



The band transitions seamlessly into a peyote closure.





# Blend colors in a modified herringbone bracelet

Use beads of similar shades but different finishes for a band with texture and dimension

designed by **Bonnie O'Donnell-Painter**

From the base row to the custom clasp, this easy Ndebele herringbone project is full of great ideas. If you have found color gradation daunting before, refer to our charted pattern as you work to achieve effortless color blending.

## stepbystep

Choose your first color, and work the first five rounds as described below. Refer to the pattern on p. 84 as you work to graduate your band's colors. Subtract  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (1.9cm) from the desired length of the band to allow for the clasp.

**[1]** The initial round is a modified ladder stitch. On 3 yd. (2.7m) of Fireline or conditioned thread (Basics, p. 138), center two cylinder beads. Sew back through the cylinders again in the same direction (**figure 1, a-b**). Pick up four cylinders, and sew

back through the last two in the same direction (**b-c**).

Repeat twice (**c-d**), and then pick up two cylinders (**d-e**).

**[2]** To form a ring, sew down through the first bead picked up in step 1 and up through the next bead. (The ring won't lie right until the first few rounds are added.)

**[3]** Pick up four beads, skip two beads, and sew down through the next bead in the ring (**figure 2, a-b**). Sew up through the next bead in the ring (**b-c**). Repeat three times, sewing down through the first bead in the ring to finish the round. Then sew

### MATERIALS

bracelet  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. (19.1cm)

- 2 4mm round or bicone crystals
- 3g size 11° Japanese cylinder beads, in each of 6 or more colors
- 2g size 15° Japanese seed beads
- 20mm button for clasp (optional)
- Fireline 6 lb. test or conditioned Nymo D
- beading needles, #12

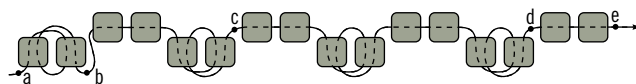


FIGURE 1

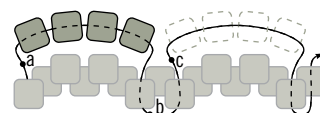


FIGURE 2

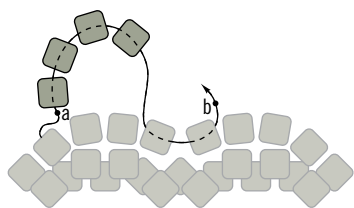


FIGURE 3

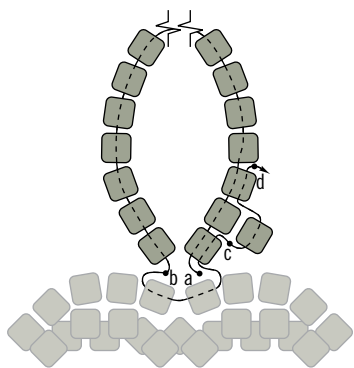


FIGURE 4

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

You can use a button in place of the toggle. Just make the loop of cylinders large enough to accommodate the button.

up through the first bead in the new round to step up.

**[4]** Continue adding rounds as in step 3, sewing into the beads on the previous round (figure 3, a–b). Remember to step up at the end of each round. After the first few rounds, pinch your work so it lies flat in two layers. Add thread as needed (Basics, p. 138). When your band is the desired length, set the working thread aside, and thread a needle on the tail.

**[5]** Working only off the center stack on both sides, stitch three rounds of tubular herringbone (Basics) to the center stack (photo a).

**[6]** Set aside the band, and start 1 yd. (.9m) of thread. Stitch an even-count peyote (Basics) strip of cylinders, 16 beads long and 12 rows wide (six cylinders along the edges). Roll the strip into a tube and zip up the ends (Basics).

**[7]** Sew through the center of the toggle. Pick up a crystal and a cylinder. Skip the cylinder, and sew back through the crystal. Repeat on the other end (photo b). Retrace the thread path, secure the tails with half-hitch knots (Basics) in the beadwork, and trim.

**[8]** Pick up the tail from the band, and attach the toggle by sewing through two beads near the middle of the toggle and back into the band (photo c). Retrace the thread path, secure the tail as before, and trim.

**[9]** Pick up the working thread, and exit the second bead of the center herringbone stack on one side of the band. Pick up an odd number of cylinders, enough to fit around the toggle. Sew through the two adjacent cylinders on the other side of the band (photo d). Retrace the thread path (figure 4, a–b). Exit the first cylinder in the loop (b–c).

**[10]** Pick up a cylinder, skip a cylinder in the loop, and sew through the next cylinder (c–d). Continue working in peyote until you reach the last cylinder in the loop. Step up through the first cylinder added in the new round.

**[11]** Pick up three 15° seed beads and sew through the next cylinder. Continue around the loop, and repeat for a second round of 15°s.

**[12]** Secure the thread in the beadwork as before, and trim the tail. ●

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