

1503-5

Leslie Rogalski uses super strong beading thread to stitch metal beads into a cubic right-angle weave.

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Cubic RAW Pendant with metal beads and WildFire by Leslie Rogalski

Create an architectural component in cubic right-angle weave (RAW) using metal beads and ultra strong bonded beading thread. String the finished shape on a headpin with accent beads, make a wire-wrapped loop, and voila! A pendant or make another for earrings.

Materials:

Size 8°, 6° or round metal seed beads
.008 WildFire 12 lb test
Size 11 or 12 beading needles
Headpins, 2 accent beads larger than the beadwork beads
Scissors
Pliers to make wire-wrapped loop

THE BASICS

Cubic RAW works flat RAW into units with 6 sides. Picture a room with 4 walls, a ceiling and floor—6 equal sides. Each RAW side uses 4 beads, with 2 beads shared with adjacent walls. There will be a total of 12 beads in each “room” or unit.

Tips:

Know if it's metal by squashing a bead in pliers—metal doesn't break like glass.
Look for open seams—if beads have them, discard for use with a different cord or wire--thread may slip through.
Waxing thread can help strengthen thread and protect against sharp edges
For best results use round beads or rounded seed beads in any size. Multiple thread passes require beads with a decent sized hole and a slim needle.

RAW works in a circular motion; using the terms clockwise and counterclockwise helps to keep oriented in this tutorial.

CW-clockwise

CCW-counter clockwise

FIGURE 1

Create 3 walls

1. String beads 1-4 and knot in a circle. This is one wall.
2. Pass CCW through beads 1 and 2.
3. String beads 5-7.
4. Pass CW through beads 2,5 and 6.
5. String beads 8-10.
6. Pass CCW through beads 6, 8 and 9.

FIGURE 2

7. Fold the 3 walls so beads 9 and 4 come together. Exit through bead 9.

Close the room with the 4th wall

8. String bead 11, pass CCW through bead 4.
9. String bead 12, pass CCW through beads 9 and 11.

Close the ceiling and floor

You have 4 sides. You now need to close the 5th and 6th sides of the unit, or the ceiling and floor of your room.

10. Close the ceiling: Your thread is exiting bead 11. Complete the circle: pass CW through beads 3, 5, 10 and bead 11 again, to close the side. Always remember to complete the side by passing through all 4 beads.

FIGURE 3

11. Close the floor: Weave through beads 4 and 12 to exit in position. Always follow the circular thread path.

12. Pass CW through beads 8, 7, 1 and 12 to close the floor.

You have a cube! This one 6-sided component is often called a cell or unit.

FIGURE 4

To work larger forms or chains, start building off one side using the four beads in that side as beads 1-4, following from step 2.

Remember to completely close your floor and ceiling, and all your sides, by passing through all four beads in each side.

FIGURE 5

Create a side with 3 units to have a center passage for a headpin or wire. String an accent bead on a head pin so the wire won't slide through the beadwork. String the headpin through the middle of the 3 units. String another accent bead and make a wire-wrapped loop,

More TIPS:

Always follow the circular thread path as you weave through the units to continue. Never pass across a unit. Pull your work snug: tension is important, especially when using larger beads.

Guest:



Leslie Rogalski

CUBIC RIGHT ANGLE WEAVE

by LESLIE ROGALSKI

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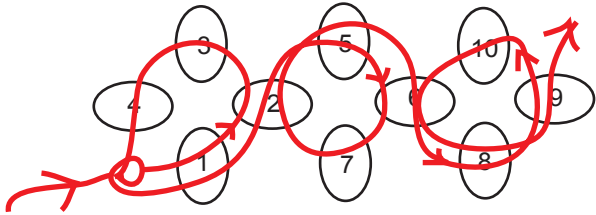


FIG 1

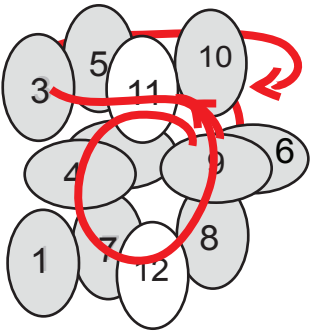


FIG 2

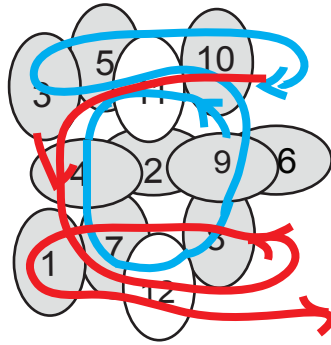


FIG 3

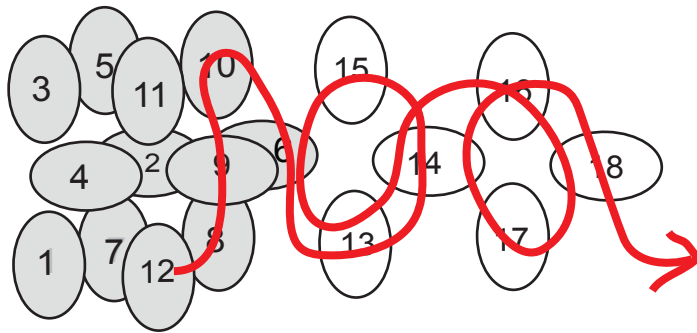


FIG 4

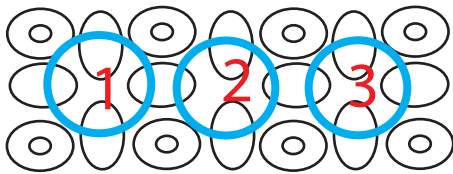


FIG 5

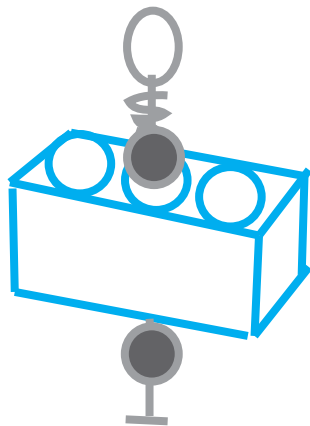


FIG 6