

Brick Stitch Fringe Earrings



What You'll Need:

Size 11/0 Czech Glass Round Seed Beads, 4 colors

Beadalon Beading Thread Size D, I used black from the mix Earth SKU 10390141

Size 10 Hard Beading Needle SKU M10332394

Precision Scissors SKU M10332394

Ear Wires SKU 10474092

Chain Nose Pliers SKU 10121794



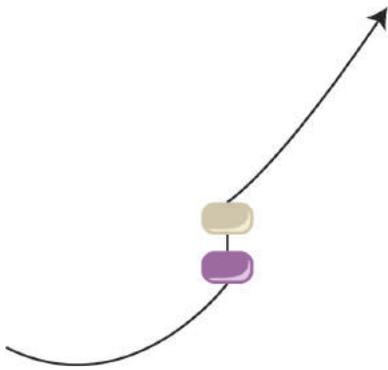


Fig 1

Begin with approximately 40 inches of beading thread and thread your beading needle, moving it down the strand about 10 inches. This stitch is worked with a single strand. String two, size 11/0 beads according to your pattern colors, starting at one side of the pattern.

Ladder Stitch

Slide the two beads down and leaving a 10 inch tail, go back through the first bead added (Fig 2). Go through the second bead added (Fig 3). Add a new bead (Fig 4) and go back through the second bead (Fig 5).

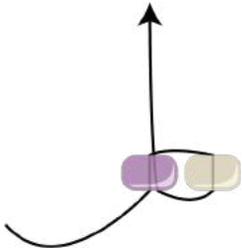


Fig 2

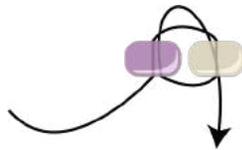


Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5

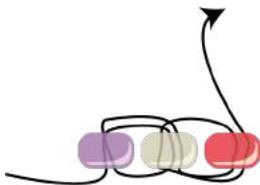


Fig 6

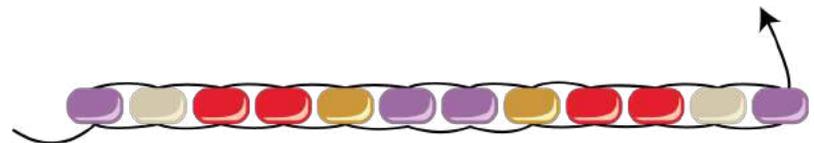


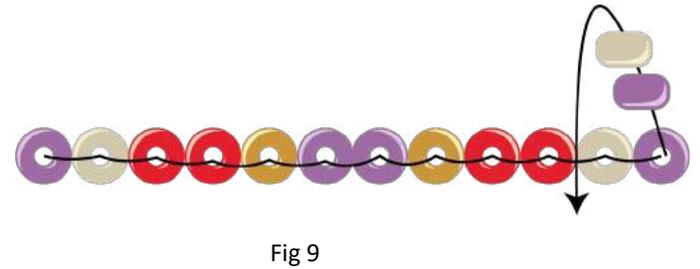
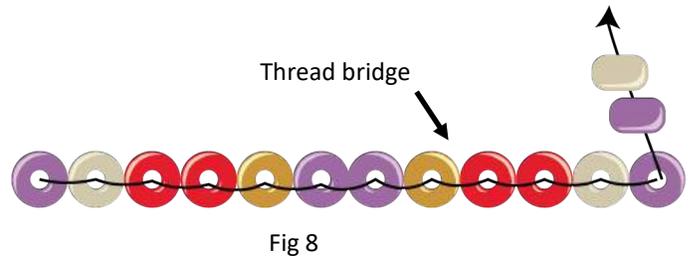
Fig 7

Go back through the third bead added (Fig 6) then pick up the next color bead in your pattern. Continue this series of steps, Figures 3 through 6, to add the rest of the beads in your first row.

