



Beads and hardware embellish a sturdy chain

Black and silver beads in many shapes and sizes complement the glint of steel chain and assorted hardware.

Free-form peyote gets a tough-as-nails look with hardware dangles

designed by **Caren Schwartz**

Uniting whimsy and brawn, this hardware necklace puts a playful spin on bead jewelry. Substantial without being bulky, the necklace begins with the smooth, interlocking links of sash chain and an easy-to-use Quick Link clasp. Embellish the chain with washers, wing nuts, springs, and, of course, lots of beads just for the fun of it.

MATERIALS

necklace 17 in. (43cm)

- assorted drop, triangle, cube, and bugle beads
- size 6^o–15^o seed and 11^o cylinder beads in 4 colors: black, gray, silver, clear
- assorted metal washers, rubber O-rings, wing nuts, cable stops, springs, etc.
- Quick Link, 1/8 in. (3mm) (hardware store)
- package of sash chain, #35 (hardware store)
- Power Pro 10 lb. test beading needles, #10 and #12
- wire cutters or Fiskars for Kids scissors
- heavy-duty wire cutters (optional)

stepbystep

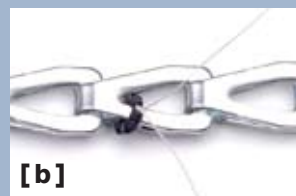
The instructions below are for a necklace with a centered 6-in. (15cm) embellished section (above, right). To make a necklace that is embellished over its entire length (opposite), stitch a peyote base through the entire chain, and make additional dangles for fullness.

Peyote base

[1] Measure a 16-in. (41cm) length of sash chain. Make sure that you have an odd number of links, and cut the chain with heavy-duty wire cutters (or have it cut at the hardware store). Remove any jagged links so both ends terminate with smooth, complete links.

[2] Tie a piece of thread or string around the center link (photo a).

[3] Thread a needle on a 2-yd. (1.8m) length of Power Pro. Pick up eight cylinder beads, and wrap them around the fourth link to the left of the center link. Leaving a 6-in. tail, tie the beads into



a ring with a square knot (Basics, p. 140 and photo b). **[4]** Selecting colors randomly, pick up approximately 6 in. of cylinders. Weave the strand loosely through the next seven links toward the center and opposite end of the chain (photo c). Loop the beads around the fourth

link to the right of the center link, skip the last eight beads picked up, and sew back through the next bead (photo d).

[5] Still working only with cylinders, work two rows of flat peyote stitch (Basics).

[6] Work a row of free-form peyote, mixing in various



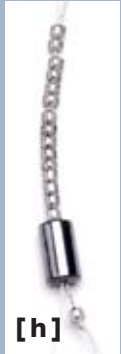
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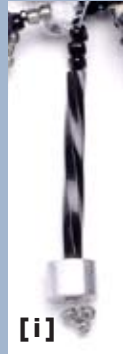
[f]



[g]



[h]



[i]

sizes and shapes of beads (photo e).

[7] Work two more rows of free-form peyote, adding swags between the peyote sections. To make a swag, come out any up-bead, pick up 1–2 in. (2.5–5cm) of beads, skip over several beads, and sew into an up-bead (photo f). Make at least three swags on each row. Secure the tails with a few half-hitch knots (Basics) between beads, and trim.

Dangles

[1] Thread your needle with a 2-yd. length of Power Pro,

and secure it in the beadwork with half-hitch knots. Zigzag through to exit at the center of the necklace. Remove the string used to mark the center. [2] Pick up 1–2 in. of assorted beads and a large O-ring, metal washer, or combination of elements to be your center dangle. Sew back into the beadwork, then stitch a few rows of free-form peyote around the center dangle (photo g).

[3] Weave through the beadwork, and repeat step 2 to make two or three accent dangles on each side of the center dangle. As you get farther from the center, make shorter dangles.

[4] With the wing nuts, springs, assorted hardware, and beads, add more dangles between the others as desired, using the following methods:

- Exit the beadwork, and pick up a few seed beads, an accent bead (or hardware), and a seed bead. Skip the last seed

bead, go back through the rest of the beads (photo h), and sew into the beadwork.

- Pick up several seed beads, an accent bead, and three seed beads. Skip the last three beads, go back through the rest of the beads (photo i), and sew into the beadwork.

- Pick up 12 to 20 seed beads, go through an O-ring or washer, and sew back into the beadwork (photo j).

[5] Secure the tails, and trim.

Clasp

[1] Open the Quick Link, and slide it onto the sash chain's rounded end link as shown (photo k).

[2] On a 1-yd. (.9m) length of Power Pro, pick up an even number of cylinder beads, and wrap them around the side of the Quick Link that is opposite the opening. Tie the beads into a ring with a square knot (photo l).

[3] Work around the ring in

even-count, tubular peyote (Basics) for a total of four rows.

[4] Change colors, and continue stitching until the tube is about ¾ in. (1.9cm) long. Change colors, and stitch four more rows. Secure the tails, and trim (photo m).

[5] On a 1-yd. length of Power Pro, pick up enough assorted beads to make a ring large enough for the Quick Link to fit through. Loop this strand through the remaining end link of the sash chain, and tie it into a ring with a square knot (photo n).

[6] Working in free-form peyote with assorted beads, stitch several rows, being sure that the Quick Link can still fit through the center. Secure the tails, and trim (photo o). ●

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[j]



[k]



[l]



[m]



[n]



[o]

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The featured zinc-plated steel sash chain perfectly complements Caren's black-and-silver design. For a different look, start with brass, bronze, or copper sash chain (check the Internet if you don't find it in a hardware store), and choose your beads and hardware to match.