# DESIGNER BEADING PATTERN ANN BENSON

## *Mandala*

### Beaded Component

A uniquely designed bead embroidery motif that can be used singly or in multiples to create dozens of different pieces!

**FREE BEAD EMBROIDERY VIDEO AND PRINT TUTORIALS**

## MATERIALS

Toho 12° three-cut #421 gold-lustered rose (126)

Toho 15° three-cut #262 bronze-lined black diamond AB (187)

Czech 14° #17050 silver-lined topaz (117)

Toho 8° #995 gold-lined aqua AB(12)

Miyuki 6mm twist bugle #1262 matte antique gold (12)

4mm round Asian crystals purple iris (6)

Also: 14mm crystal AB rivoli stone; pattern printed by sublimation on nonwoven; suede/leather backing. Recommended but not included: nylon beading thread in a coordinating color, size 12 gloving needle, size 12 beading needle, glue

**Step 1 Bezel the rivoli to the nonwoven.** The printed pattern is shown (enlarged) at right (1A). The bezel is worked in peyote stitch in the round. If you are unfamiliar with this technique, there is a tutorial at the end of these directions, and a free video tutorial at www.beadseast.com.

The initial ring of the bezel is worked in backstitch, for which there is also a tutorial at the end of these directions. Use 12° three-cut #421; place one bead on each of the dots so there are precisely thirty-six (36) beads in the initial ring (1B). It is essential to the success of this design to have this number of beads in the initial ring.
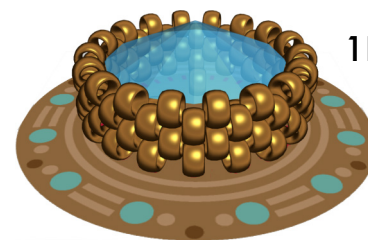
When the ring is complete, stitch three individual 12° within the ring as shown to level the rivoli (1C).
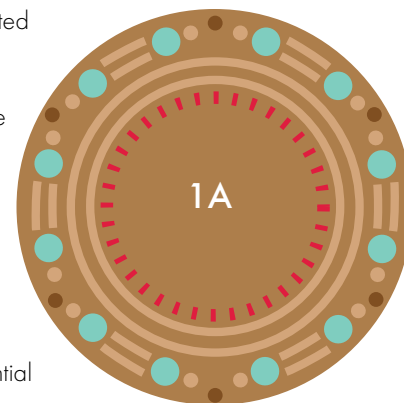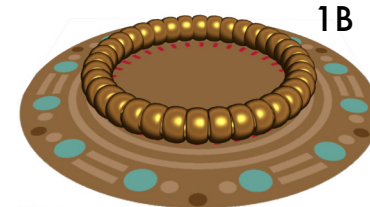
1A

1B

1C
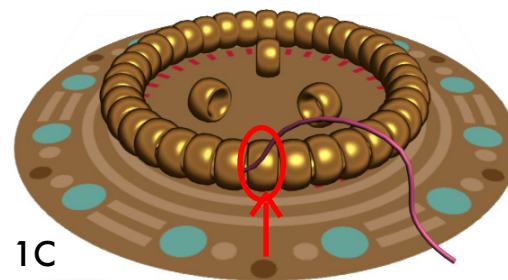
**BEAD ALIGNED TO DARK BROWN DOT**
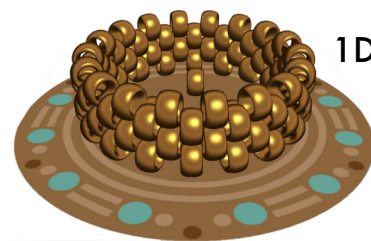
Locate any one of the six beads that are directly aligned with the dark brown dot. Weave through the ring if needed and bring your thread out in the bead just to the left of that aligned bead (1C).

Add two rounds of peyote stitch to create a total of four rounds, as the initial ring comprises the first two rounds (1D).
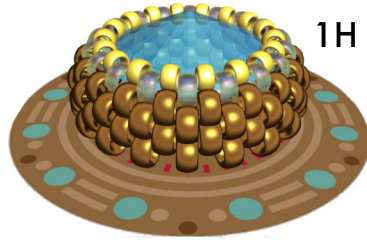
1D

Put a dot of glue into the bezel ring, centered on the three leveling beads 1E. Place the rivoli in the ring, foiled side down (1F). Allow to dry for a few minutes.

