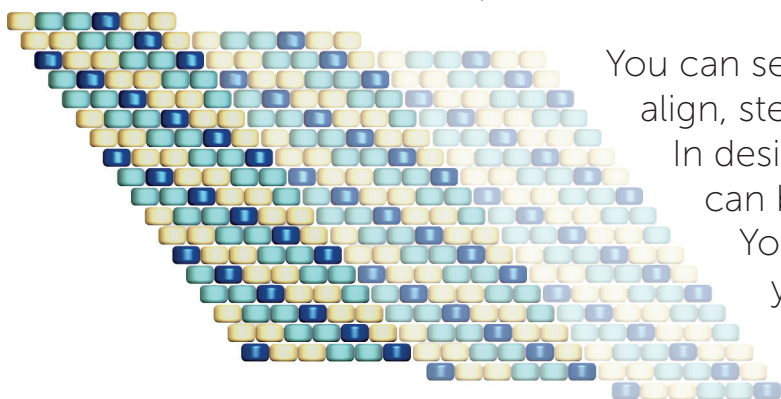
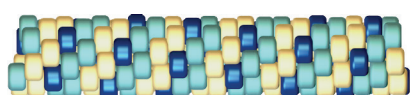


# Designing your own

I have never used bead crochet software, so I can't recommend one. As of this publication, I use a trial-and-error method to work out patterns in Adobe Illustrator, but coloring in design blanks will work beautifully if you don't wish to sink to my nerd level.

**You're designing for a spiral**, so the repeats will not just line up alongside each other; they must continue uninterrupted for the desired length. The repeat "dips" one row down from the original. The design blanks on the following pages have two repeats beyond the original, one in red, one in blue, correctly aligned to the original tube, which is bold-outlined.

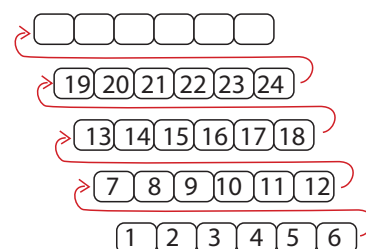
The blanks have 100 rows (rounds) but if you need more you can copy, cut and tape them together. They are slightly distorted narrower to fit on the page so do your math based on the number of rows/rounds you need rather than on the size you measure on the page.



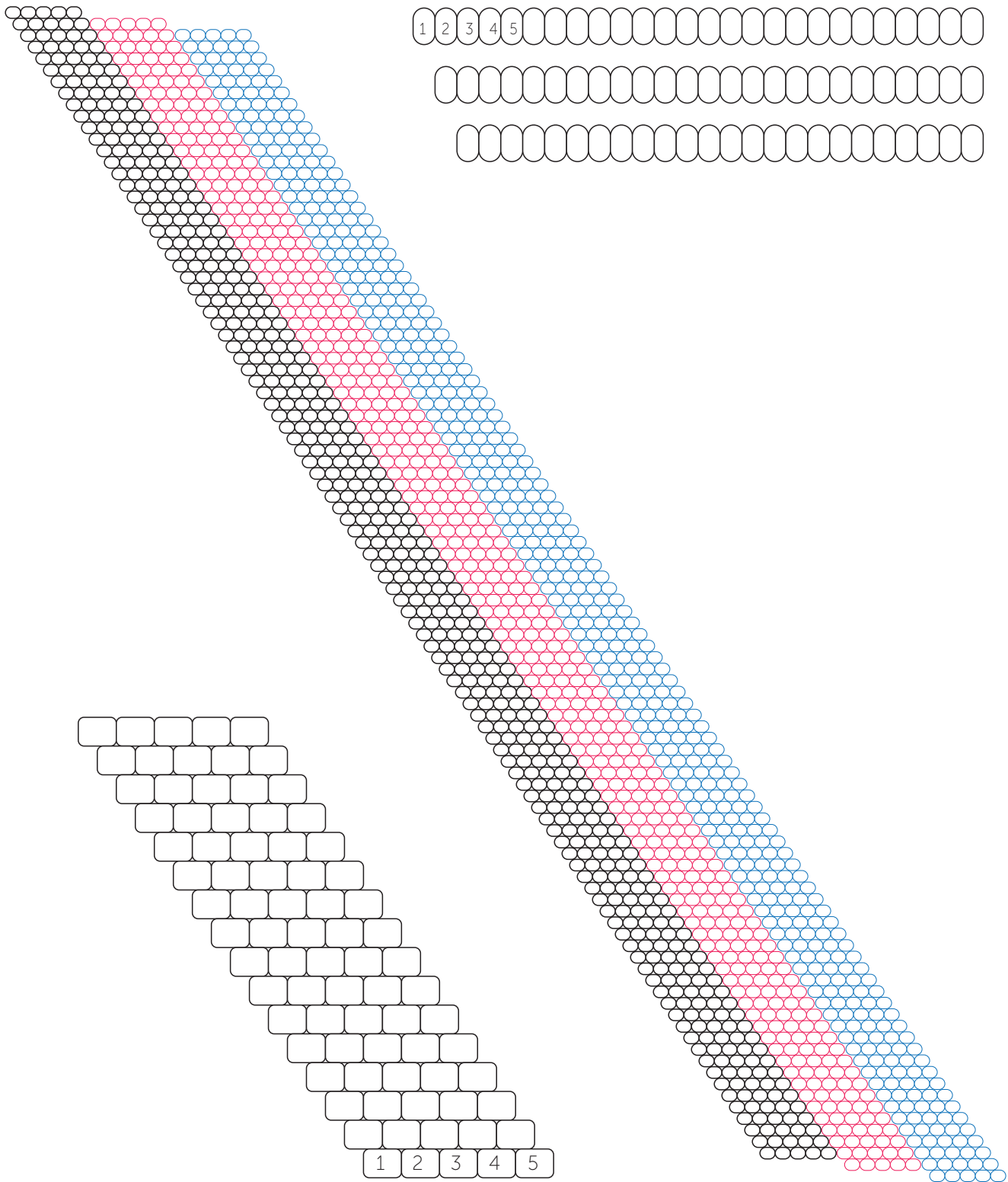
This 6-around pattern has a five-bead repeat. Shown below are three iterations of the flat pattern correctly aligned for a spiral. The original is full-color and the two subsequent patterns are faded.

