



SEED PEARL BRACELET

Carol Cypher



Interweave®
beading & jewelryprojects

©F+W Media, Inc. All rights reserved. F+W Media grants permission for any or all pages in this issue to be copied for personal use. Join the online jewelry community at www.Interweave.com.

SEED PEARL BRACELET *Carol Cypher*

MATERIALS

10g matte metallic bronze 8° seed beads (A)
6g ceylon-lined aqua size 15° seed beads (B)
1.5 16" strands or 4.7g ivory 2mm seed pearls (P)
20mm Stick pearl
10 lb crystal Fireline beading thread

TOOLS

Size 12 Tulip brand beading needle
Scissors
Skewer
Task lamp
Bead Mat

STEP 1. Use a wingspan plus an extra foot (for a foot-long tail). You'll return to that tail thread later for making the stick pearl toggle for toggle and loop closure.

Round 1 (foundation ring): Pick up 1A and 1P four times (8 beads); tie them into a ring leaving a 12" tail.

NOTE*** Beading in the direction of your handedness: righties to the right and lefties to the left, will produce more consistent results.

Look at the ring of beads. The knot is between A and P. For righties, hold the beads so the P adjacent to the knot is to your right. If this is not the case, simply flip the work. For lefties, hold the beads so the P adjacent to the knot is to your left. If this is not the case, simply flip the work.

Round 2 (netting): Pick up 1A, 1P, and 2B; pass through the next A. Pick up 1A, 1P, and 2B; pass through the next A.

A FEW NOTES ABOUT POLYGON STITCH:

Now that you've laid the foundation, you will bead the next several inches using polygon stitch. polygon stitch is these 3 steps: 1. pass through a bead, 2. pick up the beads for that side/stitch, 3. pass the needle up under the thread **between** the beads.

- Yes, the thread skips over the last bead of the stitch on its way to the first bead of the next stitch. This is what causes the tube to collapse into sides or faces, unlike all other tubular beadwork.
- Once you've passed the needle up under the thread, it is helpful to slide your thumb nail of the hand holding the beadwork so it is under the stitch, locking the thread into position between the correct pair of beads as you pull the thread taut with your dominant hand. Then, with that same thumb, press the new stitch up onto the previous ones, stacking the beadwork as you go.
- Rotate the beadwork after each stitch so the beads are situated for your next stitch. Your comfort and ease are important. Don't feel obliged to contort to reach the next stitch.

- **Adding thread:** weave old thread into new beadwork and new thread into old beadwork. Avoid the temptation to weave a new thread up through the vertical beads of the edge. Stop beading when your working thread is no shorter than 8". Pass through the first 1A of the next stitch. And tie a half-hitch knot. On another needle thread a wingspan. Fold a piece of masking tape over the thread, marking an 8" tail. Pass through the same bead the old thread is exiting and in the same Direction. Take the time to actually tie the two threads together here. Yes, it is unusual for me to advise you to tie a knot and is particular to this stitch. Now weave the short thread in as follows: Pass through a P, make a half hitch, pass through the next P in that same stitch, make a half hitch and pass through the third P before making another half hitch. Pass through a few B before cutting the thread. Continue beading with the new thread. After completing a couple rounds, slide the tape off the tail of the new thread. Put a needle on it and weave it into the previous beadwork making half hitch knots between beads.

Round 3 (polygon stitch): Pass through the next A. Pick up 1A, 3P, and 2B; pass the needle up under the thread between the next P and 2B in the previous round. Repeat once.

Rounds 4 and on: Repeat Round 3 until the ends can reach around your wrist, minus 1" for the clasp. Work one more round, picking up 1A, 2P, and 2B. Set this working thread aside to work the loop after attaching the toggle.

Toggle: Place a needle on the tail. Pick up 8B, (or enough to equal at least half the length of the stick pearl) the stick pearl, and 3P; snug the beads and pass back through the stick pearl. Pick up 8B and pass through the opposite A in the ring. Stitch the four strands of 5B together to reinforce. Secure the thread and trim.

Loop: At the far end, pick up 27B (or enough to accommodate the toggle); pass through the opposite A of the last round. Weave a few rounds of 3-drop peyote stitch, pick up BPB, skip 3 beads and pass through 3 beads. Secure the thread and trim.

