



The Bead Hold

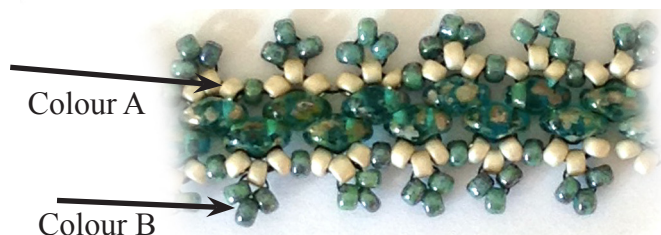
NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER BEADING SUPPLY STORE

Queen Bead's DUAL BEAD BANDS

These bands are great as a stand alone bracelet, stacked with stretch bracelets or more bands, or even elongated into a neckpiece to hold a pendant. Keep it simple, or keep building . . . these bands are fast and fun.

You will need . . .

- approx 56 - 60 Superduo or Rulla beads
- approx 200 Size 11 Japanese seed beads - A
- approx 250 Japanese seed beads - B
- A clasp - I used a small magnetic one
- 2 x #12 beading needle
- Silamide, Fireline or similar.
- A bead mat to work on
- A sharp pair of scissors or thread zapper
- A straight pin
- 1 x Stopper Bead - a size 11 seed bead in a bright colour opposite to what you are using for the project if possible.
- Paper and Pen



Preparation

Thread your needle with 3 good arm lengths of Silamide or Fireline. (I prefer working with 2 strands of thread wherever possible, but if you are using Fireline you can get away with using 1 thread). Bring the needle to the middle of the thread.

Attach a stopper bead 15cm from the end of the thread. Dig your nail into this bead and make sure it can move up and down the thread - you need to be able to adjust it and then remove it at a later date.



Take 3 small squares of paper and mark them with A (size 11 colour 1) and B (size 11 colour 2) and C (SuperDuo/Rulla). Place them at the top of your mat and spill about a half of each tube of seed bead under the appropriate letter.

Changing your thread

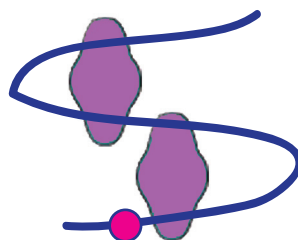
Once your thread is down to approx 12cm, you will need to finish it off and start a new one. Start the new thread first. Thread your other needle, and stitch through a couple of beads below the old needle and thread. Pull the thread through until there is a short tail. Dip the needle between the bead you are coming out of and the next closest bead. You should catch the thread between these beads on the needle. Pull most of the thread through and then stitch through the small loop remaining and pull tight - this is a half hitch knot. Stitch through another few beads and repeat. Stitch up to come through the same bead the old thread is coming out of. Continue on, and after a few cm finish off the old thread in the new stitching. Trim all the tails closely.

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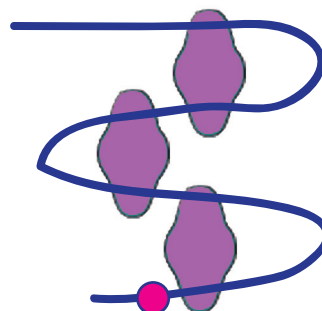
For more patterns and kits visit www.thebeadhold.co.nz

1. Pick up 2 x C and slide it all the way down to the stopper bead. Flick the beads around until they sit staggered. Grip the lower bead (next to the stopper bead) in your fingers and stitch through the top hole of the upper bead. Pull your thread tight and if needed, push the stopper bead up with your nail to help these 2 beads sit close.



NOTE: this is easier with Rullas than superduos! But don't worry - as soon as you have a few on you will be just fine. It is normal for the first bead to be wobbly until the end.

2. Pick up 1 x C and slide it all the way down to sit snug with the previous top bead. Flick the bead around if needed. Stitch through the top hole of the new bead. Pull your thread tight.

