DESIGNER TECHNIQUE TUTORIAL ANN BENSON Tapestry bead crochet

Tapestry bead crochet is essentially traditional single crochet with a bead slipped at a certain point in the stitch. Unlike tubular bead crochet and Euro bead crochet (both continuous spirals of stitches) tapestry bead crochet is worked in rounds with a step-up at the end of each round.

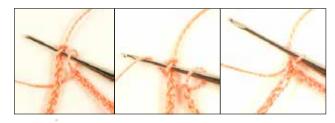
START WITH A SLIP KNOT Form a "pretzel" loop as shown) and pull up the center; tighten the thread to form a movable knot.



MAKE A FOUNDATION CHAIN Wrap the thread around the hook from from back to front, pull the thread through the slip knot to form a loop. Continue in the same manner to form the number of chains given in your project's specific directions. The chain can can be pressed flat prior to continuing.



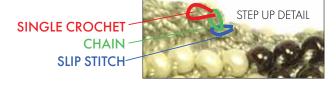


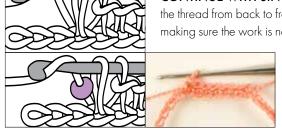


JOIN THE CHAIN INTO A RING WITH A SLIP STITCH. MAKE SURE THE CHAIN IS NOT TWISTED! Insert the hook into the first chain and pull a thread loop through both loops.



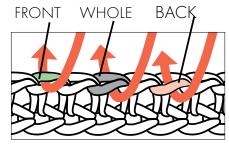
STEP UP to start the new round. Chain 1; insert the hook into the same space as the slip stitch. Pull up a loop, wrap the thread from back to front over the hook. Pull the thread through both loops (first single crochet of the new round).





CONTINUE WITH SINGLE CROCHET STITCHES: insert the hook into the WHOLE chain stitch, pull up a loop, wrap the thread from back to front over the hook, pull the thread through both loops. Do this in every chain on the foundation, making sure the work is not twisted. At the end of the round, to start the step up, join the last single crochet to the first with a slip stitch.

To form a beaded crochet, bring one bead down the thread and nestle it against the pulled-up loop. Wrap the thread as usual, then pull the wrapped thread through both loops, forming the single crochet with the bead caught in the stitch. The beads will position themselves on the outside of the dense fabric you create with single crochet and beads.





TO JOIN A THE THREAD OF A NEW SECTION, simply pull a loop of thread from the new threading into the last loop of the old thread, then continue as if it were the same thread. Secure the thread ends within the crocheted fabric on the wrong side of the work; clip the excess.