



Earthen Treasure Necklace

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Combining segments of tubular herringbone stitch and chenille stitch with contrasting drop beads results in an everyday necklace with toothsome texture.

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TECHNIQUES

ladder stitch
peyote stitch
chenille stitch
tubular herringbone stitch
square stitch

PROJECT LEVEL ○○○

MATERIALS

0.5 g permanent finish (PF) dark gold size 15° seed beads (A)
10 g PF dark gold size 11° seed beads (B)
15 g PF dark gold size 8° seed beads (C)
25 g hybrid brown size 8° seed beads (D)
5 g turquoise 3.4mm Japanese drop beads (E)
Smoke 6 lb braided beading thread
1" piece of wooden toothpick with sanded edges

TOOLS

Scissors
Size 10 or 11 beading needle

FINISHED SIZE

22"

1) **CLASP BAR.** Use odd-count flat peyote stitch and square stitch to form the clasp bar:
Rows 1 and 2: Use 20" of thread to string 13B, leaving a 6" tail.

Row 3: String 1B, skip the last B strung in the previous row and pass through the next B; repeat five times. String 1B; tie a knot with the working and tail threads, and pass back through the last B added.

Rows 4–12: Continue using B to work odd-count peyote stitch for a total of 12 rows.

Tube: Fold the first and last rows so that the beads interlock like a zipper; weave the beads together to form a seamless tube. Exit from 1B at the end of the tube.

End 1: String 1A, 1E, and 1A; skip 1B along the end of the tube, pass down through the next B at the end of the tube, and pass up through the next B (Fig. 1, blue thread). String 1A; pass back through the E. String 1A; pass down through the B next to the B where the thread originally exited (Fig. 1, red thread). Weave through beads to exit from 1B at the center of the tube.

Loop: String 2B; pass through the last B exited and the first B just added so that the 2B sit side-by-side. Snug the beads but not too tightly so that the beadwork will bend properly later (Fig. 2, green thread). String 2B; pass down through the second B previously added (on the right), through the original B exited on the tube, and up through the left 2B in the stack (Fig. 2, blue thread). String 2B; pass down through the top right B in the stack, up

through the next left B of the same row, and up through the first B just added (Fig. 2, red thread). Continue working square stitch for a total of 12 bead pairs. Bend the strip so the final row touches the tube; pass through a center B next to the one where the strip began, then pass up through the last row of the stack. Repeat the thread path to reinforce. Weave through beads to exit from 1B at the open end of the tube.

End 2: Insert the toothpick into the toggle bar tube. Repeat End 1, enclosing the toothpick within the tube; secure the thread and trim. Set the toggle bar aside.

2) **CLASP RING.** Use tubular peyote and herringbone stitches to form a triangular clasp ring:

Ring Rounds 1 and 2: Use 4' of thread to string {5D and 1C} three times, then string 6D, leaving a 16" tail; pass through all the beads to form a ring. Pass through the first 5C (Fig. 3, purple thread).

Ring Round 3: String 2C; pass through the next D of the previous round. String 1D, skip 1D of the previous round, and pass through the following D; repeat. Repeat from the beginning of this round twice. String 1D, skip 1D of the previous round, and pass through the following D; repeat twice. Step up through the first C added in this round (Fig. 3, green thread).

Ring Round 4: Work 1 stitch with 2C, then work 3 stitches with 1D in each stitch; repeat twice. Work 3 stitches with 1D in each stitch. Step up through the first C added in this round (Fig. 3, blue thread).

Ring Round 5: Work 13 stitches with 1E in each stitch, 3 stitches with 1D in each stitch, and 2 stitches with 1E in each stitch. Weave through beads to exit from the nearest C in Ring Round 1, toward the side with the most D (Fig. 3, red thread).

Ring Round 6: Work 12 stitches with 1D in each stitch. Weave through beads to step up through 1D just before the next corner C of Ring Round 1, exiting away from the side with the most D.

