



## Origami Bracelet Leslie Rogalski

I have always played with straw papers in restaurants, making what we called “Chinese lanterns” by folding the paper strip back and forth over itself. I applied the folding technique to a long strip of two-drop peyote and created a dimensional piece of beaded architecture. I think the results are worth the time it takes to make the strip!

## FINISHED SIZE 8"

### Materials

34 g bronze metallic size 8° seed beads (A)  
34 g total olive matte and leaf matte metallic  
iris size 8° seed beads (B)  
1 black 9mm sew-on snap

FireLine thread

### Tools

Size 12 beading needle  
Children's Fiskars scissors

### Tip

Keep the beadwork snug as you work the peyote strip by every now and then passing through previous thread paths.

**1: Peyote strip.** Create a strip 8 beads wide using two-drop even-count peyote:

**Rows 1–2:** String 2A, 4B, and 2A.

**Rows 3 and on:** String 2A and pass back through the last 2B of the previous row. String 2B and pass back through the first 2A of the previous row.

Continue working two-drop peyote stitch until the strip is about 34" long; do not trim the tail threads. *Note:* Folding will shorten the strip considerably, about 1" finished length to 4¼" length of flat strip; follow this guideline to adjust the length of the bracelet.

**2: Folding.** Lay the strip north to south on your work surface.

**Fold 1:** Find the center of the strip and fold the top half eastward, down, and to the right, forming a triangular overlap (Figure 1).

**Fold 2:** Fold the bottom half up northward (Figure 2).

**Fold 3:** Fold the right half across westward (Figure 3).

**Fold 4:** Fold the top half down southward (Figure 4).

**Fold 5:** Fold the left half across eastward (Figure 5).

Continue folding each end of the strip, turning the work in your hand to keep each fold snug at a right angle to the previous fold. While compressed, the folded strip is square; once released, the folds will shift to triangular. Check for fit: The cuff should close comfortably around your wrist; no extra space is needed for a clasp.

**3: Terminus.** End with one end folded even over the other, adding or subtracting a row or two to either end so that they are about even and their "up" beads are staggered (Figure 6). Pass through the first and last rows to zip the ends together, forming a triangle that matches the first fold. Weave all tail threads through several beads to secure before trimming.

**4: Closure.** Use a new thread to attach one half of the snap to the triangular terminus (Figure 7). To help secure the end of the bracelet, pass through the snap and three folds of the beadwork; pass through 2 beads, then back through the folds and the snap. Repeat several times, working around through each hole of the snap rim; make sure to pass through some of the beads beneath the snap

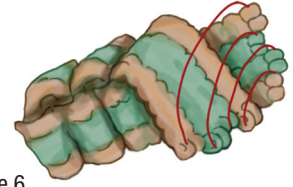


Figure 6

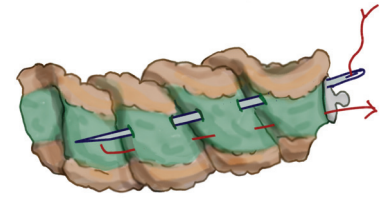


Figure 7

as well as through the layers of folded beadwork. Secure the threads and trim. Repeat at the other end of the bracelet. ♦

Leslie Rogalski has been an artist, writer, actor, mom, wife, teacher, and beader . . . among other things. She sold her wearable art at the ACC Craft Fairs, The Rosen Buyers Markets, and has written for *American Style*, *The Surface Design Journal*, *QVC*, *The Discovery Channel*, and, of course, *Step by Step Beads*, of which she has been editor in chief since 2004.

### RESOURCES

**Check your local bead shop or contact:** Seed beads: Beyond Beadery, [www.beyondbeadery.com](http://www.beyondbeadery.com). FireLine thread: Cabelas, [www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com) or Wal-Mart, [www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com). Snaps: any major fabric store.

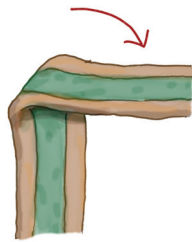


Figure 1

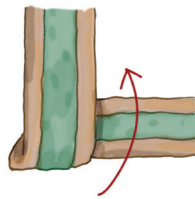


Figure 2

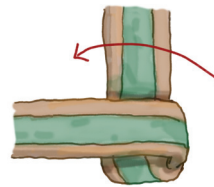


Figure 3

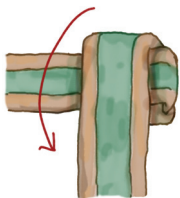


Figure 4

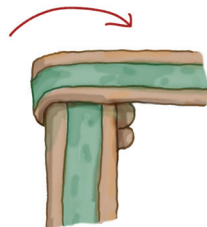


Figure 5