1E

1F

**Step 1 Continued.** Add one round of Toho 15° three-cut #262 (1G) and one round of Czech 14o #17050 (1H). This completes the bezel.
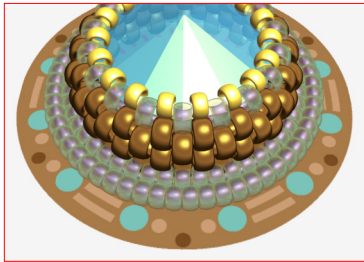
1G
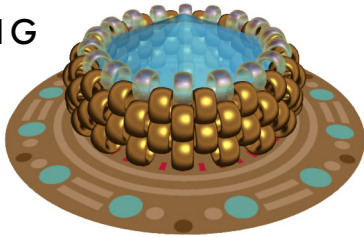
1H

**Step 2 Add beads around the bezel.** Use Toho 15° three-cut #262 to stitch two complete rounds in backstitch, following the lines on the pattern. You do not need to place a specific number of beads in these rounds; just space them evenly.

**Step 3 Add decorations to the bezel.** The over-view at right (3A) shows the completed decorations from an overhead view before the bugle bead points are secured to the nonwoven.

3B

3C
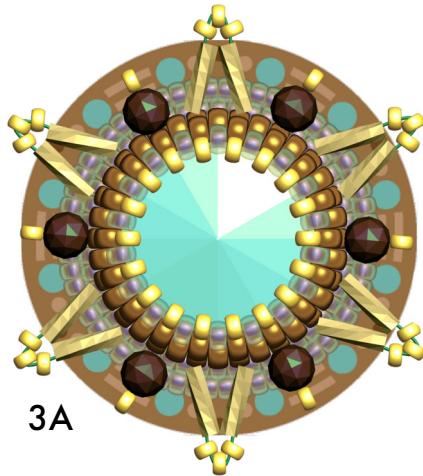
3A

All decorations are made in the second round from the top of 12o's, (the fourth round from the top in total). You'll make two entire passes of thread through the decorations. Note the positioning of the bugle beads shown in 3B; they straddle a bead that is directly aligned with the dark brown dot.

In the second thread pass, add three 14o's to the point of each bugle pair to form a three-bead picot. Choose a center 14o with a large hole as you'll be attaching through this bead.
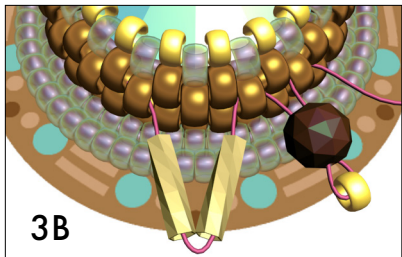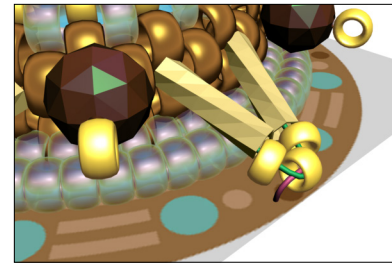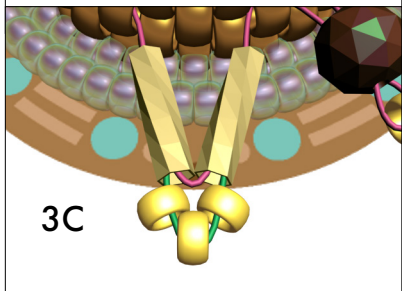
**Step 3 continued.** Secure the center bead of each picot to the dark brown dot on the pattern all around. The crystals remain unsecured. As you work around the pattern, be sure to keep your stitching thread within the printed area of the non-woven. You can make a small stitch between the points, which will be covered in beads later.
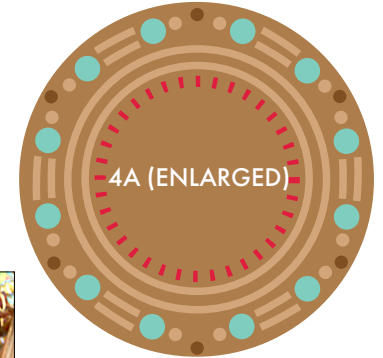
**Step 4 Complete the beading between the bugle points.** Add the 8o's, each anchored with one 14o, and then the short rows of 15° cuts as shown in 4A and 4B. Remember to keep all your stitching threads within the printed area.

