

TECHNIQUE

:: right-angle weave

egyptian cuff

SHELLEY NYBAKKE

This metal-bead cuff has just the right amount of crystal sparkle, worthy of an Egyptian princess. Worked in segments, the multilayer right-angle-weave rectangles are first woven, then connected with loops of beads.



1) RECTANGLE. Use seed beads and crystals to work a three-layer rectangle with right-angle weave:

Layer 1: Use 6' of doubled thread and seed beads to work a rectangle of right-angle weave 8 units long and 4 rows wide. Weave through the work to exit toward the work from the bead that connects the last two units made.

Layer 2 (vertical beads): String 1 seed bead and pass through the next Layer 1 vertical seed bead; pull the thread tight until the bead clicks into place. Repeat to add a total of 3 seed beads. Weave through the next two Layer 1 beads to begin the next row (Fig. 1). Repeat this row six times to add a total of 21 beads.

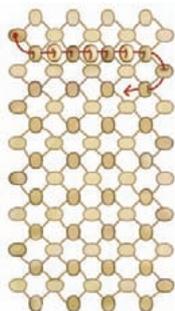


Fig. 1: Layer 2 vertical beads indicated in orange

Layer 2 (horizontal beads): Use seed beads to work off the Layer 2 vertical beads to complete 18 right-angle-weave units, adding a total of 24 beads (Fig. 2).

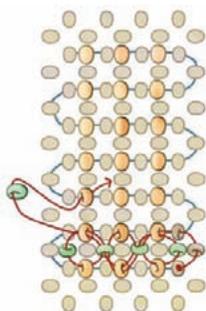


Fig. 2: Layer 2 horizontal beads indicated in green

Layer 3 (seed beads): Weave through beads to exit toward the work from the horizontal bead left of center at one end of Layer 2. String 1 seed bead; pass through the next Layer 2 horizontal bead. Pull tight so the bead clicks into place. Repeat down the strip to add a total of 5 seed beads (Fig. 3). Weave

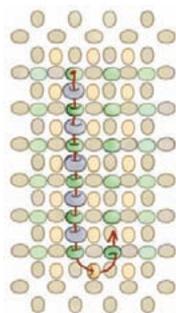


Fig. 3: Layer 3 horizontal beads indicated in purple

through the next two Layer 2 beads to begin the next row. Work back up the rectangle, continuing to add beads as before for a total of 10 beads.

Layer 3 (crystals): Use crystals to work 5 right-angle-weave units off the beads already added in this layer, adding a total of 6 crystals (Fig. 4). Secure the thread and trim. Set aside.

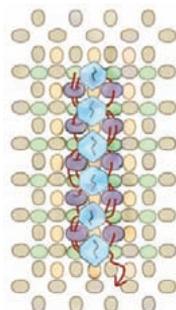


Fig. 4: Adding the Layer 3 crystals

Repeat entire step for a total of 7 rectangles.

2) CONNECTING LOOPS. Connect the rectangles with loops of seed beads and crystals:

Loop 1: Start 6' of thread that exits up through 1 rectangle's top right horizontal bead on the long side. String 4 seed beads, 1 crystal, and 4 seed beads; pass down through the bead on a second rectangle that mirrors the one last exited on the first rectangle (this completes the top half of the loop). String 4 seed beads, 1 crystal, and 4 seed beads; pass up through the last bead exited on the first rectangle to form an oval loop, connecting the rectangles (this completes the bottom half of the loop). Weave through beads to exit down through the next Layer 1 horizontal side bead on the long side of the first rectangle (Fig. 5).

MATERIALS

50 g gold size 11° metal seed beads
138 Montana blue AB2X crystal 3mm bicones
1 gold-filled 10x20mm 3-strand magnetic tube clasp
Smoke 10 lb braided beading thread

TOOLS

Scissors
Size 12 beading needle

FINISHED SIZE: 7"

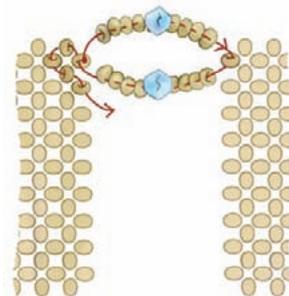


Fig. 5: Connecting 2 rectangles

Loop 2: Repeat the stringing sequence from Loop 1 to connect the second side beads of the 2 rectangles. For this and the following loops, be sure that the top half of the loop remains above the bottom half of the prior loop (the loop halves will begin to stack). Weave through beads to exit from the rectangle's next side bead.

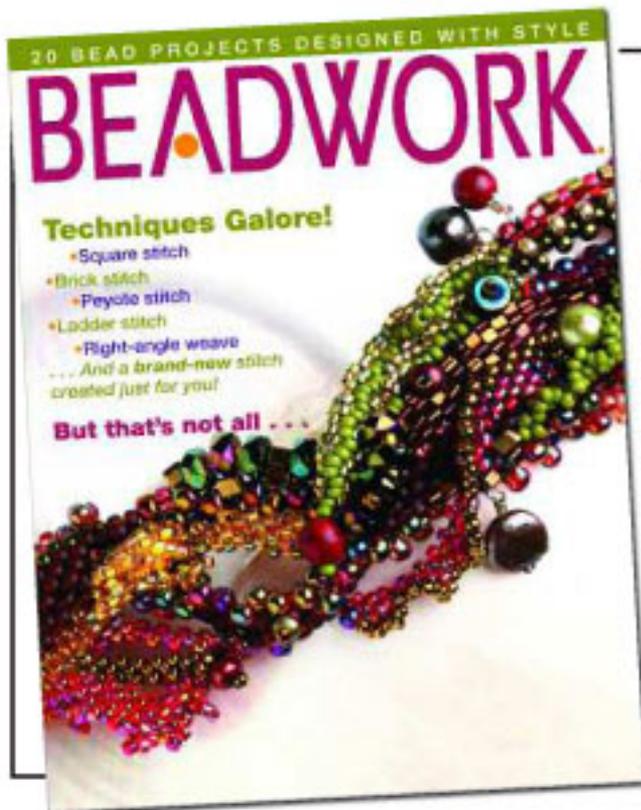
Loops 3–8: Repeat Loop 2, connecting the 2 rectangles with strands of beads. Repeat entire step to connect a total of 7 rectangles.

3) ENDS. Stitch one half of the clasp to one end of the band. Repeat the thread path several times to reinforce. Repeat for the other end, making sure the clasp is oriented correctly. Secure the thread and trim. ♦

SHELLEY NYBAKKE owns The Bead Parlor in Bloomington, Illinois, where she also teaches a variety of classes. As well, she has the wonderful privilege of traveling and teaching workshops around the country. She thinks a day without beads is hardly ever worth getting out of bed for.

RESOURCES

Check your local bead shop or contact:
FireLine braided beading thread and all beads and findings: The Bead Parlor, (309) 827-7708, www.thebeadparlor.com.



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