

Herringbone stitch beaded beads or endcaps

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This pattern assumes you know how to do herringbone stitch. I like to start with the first row in ladder stitch, so you will need to know that also.

Items needed

Wooden beads or end caps

Super sticky 1/4" scrapbooking tape or other double sided sticky tape.

Two colors of Delica beads

Nymo D or other beading thread

Needle

Thread conditioner or beeswax

Preparation

Cut four small strips of tape to fit the length of wooden bead or end cap. Apply to sides from hole to hole or end cap opening. Leave holes uncovered, but apply tape right up to edge of hole.

Cut double length yard of thread and condition.

Making the beaded bead or end cap

1. Work eight bead ladder and connect ends (1st round) coming out through first bead of pair of first color beads. (Right-handed beader: this will be the left bead of pair or left-handed beader: this will be right bead of pair).
2. Stick this circle of beads to the tape at the end of your wooden bead or end cap with thread exiting in direction of work (facing exposed bead or end cap).
3. Begin HB stitch.: depending on "flare" of your bead, string two (for extremely narrow shape), three (moderate "flare"), or four (very broad shape) beads and go down through adjacent matching color bead.
4. Come up through contrasting color bead and repeat #3 with opposite colors.
5. Repeat with first side colors.
6. Repeat with second side colors.
7. When first round is completed, make sure to "step up" to begin the next row.
8. You will need to experiment with the amount of beads needed in between HB stitches from this point on, thus the diagram below is merely a guideline. It may take you several tries to get the size right, but don't get discouraged. Eventually you will hit upon the right number.
9. If you are making an end cap, when you reach the wide edge of the end cap, you are finished. If you are making a beaded bead, you will need to work to the middle then reverse your bead numbers to complete the other side. You might need to duplicate a row at the mid-point if your bead count doesn't stretch to the other side. Good luck !

I would appreciate it if you would use this pattern only to make beads for yourself and not sell or use this pattern in a class. Thanks ! Carol Holmes

Key

X=first color bead

O=contrasting color bead

HB= herringbone stitch

1 ___ 1=bracket

Diagram indicates pattern on each of four sides which will be connected around the bead or end cap.

XX	OO	XX	OO	-First round ladder (form into a circle-not indicated here).
XOX	OXO	XOX	OXO	-increase bead count in between herringbone (HB) stitches.
XOOX	OXXO	XOOX	OXXO	-experiment with number of beads until fitted shape appears.
XOOOX	OXXXXO	XOOOX	OXXXXO	-continue beyond this row as needed for length.
1	11	11	11	1
add	HB	add	HB	add
here	here	here	here	here

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Don't forget your step up row.

The fun part about this pattern, is you can apply it to any shape wooden bead to make beaded beads. Just reverse your pattern on the way to the other end of the bead. If there is too much room between stitches, you'll need to add a bead to the row. If they tend to buckle up, take out a bead, but add or subtract beads equally from each group to maintain the pattern. Have fun !

