

Basic Beading Stitches

Even Count Peyote

Even Count Peyote is perhaps one of the most versatile beading stitches used for making jewelry. Many complex jewelry designs incorporate this basic stitch with other beading stitches to create stunning works of art.

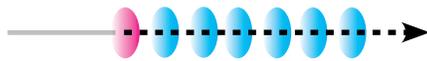


Stop (End Bead)

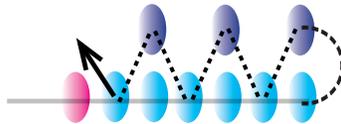
To keep your work secure and good tension, start your work with a Stop Bead. Simply pass through a bead twice in the same direction, leaving at least 6 inches of tail with your beading thread. Once you have completed your project, this bead can be easily removed.

Even Count Peyote

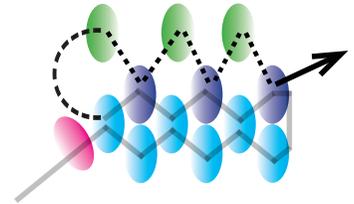
Even Count Peyote is a VERY easy stitch once you have the first couple of rows completed – so don't be frustrated on your first couple of attempts at getting started! After stringing the beginning rows of this stitch, the beads will automatically slip into place resembling a brick wall. Once the beads are at this point it's simply a matter of filling in the blank spots with new beads on each row. **The key to this stitch is to ALWAYS use an EVEN number of beads!**



After stringing your Stop Bead, pick up an even amount of beads and keep them snug against the end bead. This is your first row of Peyote.



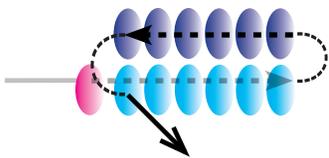
Start the next row by picking up a bead and pass back through the 2nd to last bead of the previous row (skip one). Pick up another bead and pass through the 4th to last bead in the previous row (skipping one bead). Continue adding beads in this manner down the row, always skipping one bead from the previous row.



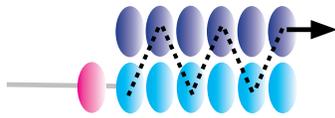
After adding the previous row, the beads should shift resembling stacked bricks. To start the next row, pick up one bead and pass through the 2nd to last bead of the previous row – this bead should be the first bead that is 'sticking up'. Pick up a new bead and pass through the next bead in the pattern, simply filling in the 'gaps' of the row until reaching the end. Repeat this process for creating your piece of Peyote Stitch.

Navajo Peyote Stitch (Even Count)

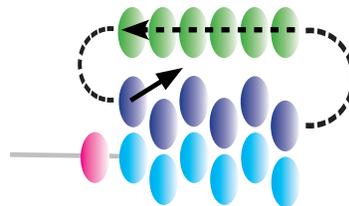
In this modified version of Even Count Peyote, an entire row of beads is added at one time and then woven through the two rows. This version creates an even, sharp edge on your completed work and generally has tighter more even tension when stringing.



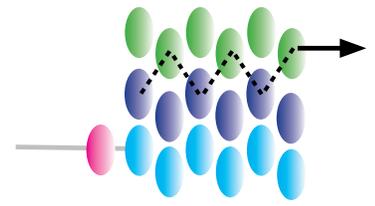
After adding a Stop Bead, pick up an EVEN amount of beads for your first row of Peyote. Next string the same number of beads as the first row and pass through the last bead of the first row (next to your Stop Bead) in the same direction, creating a loop with both rows of beads added.



Begin weaving through the rows of beads as shown, alternating between the rows. Beginning out of the last bead of the first row, pass through the 2nd to last bead of the second row. Then pass back down through the 3rd to last bead of the first row. An easy way to keep the pattern is to remember to always skip one bead of the previous row.



Once the first two rows of beads are woven together, they should automatically take the shape of Peyote resembling a brick wall. Begin the next row by picking up the appropriate number of beads for the row and pass through the last bead on the opposite end of the row towards the inside of your work.



Weave the new and previous row together as before. Repeat these steps for each new row of Peyote until your project is complete.