- ● 8° anchored with 14°
- ╲ Group of three 15° cuts
- ● Individual 15° cut

4A (ENLARGED)

4B

**Step 5 Glue the completed beadwork to the leather backing.** Spread a thin even layer of glue on the back of the beadwork, making sure to go outside the threading just a bit. Press out any air bubbles with your fingertips and allow to dry thoroughly.

6A

6B
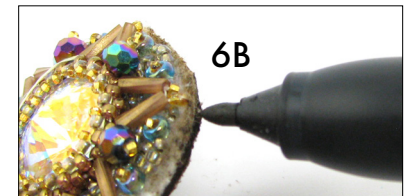
**Step 6 Trim the excess nonwoven and leather.** Take care not to cut any stitching threads (6A). Optional but recommended: color the visible white edge of the nonwoven with a permanent marker of similar color (6B).

**Step 7 Add the beaded edging.** Use 12°s for the entire edging. Start the edging at one of the bugle points; place one bead there, then place eight beads in the gap between that point and the next point. Place another edge bead at the next point, so you have one bead at each point and eight beads between points all around, for a total of fifty-four edge beads. NOTE: If you are using the component singly, the placement of the edge beads is not critical. If you plan to use more than one in combination, it will be easier to make the attachments if the edge beads are placed in this manner.

BEAD AT POINT

EIGHT BEADS BETWEEN POINTS

BEAD AT POINT

## BASIC BEAD EDGING

A    B    C    D
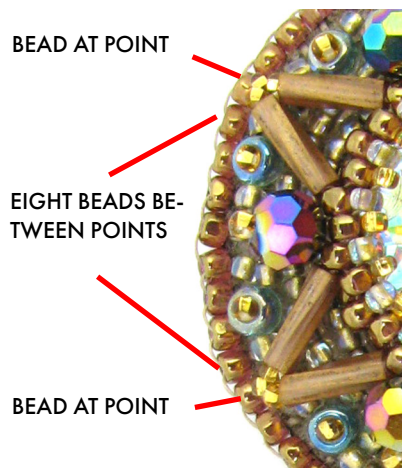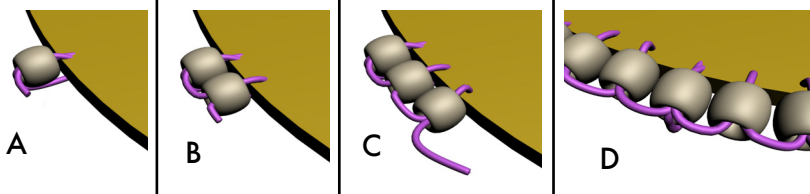
Bring your thread out within 1/16th inch of the trimmed edge. Pick up one bead. Run the thread from back to front in a loop, bringing the thread out very close to the initial emergence point. Tighten the thread to bring the bead close to the edge (A). Pick up another bead, the bring the thread from front to back about one bead's width away from the first thread. Run the thread through the added bead in the opposite direction and tighten the thread until the bead sits neatly on the edge (B). The first bead will not sit as neatly as the second. Repeat as for the second bead (C), continuing around the edge until you meet up with the first bead. To connect the last bead to the first bead, run the thread that emerges from the last bead through the first bead, from outside to inside (13D). Tighten the thread; the first bead should sit more neatly. Now secure the thread within the nonwoven and trim it.

**Step 8 Optional picot edging.** Depending on your end use, you may want to add a picoted edging all around. Use 14°s and follow the thread path shown at right. It's a good idea to review the options for finishing before you decide to add this edging.
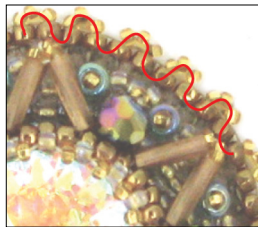
# Finishing options

**We've detailed seven easy-to-create options for you, but we encourage you to experiment with your own combinations!**

**OPTION 1 Ring.** Using flat peyote stitch (tutorial, end of directions), create a band that just encircles your finger. Join the ends of the band together. Add a picoted edging all around on both sides of the band. Stitch the joined band to the center back of the completed mandala. You'll need to use a sharp angle to avoid hitting the rivoli with your needle.
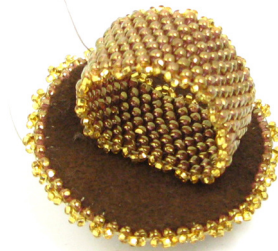
**OPTION 2 Brooch.** Use a metal pin back. Attach it near the top of the back so the brooch will sit in the desired position when you wear it. This photo shows a different component design. A thin line of glue under the pin back will help to make it more secure, but don't depend on glue alone or the component may fall off.