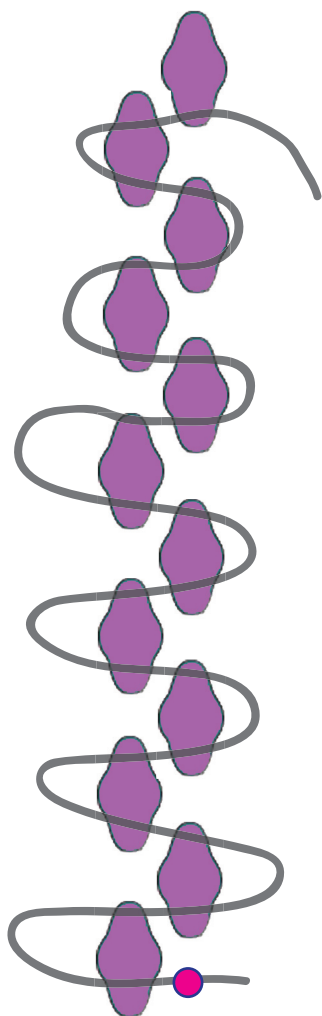


Gripping the previous beads tightly between thumb and forefinger as you add new beads will help your tension stay firm.

Don't worry that you can see the thread on the outside edges - it will be covered up later.

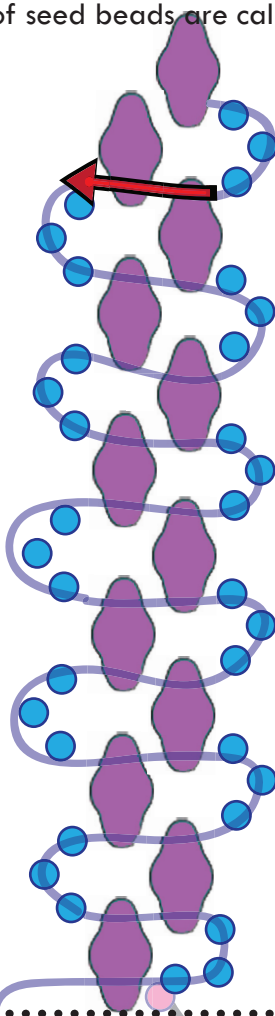
MAKE SURE YOUR TENSION IS FIRM, no matter how awkward it feels wrestling with the beads - it will get easier.

3. Repeat step 2 until the length of beads almost meets around your wrist - better to be a bit short than too long as you can always add a little extra at the other end later if needed. **Finish with the first and last beads staggered as shown below.**



4. You will now add the first row of seed beads, working down toward the stopper bead - stitching across the base through 2 beads at a time.

Pick up 3 x A and stitch straight through the row of base beads to the other side as shown by the red arrow. Repeat as shown, keeping your tension firm. These triangles of seed beads are called 'picots.'



SUPERDUOS

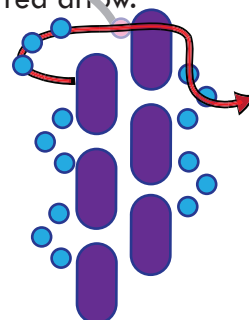


RULLAS

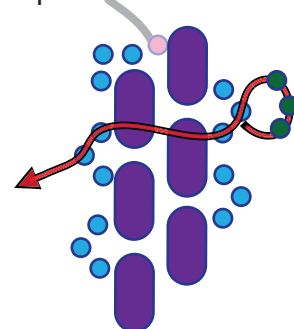
For a plain band (or neck piece) you could finish at this point and add the clasp.

5. FOR RULLAS ONLY

Add the embellishment to create the lace look. Flip the work so the stopper is at the top to the left. Pick up 3 x A and stitch through the top hole of the top Rulla, then through the middle bead of the first picot as shown by the red arrow.



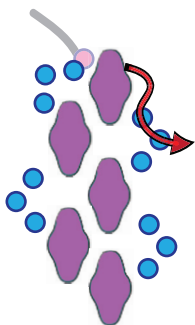
5a. Pick up 3 x B and stitch back around the A you are already coming out of. Gently pull your thread tight and a picot will form. Now stitch through the next A, straight across the base to the other side and to the middle of the A picot as shown below.



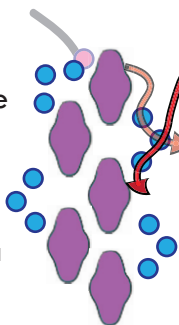
Repeat 5a, working back and forth across the base adding picots until you reach the end. Then go to step 9.

