



DIY A

# *Spiral of Bees*

*John Deed*  
ESTABLISHED 1954

## Parts List

Bee Honeycomb Strand 272 90010-01

John Bead Czech Seed Beads

Size 11/0 63230001-0826

Size 6/0 63230001-0059

Size 6/0 63230001-0227

Size 6/0 63230001-0099

Must Have Findings

Gold Headpins 260 01401-030

6mm Jump Rings 260 11401-016

Antique Gold Decorative Toggle

234 011050-01

6mm Preciosa Crystal Bicone

Aqua Bohemica AB, 63241200-30

Wildfire Beading Thread, .006, 74423057-01

Size #12 Beading Needles 74301017

Thread Snips 74509607

Chain Nose Pliers, 74524877

Bent Nose Pliers, 74527343

Round Nose Pliers, 74527345

Flush Cutters, 74524700

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## A Spiral of Bees!

Create a swarm of Honey Bees around your wrist with this fun spin on Russian Spiral!

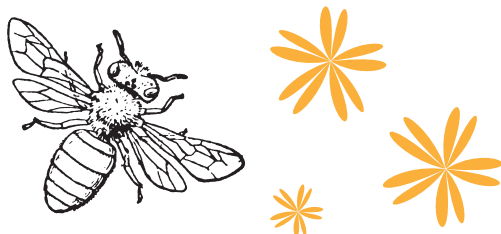
Part 1 of this Step-by-Step is a review of Russian Spiral Stitch. There are a lot of great tutorials and videos out there for how to do Russian Spiral stitch. The method I chose for this design is based on a technique I learned from Kitti Robinson Designs.

Video Link Here: <https://youtu.be/guGz2XVLTcE>

I have modified the method she shows in the video, substituting size 6/0 seed beads for the 4mm beads.

Part 2 of this Step-by-Step shows how the strand of Bees and Honeycombs are tacked onto the spiral for a swirl effect.

This design would make a beautiful necklace as well as a bracelet. Many other ideas to modify and create variations are possible. Have fun and share your gorgeous creations with us on social media! Hashtag #JohnBead and #JohnBeadOutlet

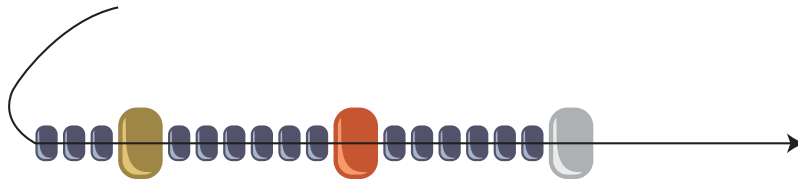


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## Part 1 - Create a Russian Spiral Stitch Bracelet

To begin, cut 90 inches of beading thread and thread a size #12 beading needle. Fold over a generous amount to make the working length more manageable.

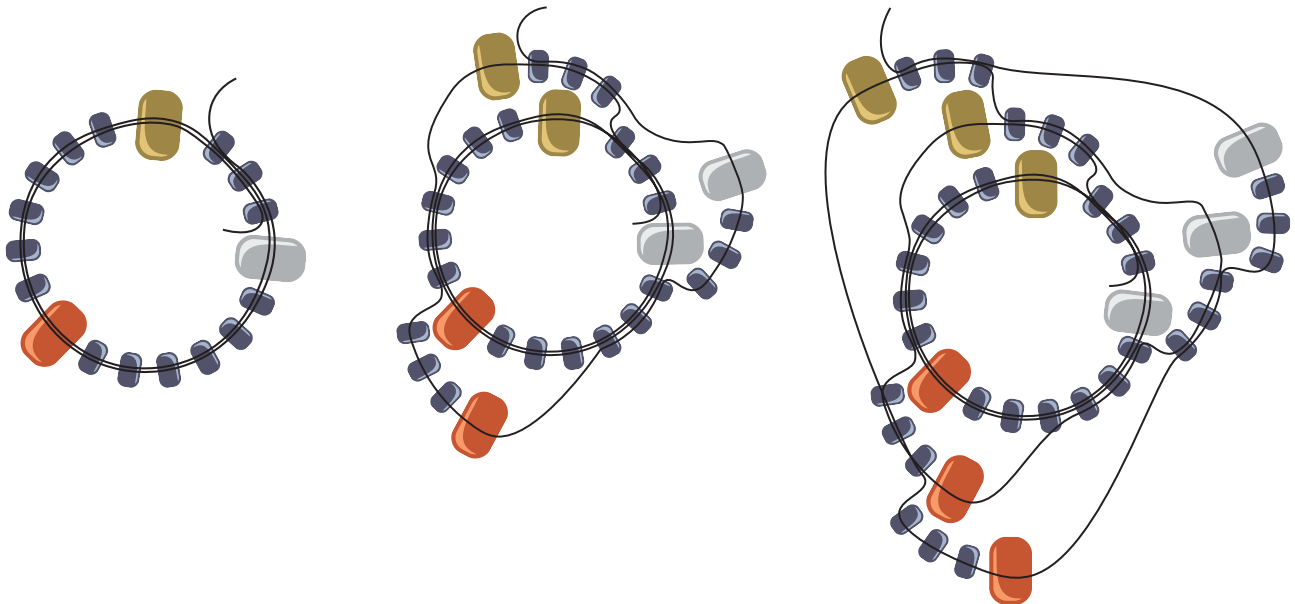
Leave a 20 inch tail. String the following seed beads: (3) 11/0, (1) 6/0 Color A, (6) 11/0, (1) 6/0 Color B, (6) 11/0, and (1) 6/0 Color C.