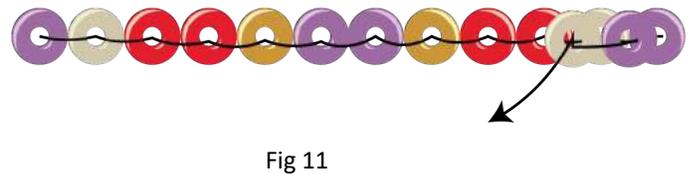
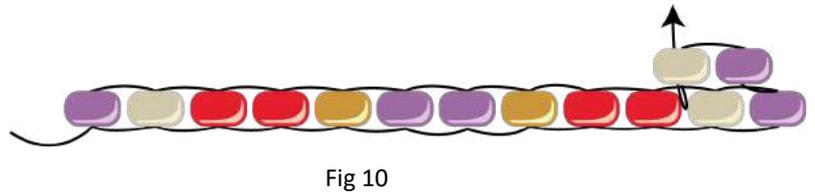
Note: The first row is the widest row in your pattern, even if that row isn't the bottom. In more advanced brick stitch patterns, diamond shapes for example, they are worked up and down from the longest row in the center.

Brick Stitch

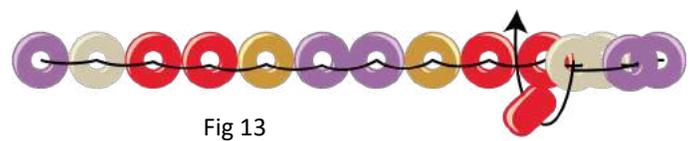
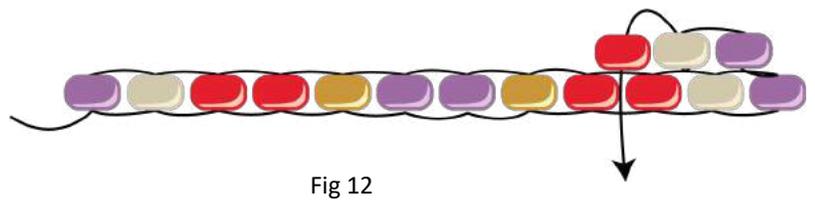
Pick up the next two colors in your pattern and bring the needle under the second thread bridge. To give some detail here—look at Fig 8 and 9, the top view of your piece. The places where the thread “bridges” over into the next bead is what’s referred to as a thread bridge.



Pull thread under the second thread bridge as shown in Figs 8 and 9. Then go back up through the second bead added (Figs 10 and 11).



Pick up one bead in the color indicated by your pattern. Go under the third thread bridge (Fig 12 and 13).



Go back up through the third bead added (Fig 14 and 15).

Repeat the steps shown in Figures 12-15 for the remainder of the row.

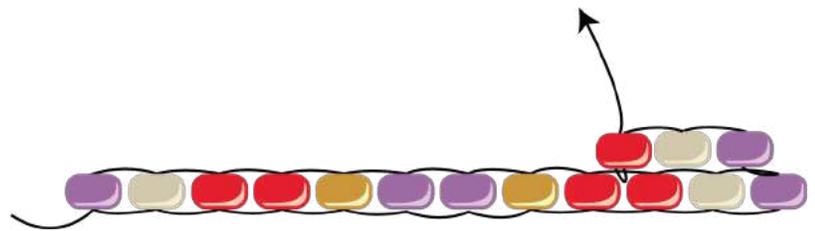


Fig 14

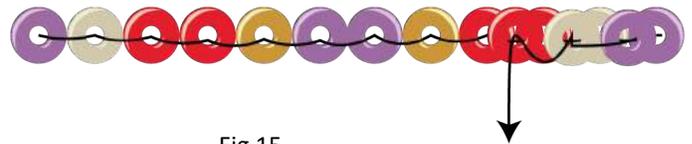


Fig 15

When you reach the end of the row, build the next row above that by repeating the steps shown in Figures 8 through 15.