6. FOR SUPERDUOS ONLY

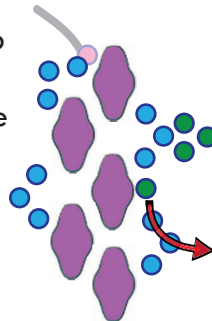
Add the embellishment to create the lace look. Flip the work so the stopper is at the top to the left. Stitch through the middle bead of the first picot as shown by the red arrow. Keep the tension firm.



6a. Pick up 3 x B and stitch back around through the same A bead and the next A bead. Gently pull your thread tight and a picot will form.



6b. Pick up 1 x B and stitch to the center of the next A picot



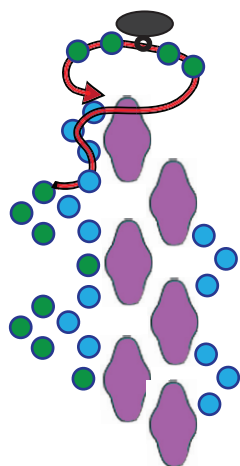
Continue alternating step 6a and 6b all the way down the side until you come out of the last A bead picot.

7. FOR SUPERDUOS ONLY

Pick up 3 x A and stitch up through the upper hole of the top superduo.

Pick up 2 x B, one side of the clasp and 2 x B. stitch around through the top hole of the duo again so a circle is formed.

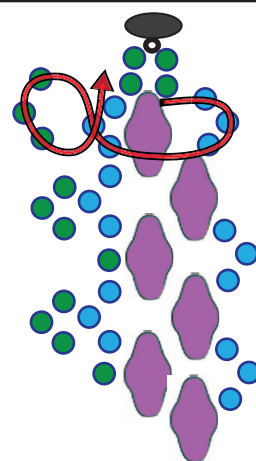
Stitch around this circle of beads 2 more times to make the clasp firm and secure.



7a. Pick up 3 x A and stitch straight back through the lower hole of the duo, to the middle bead of the A picot on that side.

Pick up 3 x B beads and stitch back around through the same A bead to form a picot.

Now stitch through the next A bead and the upper duo hole through to the other side. Stitch to the middle bead of the A picot.



Continue alternating step 6a and 6b all the way down this side until you come out of the last A bead picot.

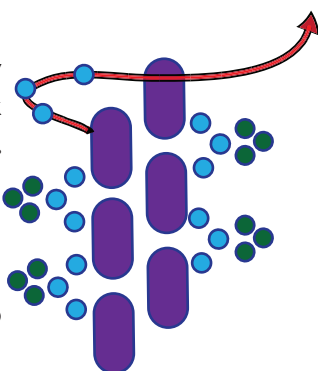
8. FOR SUPERDUOS ONLY Check the length (allow for the clasp plus approx 1cm of seed beads). Add extra duo/s and picots as required. Add the second side of the clasp and finishing embellishments as in step 7 above. If your main thread is running short, finish it, and use the thread tail from the stopper bead to finish off - remember to remove the stopper bead first! Finish your thread/s and trim any loose tails. If you haven't used your long tail, finish it as usual - remove the stopper bead first!

If adding more base beads for length, remember to keep the end beads staggered as per Step 3

9. FOR RULLA'S ONLY

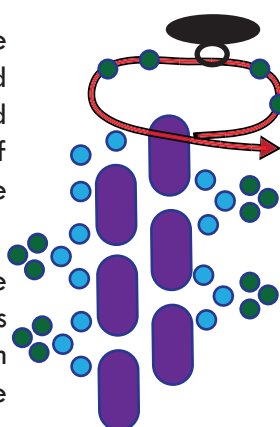
Check the length (allow for the clasp plus approx 1cm of seed beads). Add extra duo/s and picots as required.

Then, pick up 3 x A and stitch through the top hole of the top Rulla



9a. Pick up 2 x B, one side of the clasp and 2 x B. stitch around through the top hole of the duo again so a circle is formed.

Stitch around this circle of beads 2 more times to make the clasp firm and secure. Finish the thread.



9b. Remove the stopper bead at the other end and add the second half of the clasp as per step 9a.

Think about making a couple of plain stretch bracelets to wear with a band, or make 2 or 3 to go together - stacked bracelets are great!

You can find all the materials you need for this project at www.thebeadhold.co.nz