**Ring 1:** Go back through all the beads, then continue again through the first (3) 11/0.

**Ring 2:** Pick up (3) 11/0 and (1) 6/0 in Color A. Skip the 6/0 Color A and the next (3) 11/0 in ring 1. Go through the next (3) 11/0. Repeat this step with Color B. Pick up (3) 11/0 and (1) 6/0 Color C. Go through the first (3) 11/0 added in this ring. This is stepping up.

**Ring 3:** Pick up (3) 11/0 and (1) 6/0 in Color A. Go through the next (3) 11/0. Repeat with Color B and Color C, which is the step up.



Repeat Ring 3 pattern to desired length, minus 1 inch (the length that will be added by the clasp). Tip: this bracelet benefits from some extra room on the wrist. Make it a tad bigger than you would normally make for the size you're going for.

Taper down the ends. To do this, begin by leaving out the 6/o bead for one round, so using just (3) 11/o. Then complete the next round with only (2) 11/o. Complete one more round, this time using only (1) 11/o bead.

Toggle Bar Side: String (4) 11/o beads. Go through the toggle clasp, then go back through the (4) 11/o just added. Go back through the 11/o your thread exited at the beginning of this step. Go back through the (4) 11/o, loop around the toggle and then go back through the (4) 11/o. Go through one of the (3) 11/o beads that make up the final round in your spiral. Go through a different one than the one your thread is already through (this will center the toggle connection).

Toggle Ring Side: String (2) 11/o beads. Go through the toggle ring, then pick up (2) more 11/o. Go through an 11/o bead across from the one your thread is exiting. Go back through the (4) 11/o and toggle. Go back through the 11/o bead that your thread exited at the beginning of this step, making sure to go through it in the opposite side as your exiting thread. This will center the stitch.

Weave in and trim remaining working and tail threads.

The ring side of the toggle can be charmed! Create and add these after the bracelet is all finished.



**Adding the Bees and Honeycombs:** Cut a new strand of thread, 40 inches long. Bring your new thread into the work, about 1.5 inches up from the clasp. Weave around one full loop to lock in the new thread. When the tail stops moving when you pull on it, you've achieved a solid weaving in.

String a seed bead and a bee from the strand, followed by another seed bead. (Note, the seed beads included with the strand are a gorgeous addition). Tack under a thread anywhere in the spiral that is located under the length of the beads just strung. Next, string a seed bead, a honeycomb, a seed bead and again, tack under a thread in the spiral. This is freestyle, and you can string the bees and honeycombs in any sequence you like. Try to tack under a thread in the work at least every three beads. It might be a little wobbly on this pass. We will pass back through them in the next step to firm up.

**Tip:** Leave one side of the spiral, the underside that will sit against your wrist, free of embellishment.

After adding your last embellishment, tack under a thread in the spiral, and this time pass back through the bead you just added. Now stitch back through the beads, tacking under a thread as needed to solidify the position of any beads that need it. Weave in remaining thread and trim.