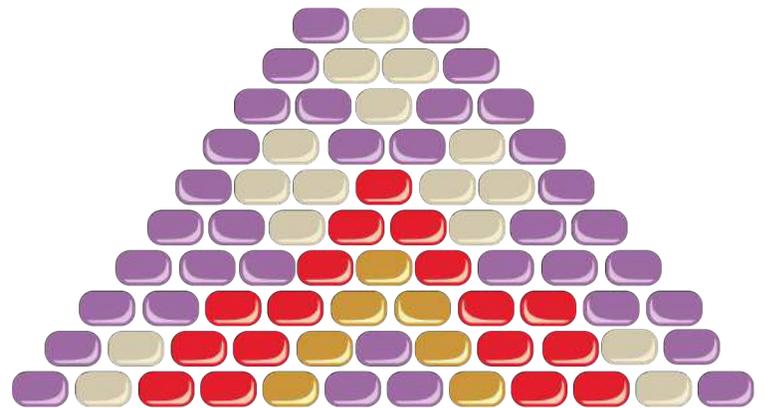


Fig 16

As you work your brick stitch pattern, each row will become one bead shorter than the last. This is called decreasing brick stitch.

When you reach the top row, you'll have only three beads to add. Stop here and we will add the top loop for the ear wire to attach to.

Create Top Loop

Create the top loop for the ear wire by stringing four, size 11/0 beads (Fig 17). Skip a bead, and go down through the third bead, as shown in Fig 18.

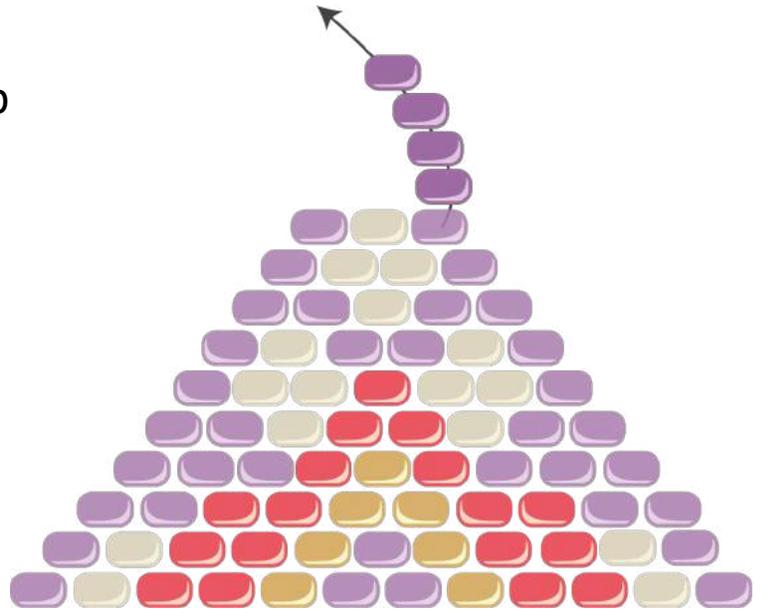


Fig 17

Go through the bead shown in Fig 18 and then pick up the thread bridge under that bead. Come back up through the same bead, and continue through all four beads in the top loop (Fig 19).

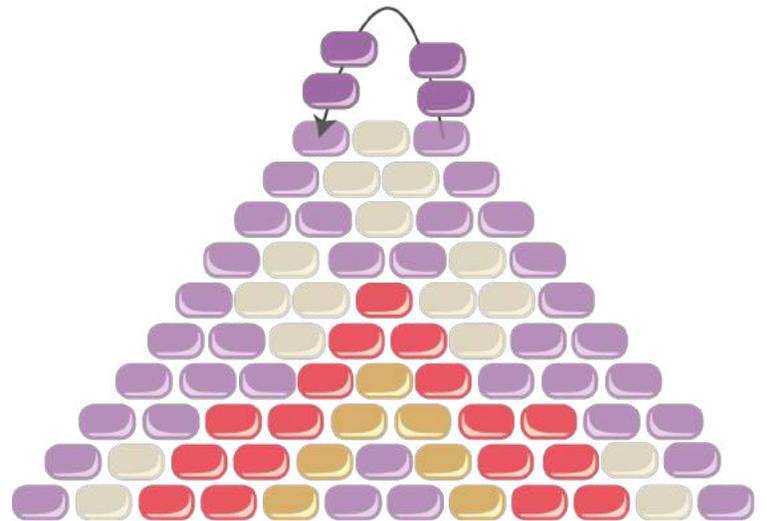


Fig 18

Go through the next bead on the other side, pick up the thread bridge under that, and come back up through that bead. (Fig 19).