You can see at left how the overviews align, stepped down one row each time. In designing complex patterns, there can be quite a lot of trial and error. You have to think "spirally" though you're designing on a flat chart.

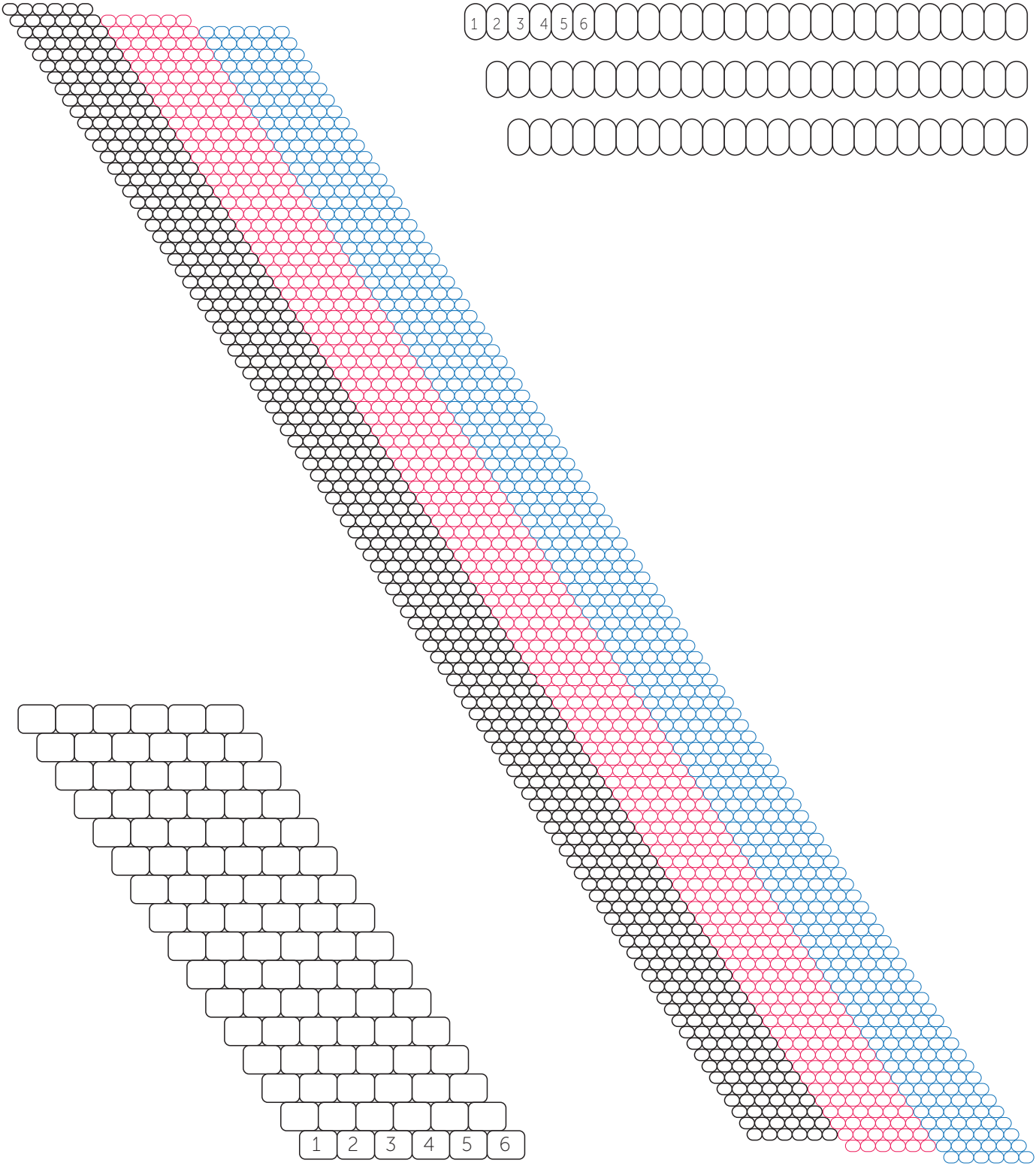
When your overview is ready for threading, start at the bottom left and load beads in order from left to right. Then move up one row and thread those beads from left to right. Continue working upward, left to right, until the pattern is threaded to the desired length.