**OPTION 3 Pendant.** Create a bail of flat, odd-count peyote stitch, so the band has eighteen beads on each long edge. Trim the band with picots.





Center one end of the peyote strip either between two bugle points or spanning one bugle point. Stitch the top of the bail to the back of the leather; fold the strip over and stitch the other end to the leather, about 1/4" lower than the first end. Slip your own leather cord, ribbon, or chain through the bail to wear.



**OPTION 4 Earrings.** Choose an edging picot through which to attach the ear wire; reinforce that edging picot with a second pass of thread. Secure and trim the excess thread. Using a small plier, open the loop on the ear wire and slip it through the reinforced picot. Close the ear wire loop carefully.



**OPTION 5 Bracelet on leather.** Use a double layer of leather for strength; you may want to add a layer of nonwoven between the leathers for support. Glue all the layers together and allow to dry. Create a strip as shown here using 12°s as the edge bead and 14°s for the picots. Size the strip to fit your wrist, allowing for the type of clasp you want to use.
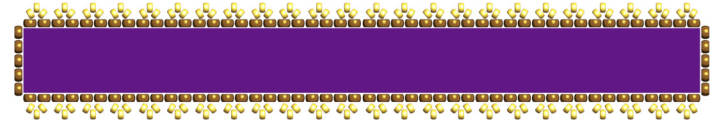


On this type of bracelet, you can use a mechanical clasp, attached with loops of beads, or a loop of beads and a button, or a beaded toggle clasp. Leaving the short ends undecorated will allow for any type of clasp.





If you have a small wrist, you may want to add only one mandala. For a larger wrist, you can add three. Secure the completed mandalas in the desired position(s). Glue each mandala in place, then reinforce with a few invisible stitches. To keep your stitches invisible on the back of the leather band, insert the needle very close to where it emerged as you started the stitch.

And heres' another possibility using leather strips: Make two strips of equal length and attach them to the mandala in a V-shape. Create a "medallion" necklace in this manner!

**OPTION 6 Bracelet with peyote straps.** You can build a strip of peyote stitch out of the edge beads. Attach four 12°s to the edge beads as shown at left; these will be the foundation for the peyote strip.

The strip should be seven beads wide; you can work in odd-count peyote (tutorial, end of directions) if you are comfortable with that, or work a six-bead band in peyote and add the seventh row in brick stitch.

If you're using only one mandala as the centerpiece to the bracelet, simply work outward until the strips are the desired length. You can use a loop and button, a buttonhole and button, or a beaded toggle. Examples of how to end the peyote strips are shown here at right.
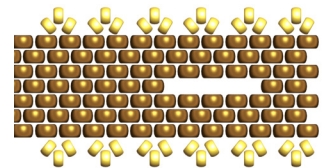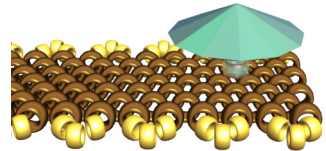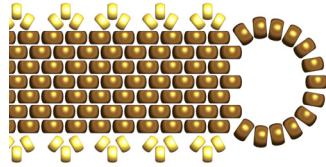
If you're using three or more, join them with bridges of beads. You can incorporate the joining with the picot edging. Start at one end of the peyote and add picots until you reach the joining point. Add the three-span bridge as shown above, the continue with the picots. Work in this manner until you reach the end of the opposite peyote strip. Now start on the un-picoted side of the peyote and add picots, making a second pass of thread through the three-span bridge. Minor adjustments in sizing can be made in these bridges by adding more beads. The outer two spans should have one more bead each then the inner span.

**OPTION 7 Necklace with multiple mandalas.** In the example shown above, the picots are woven together to form the attachments. But you can also use 12°s for a stronger attachment.

You can attach the mandalas at slight angles or more acute angles, depending on the look you want. To create an angled joint, stitch two opposing edge beads together, then make a span below that with one bead for a gentle angle, or more than one bead for a sharper angle. Lay your mandalas out on a flat surface to decide the appropriate angle; this will help you to determine how many beads to use in the lower span.

IN THIS EXAMPLE, TWO DIRECT JOINTS ARE MADE, WITH A ONE BEAD SPAN BELOW, TO CREATE A GENTLE ANGLE FOR A LONGER NECKLACE.

