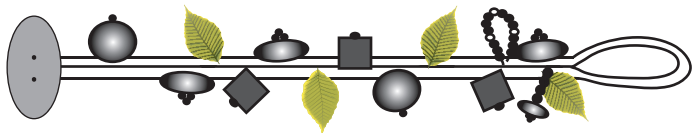
Thread your needle again, and start the new thread in the same way, stitching through the back of the cord 4 - 5 times.

This is what you do every time you need to change your thread throughout the project.

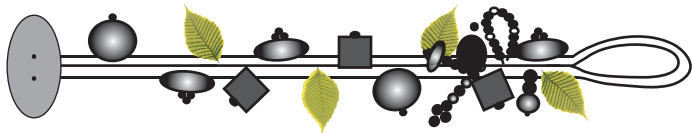
THE SECOND PASS

You are now working back toward the button.

1. Come up the cord in the closest gap to your needle and thread. Make a feature bead ladder. Next, come up a gap on the other piece of cord and make a seed bead loop.



2. Come up another gap, and sew down a smaller feature bead, and then a frond or two right next to it.



Continue in this fashion, using your embellishment techniques to fill in the gaps until you reach the end.

Remember, if you have a button with holes in it, rather than a shank (loop on the back) you will need to embellish it as well, but just with seed beads as anything much bigger will catch on the loop.

CONTINUE EMBELLISHING . . .

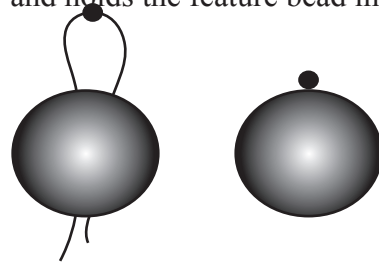
Once you have reached the button end, you will turn and go back toward the loop again, putting beads into every available space and gap. The more beads you add, the lusher the bracelet. Continue until you are happy with the result, and end your last thread very securely.

If some of your first beads are looking a little floppy or not quite right, simply stitch through them again as you get to them on a subsequent pass.

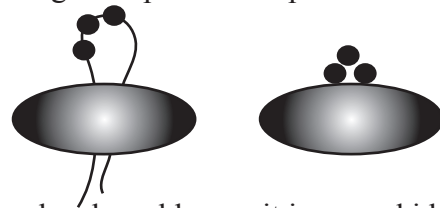
EMBELLISHMENT TECHNIQUES

1. Feature Bead

Pick up a feature bead and one seed bead. Stitch back through the feature bead and the cord (NOT through the seed bead) and pull tight. The seed bead acts as an anchor and holds the feature bead in place.



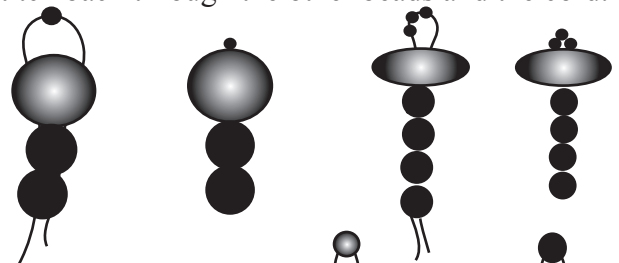
Try using 3 seed beads instead of 1, this will give you a small triangle or 'picot' on top of the feature bead.



For large beads and leaves it is a good idea to stitch through them 2 - 3 times to help keep them in place.

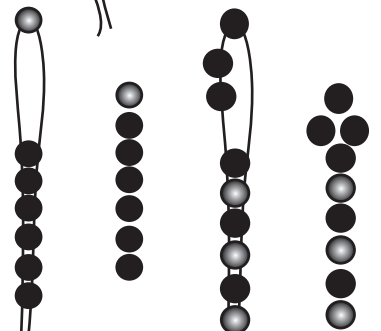
2. Feature Bead Ladder

Build your smaller feature beads up on your larger seed beads. Pick up 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 seed beads (depending on the length you would like), your feature bead, and 1 or 3 small seed beads. Ignore the last seed bead/s and stitch back through the other beads and the cord.



3. Frond

As above, but using a longer length of seed beads to start, and no feature bead.



4. Seed Bead Loop

Pick up a length of seed beads, alternating colours if desired until you have 1 - 2 cm of beads. Now, stitch down through the same hole you are coming out of. The more beads, the bigger the loop.