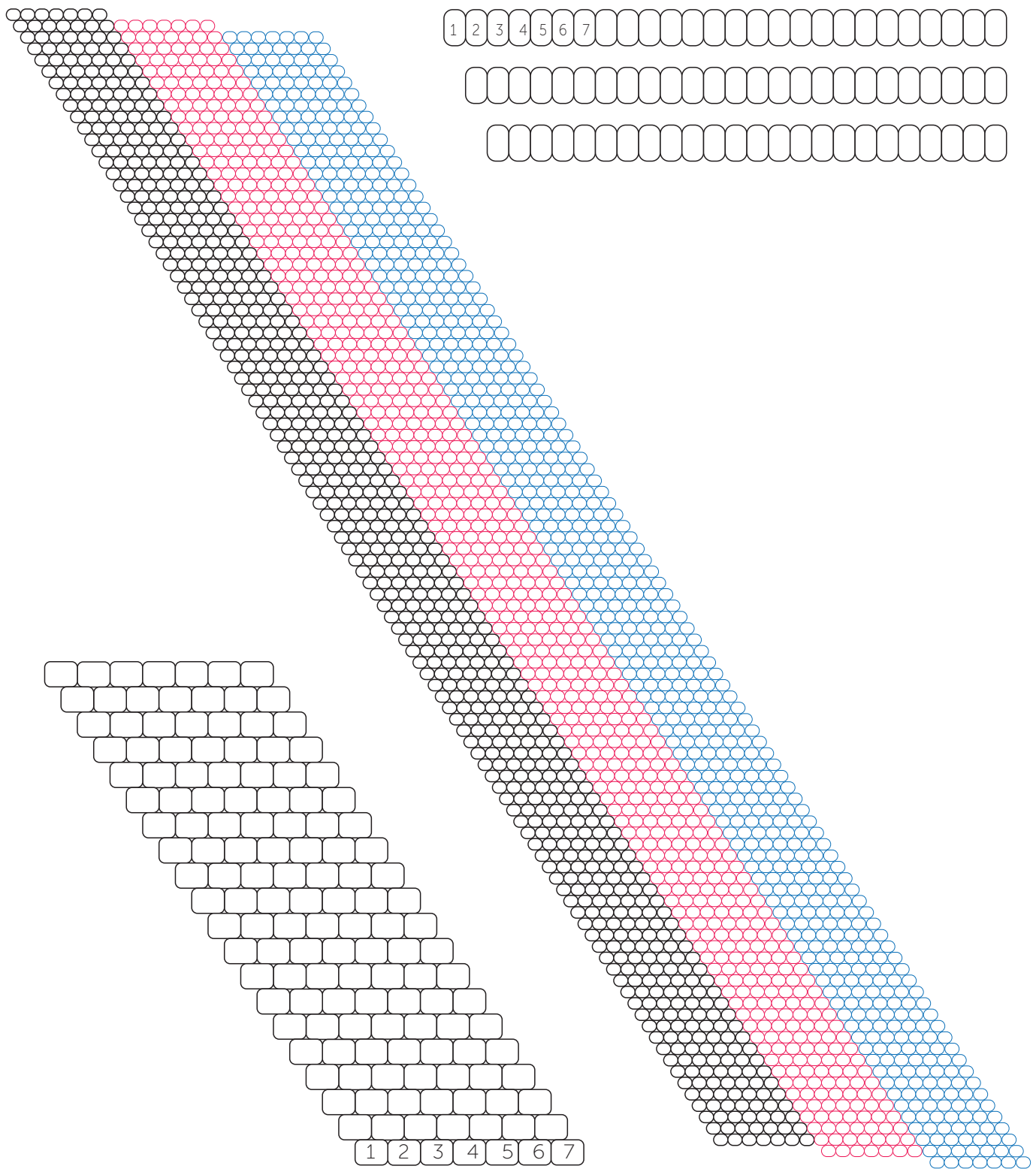
# Five-around design blank



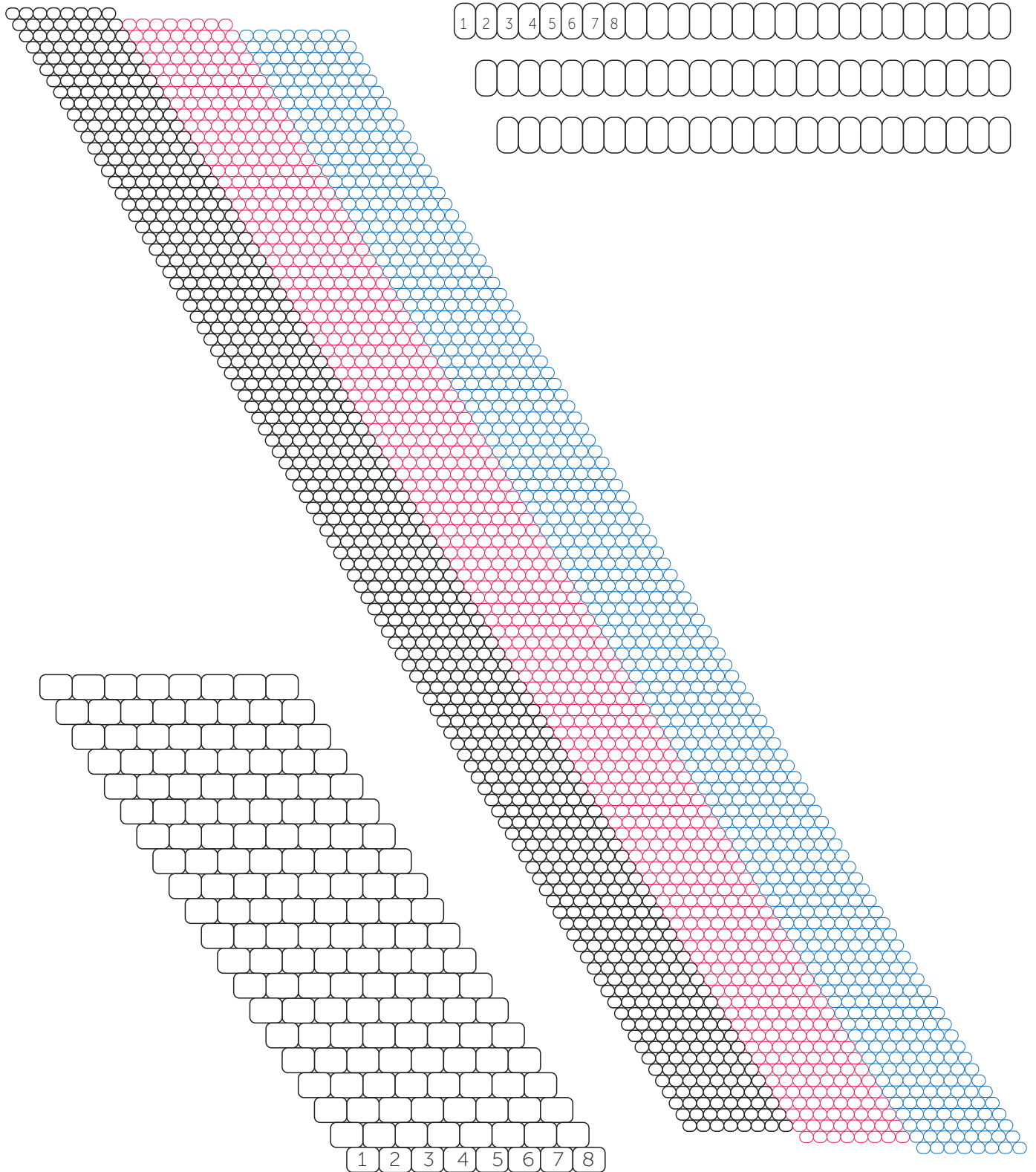