Go through all the beads in the top loop again. Continue down through the next bead on the other side.

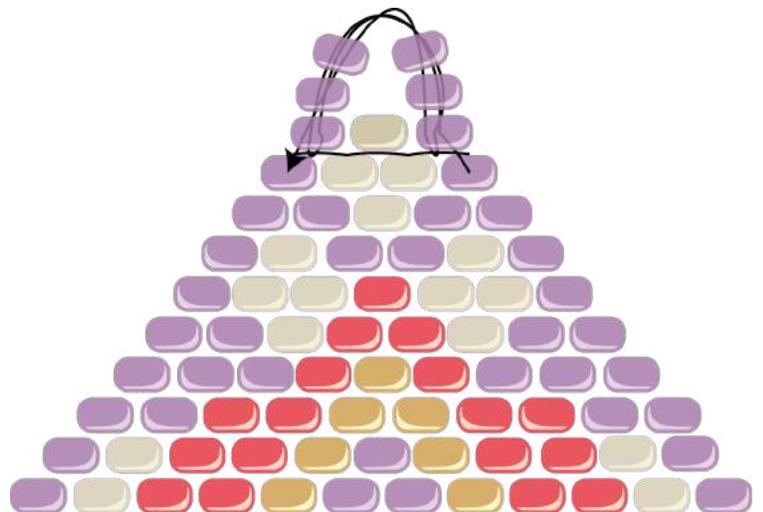


Fig 19

Figure 20 shows the completed brick stitch portion of this project.

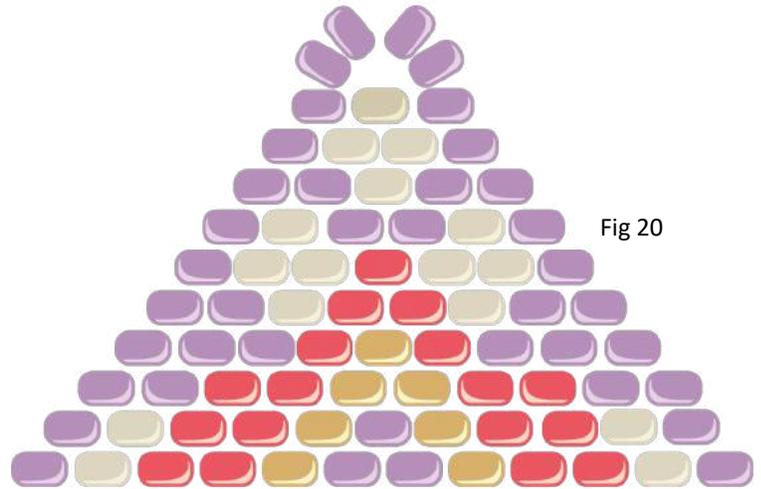


Fig 20

Continue down through the beads along the side (Fig 21).

Pick up the number of beads indicated as fringe in your pattern. For our pattern today we are using between 18 and 38 beads for the side. It is up to you how long you'd like the fringe to be.

When you've reached the desired length, add one more bead, then come back up through the entire strand and continue through the bead above.

Turn and go down through the adjacent bead.