# The sky's the limit! We know you'll come up with some amazing beaded jewelry!

# BASIC PEYOTE STITCH IN THE ROUND
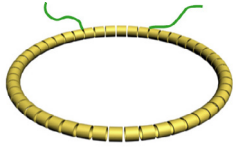
Peyote stitch in the round starts with an even numbered ring of beads. Your specific directions will tell you how many beads should be threaded. Create the ring by running the thread back through several beads. This ring will later become the first TWO rounds of stitching.

Pick up one bead, skip one bead on the initial ring, then run the thread through the next bead on the ring. As you tighten the thread you'll notice that the beads shift their positions and form a "zipper tooth" pattern.
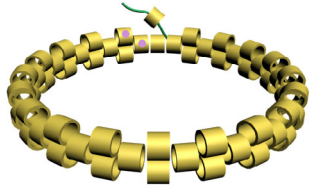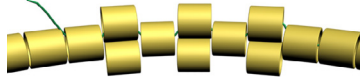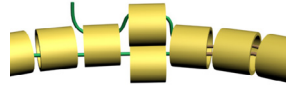
At the end of each round, prior to starting the new round, you must "step up". When you have three beads left on the initial ring and your thread emerges from the first of those beads, you're ready to step up. After picking up the bead to be added, go through TWO beads (shown dotted in orchid) on the upward diagonal. When you tighten the thread, your three-round ring will have no visible start or end.
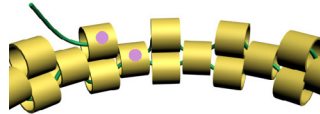
In subsequent rounds, you'll recognize the step up by the distinctive V-shaped gap at the end of the round. Again, you'll pick up your bead and go through TWO beads on the upward diagonal (shown in orchid).
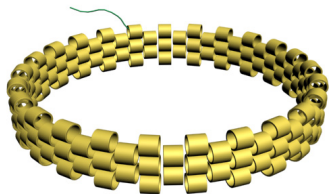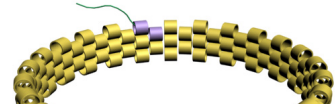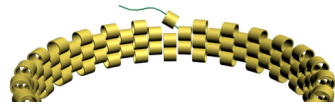
Continue in this manner, adding rounds as your directions specify, stepping up in preparation for each new round. Add and end threads by weaving invisibly into the existing peyote stitch.

# BASIC EVEN-COUNT FLAT PEYOTE STITCH

Flat peyote stitch starts with an initial threading of an even number of beads. This threading will become the first TWO rows as the next row is added. When the initial threading is correct, pick up the first bead of the third row. Skip one bead and run through the next. Continue across the row, skipping every other bead. A zipper pattern will emerge. Do not allow the weave to twist. At the end of each row, reverse direction to start the next row. Add and end threads by weaving invisibly into the existing peyote stitch.
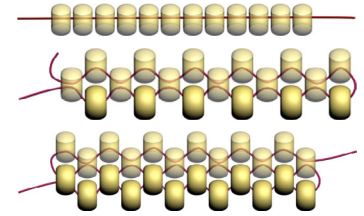
In odd-count peyote stitch, you will make a figure-eight pass of thread at the end of every other row to position the needle correctly for the next row. We strongly suggest that you visit www.beadseast.com for a complete tutorial on all forms of peyote stitch.
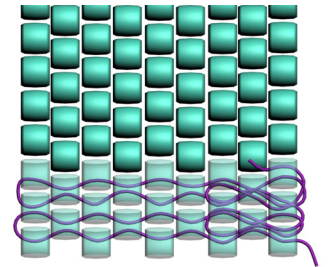
**BACKSTITCH** Make a small knot on the end of a 30" thread. Bring the thread up anywhere on the initial ring line. Pick up two beads, lay them on the perimeter, then run down through the perimeter at the end of the beads. Bring the thread up again in the original hole, then run through the two beads.
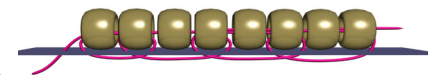
Pick up two more beads, lay them on the perimeter, and run down at the end of the beads. Skip backward and bring the thread up between the first and second beads, (three beads back). Run through the three beads and pick up two more beads. Continue in this two-beads-forward, three-beads-back manner until there is a complete ring with an even number of beads secured to the surface.