Ring Rounds 7 and 8: Repeat Ring Rounds 3 and 4.

Zip: Fold the beadwork so that the beads of Ring Rounds 5 and 8 interlock like a zipper. Weave the beads together to form a seamless join. Secure the working thread and trim; don't cut the tail thread.

Loop: Weave the tail thread through beads to exit Ring Round 5, from the center D on the long side of the triangular ring. Form a square-stitch loop as in Step 1. Secure the thread and trim. Set the clasp ring aside.

Fig. 1: Stitching the tube end of the clasp bar

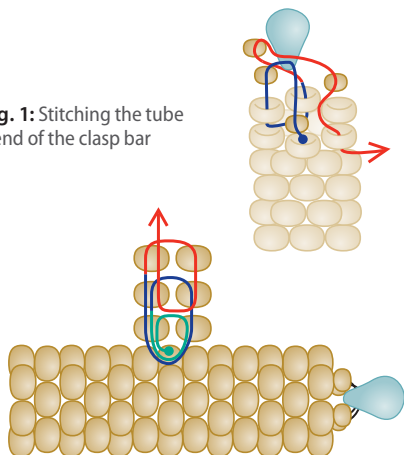
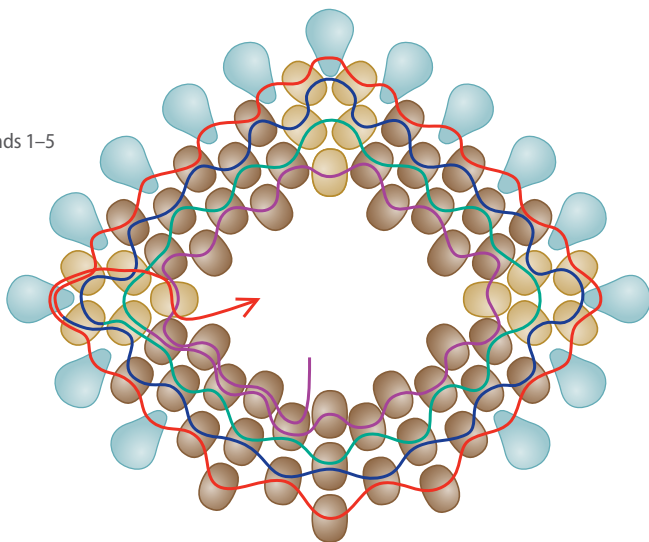


Fig. 2: Adding the clasp ring's loop

Fig. 3: Forming Rounds 1–5 of the clasp ring



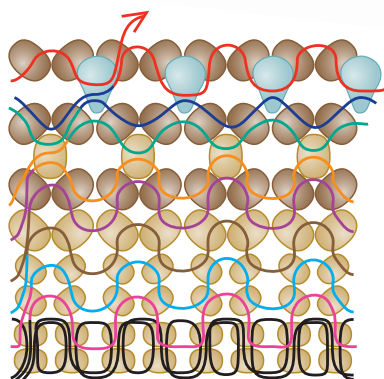


Fig. 4: Forming Rounds 1–10 of the rope

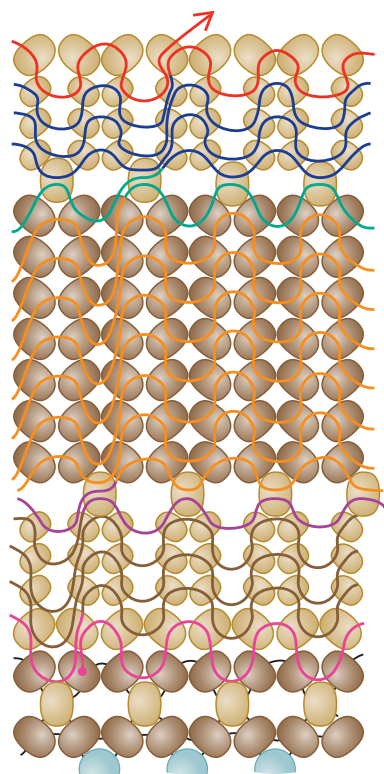


Fig. 5: Stitching Rounds 29–45 of the rope

3) ROPE. Combine stitches to form an undulating rope:

Rope Rounds 1 and 2 (ladder stitch): Use 6' of thread to string 4B, leaving an 18" tail; pass through the first 2B again, arranging the beads so that they sit side-by-side in 2 equal columns. String 2B, pass through the last 2B of the previous stitch, and pass through the 2B just added; repeat five times to form 8 columns. Stitch the first and last columns together to form a ring (Fig. 4, black thread; shown flat for clarity).

Rope Round 3 (herringbone stitch): String 2B, pass down through the next B of the previous round, and pass up through the following B; repeat three times. *Note:* Step up through the first bead of the current and subsequent rounds (Fig. 4, pink thread).

Rope Round 4: Repeat Round 3 (Fig. 4, cyan thread).

Rope Round 5: Repeat Round 3, this time working 2C in each stitch (Fig. 4, brown thread).

Rope Round 6 (chenille stitch): String 2D, pass down through the next C of the previous round, and pass up through the following C; repeat three times (Fig. 4, purple thread).

Rope Round 7: String 1C; pass down through the next D and up through the following D of the previous round; repeat three times (Fig. 4, orange thread).

Rope Round 8: String 2D and pass through the next C of the previous round; repeat three times (Fig. 4, green thread).

Rope Round 9: String 1E and pass through the next 2D of the previous round; repeat three times (Fig. 4, dark blue thread).

Rope Round 10: String 2D and pass through the next E of the previous round; repeat three times (Fig. 4, red thread).

Rope Rounds 11–28: Repeat Rounds 7–10 four times, then repeat Rounds 7 and 8.

Rope Round 29 (herringbone stitch): Work 2C in each stitch (Fig. 5, pink thread; shown flat for clarity).

Rope Rounds 30–32: Work 2B in each stitch for 3 rounds (Fig. 5, brown thread).

Rope Round 33: Work 1C in each stitch (Fig. 5, purple thread).

artist's tips

- › Use firm tension when stitching the rope, especially when working in chenille stitch.
- › Plan ahead: Make certain there is at least 18" of working thread when ending the last chenille pattern repeat before beginning work on the rope end.
- › Be mindful of the thread while working; because of their shape, drop beads can easily catch the thread.
- › This design works well in a variety of necklace lengths or as a bracelet.

Rope Rounds 34–40: Work 2D in each stitch for 7 rounds (Fig. 5, orange thread).

Rope Round 41: Work 1C in each stitch (Fig. 5, green thread).

Rope Rounds 42–44: Work 2B in each stitch for 3 rounds (Fig. 5, blue thread).

Rope Round 45: Work 2C in each stitch (Fig. 5, red thread).

Rope Rounds 46–267 (chenille and herringbone stitch): Repeat Rounds 6–45 five times. Repeat Rounds 7–10 five times, then repeat Rounds 7 and 8.

Rope Round 268 (herringbone stitch): Work 2C in each stitch.

Rope Rounds 269–272: Work 2B in each stitch for 4 rounds.


Rope Round 273: Work 1B in each stitch.

4) ROPE END. Use the working thread and B to form a square-stitch strip as in Step 1 that's 14 pairs long and 2B wide, off of Round 273. Pass the strip through the loop of the clasp ring; stitch the end of the strip to the other side of Round 273 to secure. Repeat the thread path several times to reinforce; secure the working thread and trim. Place a needle on the tail thread; repeat from the beginning of this step to connect the clasp bar to the other end of the rope. ●

JEANNE EVANS beads in New Jersey and enjoys designing and teaching beadwork. She was a participant in the 2014 Battle of the Beadsmith, and her beadwork patterns have been published online and in U.S. and U.K. beadwork magazines. Find her on Facebook or contact her at jeannebeads@optonline.net.

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