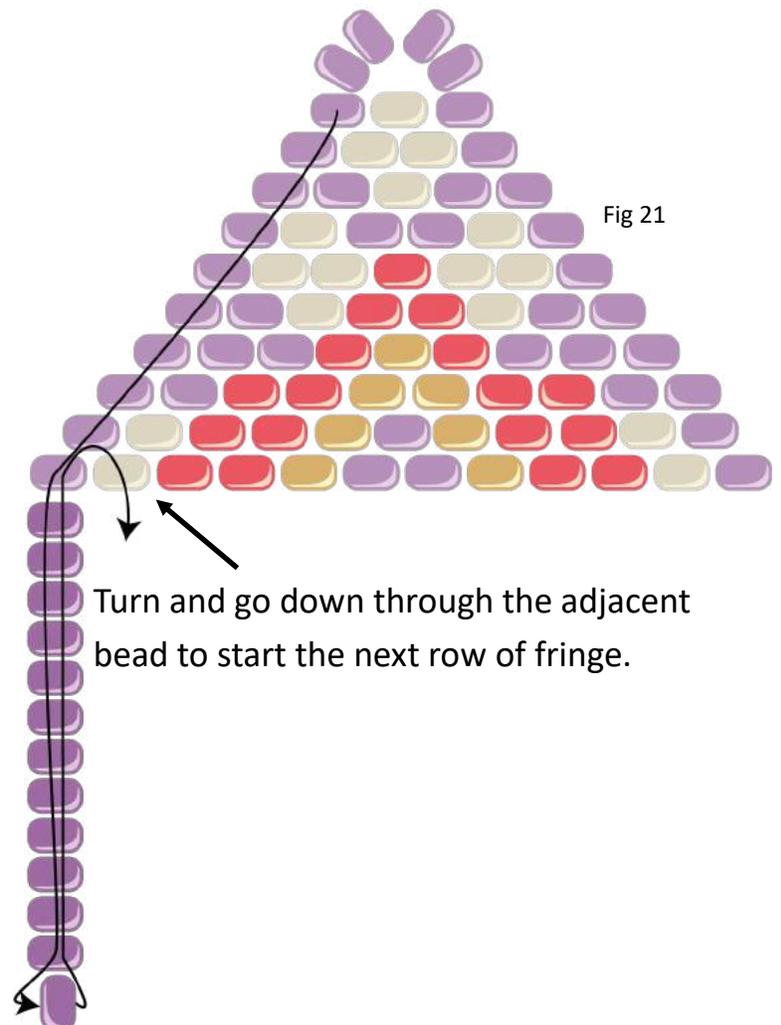
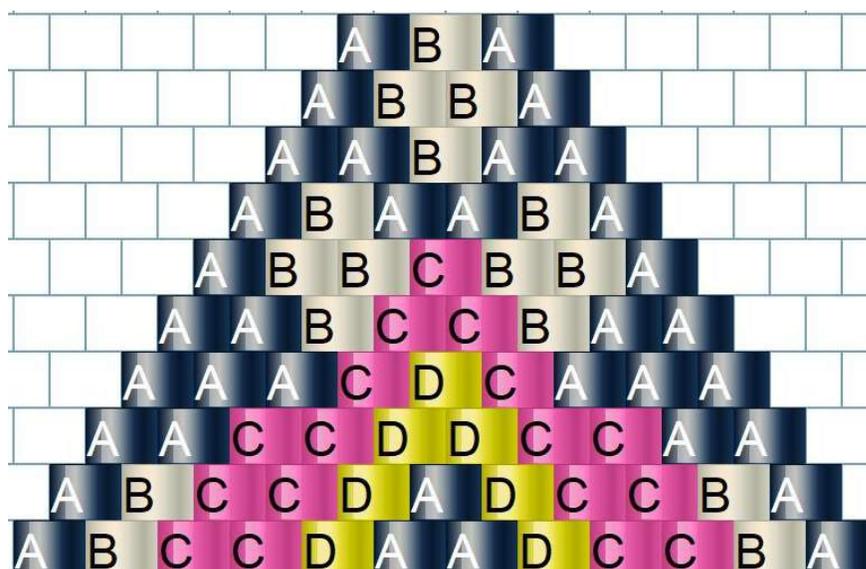


Fig 21

The Patterns

This is the brick stitch pattern used for the 12 strand samples. Create in any colors you like.