# Six-around design blank



# Seven-round design blank

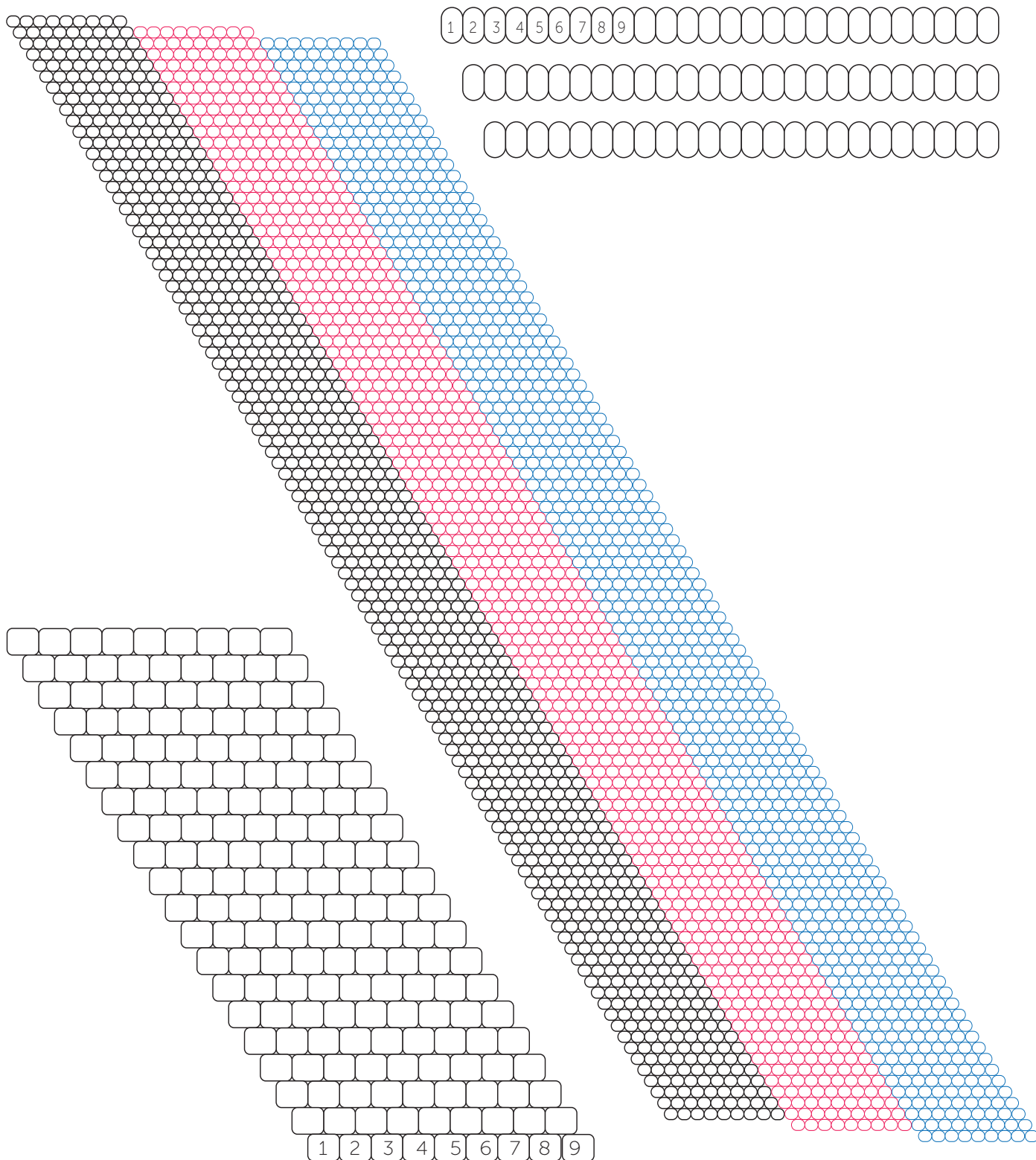


# Eight-around design blank





# Nine-around design blank



# Ten around design blank

