

# THE BEAD HOLD

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## Queen Bead's CROCHET NECKLACE Instructions



### MATERIALS NEEDED - all styles

- 1 x spool of Miyuki Crochet Thread
- 1 x tube of #11 seed beads
- 1 x tube of #8 seed beads
- PLUS 1 x tube #6 seed beads or Miyuki Squares or drops if you want a chunkier look
- 20 cm of 22 gauge wire  
OR 20cm tigertail and 4 x crimps
- 2 x bead caps or cones
- a clasp
- 4 x 4mm jumprings

#### FOR A FEATURE BEAD FINISH (back or front) ADD:

- 2 - 6 main feature beads & spacers/framing beads

#### FOR A CHAIN FINISH ADD:

- 2 x main feature beads & spacers/framing beads as desired
- enough chain to make the necklace the desired length. Two strands looks great.
- a nice toggle or hook if you are planning on the feature beads and clasp being a feature at the front of the necklace.

#### FOR A PENDANT FINISH ADD:

- 1 x main feature bead & spacers/framing beads
- 1 x bail, big enough for your crochet strands
- to fit through
- a headpin or 20 gauge wire

### EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- A 3.5mm crochet hook
- A big eye needle
- Sharp scissors
- Chain nose pliers, round nose pliers, wire cutters
- A bead mat to work on
- Clear nail varnish or clear drying glue

### PREPARATION

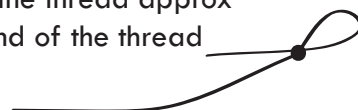
Mix your seed beads together into a 'bead soup' and thread them all onto the crochet thread at random using your big eye needle. The whole middle section of this special needle opens wide - pop the end of the thread through and then start threading.

NOTE: If you are using size 6 etc for a chunkier look, only use half your tube of #11's.

#### **DO NOT cut the thread once they are all on!**

Keep pushing the beads down the thread as you string so you have a clear amount of thread to work with once done.

Knot a loop at the end of the thread approx 1cm long, 8 cm from the end of the thread ready to start crocheting.



## Crochet your Beads

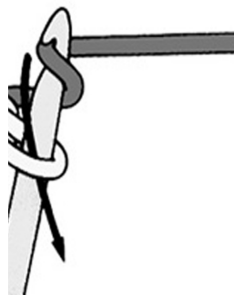
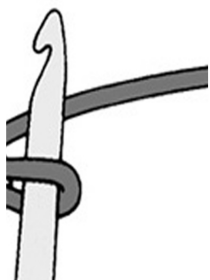
For this project you want to stitch the following pattern: 3 x plain stitches, 1 x beaded stitch, 3 x plain stitches, 1 x beaded stitch etc.

1. Put your crochet hook through the loop you have just made, hook facing you. Hold the length of thread in your other hand, keeping the tension tight.

2. Bring the thread to your right, pass it behind the crochet hook and swing it up so it nestles under the hook.

3. Turn the hook to the left so it catches the thread, and draw the hook and the thread down through your loop.

4. Swing the hook back up so it is vertical again, in the new loop you have created.



Repeat from step 1 to make a continuous chain.

This is a simple chain stitch, and the basis of your necklace. Stitch several plain stitches until you feel comfortable with the technique.

### ADDING BEADS TO THE STITCH

Before making a stitch, push 1 - 2 beads up to the base of your hook. Then make the stitch as above.

### WHAT LENGTH SHOULD I STITCH?

Look at the pictures. The green samples use the entire reel of thread, the purple sample uses approximately half a roll. If you are unsure of how much to crochet, crochet half the roll, finish as shown below and start to put the necklace together. If you look at the base of the necklace and think you want more strands, just start to crochet again. Once finished, knot the start of the new length to the end of the old length. Daub the join with some clear nail polish and it will never be seen in the finished product.

### AS YOU GET TO THE END OF THE THREAD

Be careful you don't lose beads off the end. Use a clamp or some sellotape to act as a stopper.

### I HAVE FINISHED CROCHETING . . .

Finish with three plain stitches. Remove your crochet loop and pull the last tail of thread through the last loop to make a knot. Leave at least a 6cm tail.

### WHAT DO I DO WITH MY TAILS WHEN I HAVE FINISHED THE NECKLACE?

Use the loose tails to knot into a stitch in the body of work. Cut them close and daub the knot with some clear nail varnish.

## Putting the necklace together

This part is the same for all the different styles.

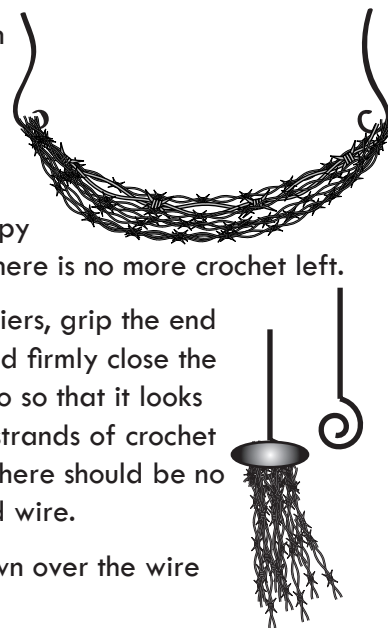
1. Take your 20 gauge wire and cut it in half. Make a large open loop at one end of each piece using your round nose pliers.

2. Get a friend to help you. You hold one piece of wire and they hold the other. Hook the end loop of crochet into their open loop and get them to hold still. Now, hook a section of the crochet into your loop. The length of crochet in between the two of you should be the right length for the crochet part of the necklace.

3. Continue back and forth in this fashion, making sure that each time that you hook into a loop you are going through a stitch. Continue until you are happy with the thickness or until there is no more crochet left.

4. Take your round nose pliers, grip the end of the loop with the tip, and firmly close the loop, overturning as you go so that it looks like a little spiral and the strands of crochet cannot slip out. Note that there should be no gaps between the spiraled wire.

5. Slide a cap or cone down over the wire to hide the join.



### Haven't done much wireworking? Use tigertail instead

Hook the crochet through a length of tigertail in the first steps above instead of wire, then secure it in a loop with two crimps before sliding on the beadcap. Bead or add chain and finish as you normally would with a double crimp. Consider adding a crimp cover at the ends for a neater finish.

### ADD CHAIN

Slide on your bead set and then either wrap the remaining wire or cut it 1cm above the last bead and make a tight lollipop loop. Add your chain and/or clasp using jumprings.

### ADD BEADS e.g. green sample

Slide your beads on the wire. Wrap or lollipop loop the remaining wire. Check the length. You may want to make some additional bead sets and jumprings them together for a beaded chain. Once happy with the length, attach your clasp to the back with jumprings.

### ADD A PENDANT e.g. maroon sample

Slide the bail on over the wire to the middle of the crochet. Finish the back of the necklace with either of the above options. Make your pendant up on the headpin and wrap or jumprings it on to the bail.