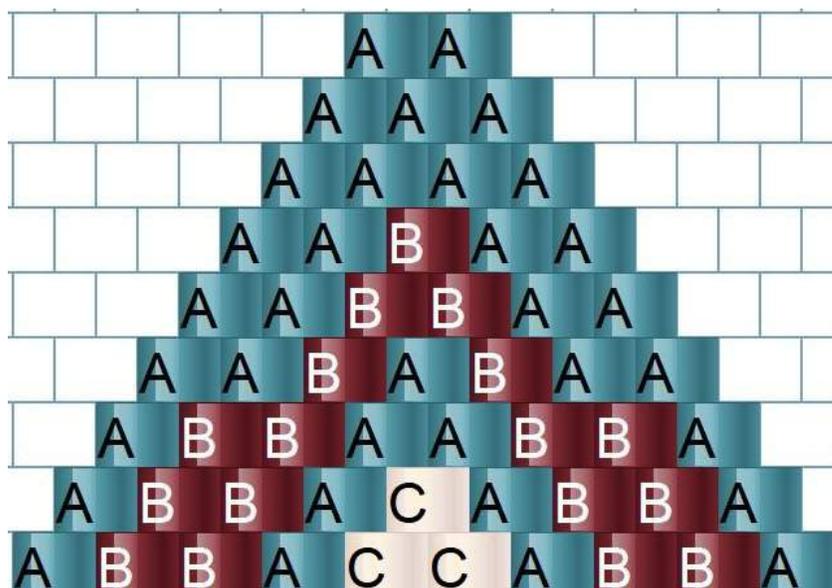
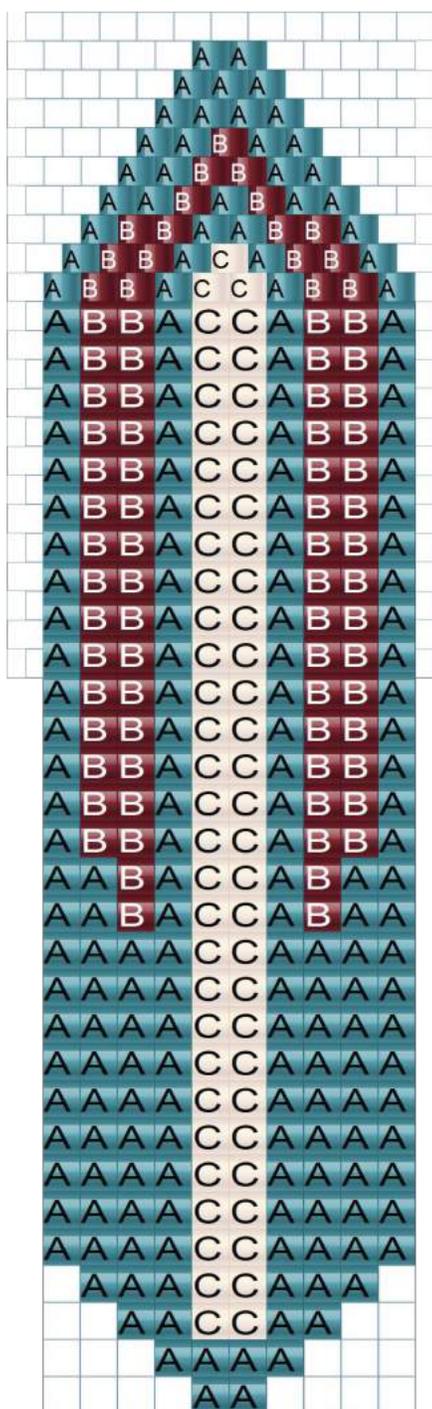


The length of your fringe is up to you. It is helpful to count the number of beads added, but not essential. You'll find that due to slight variation in beads sizes and coatings, you'll get slightly different lengths with the same number of beads. For this reason, I lay the strand next to the former to gauge and adjust the length with each added strand. Often I'll start with a count, and then adjust from there.

The last step for these earrings is to open the loop on an ear wire and attach it to the top loop.

Enjoy your new earrings!

Pattern Two, Eleven Strands



This design is a simpler brick stitch that can be made with longer strands of fringe for a slender, shoulder duster style.

This pattern uses only three colors and can be made in any colors you like.