

Michael's

Made by you™

***Brick Bees
Earrings***



***Learn to Increase
and Decrease in
Brick Stitch***

John Bead
ESTABLISHED 1954

What You'll Need

John Bead Miyuki Delicas:
Chalk White, SKU 10570155

Luminous Neon Ocean Blue, SKU 10627200
Opaque Black, SKU 10627204
Silver Lined Gold, SKU 10570158

Wire Guardians, SKU 10427055

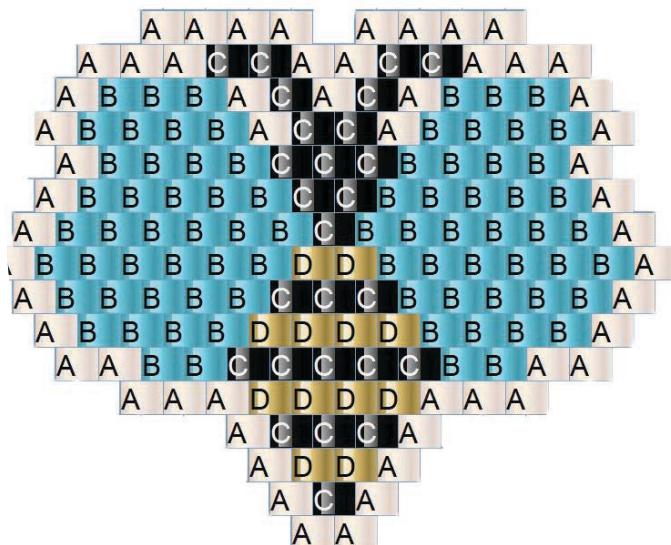
Multicolor Bright Tassel, SKU 10546388, need two packs for a pair in the same color

Fishhook Ball Earring Wires, SKU 10442914

Wildfire Beading Thread, .006, SKU 10104818, or
Nymo Nylon Thread, White, SKU 10390141

Size #10 Beading Needle, SKU 10332394

Beading Mat, SKU 10348546



Intermediate Beadweaving
1 Hour

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This class will focus on using brick stitch technique to create shapes that require some increases and decreases in the stitch.

We are working with size 11/0 delicas in four colors. You can easily follow the color chart pattern using a post it note or ruler.

Step 1

Cut a length of working thread that is 45 inches long. Thread a beading needle. This stitch is worked with a single strand.

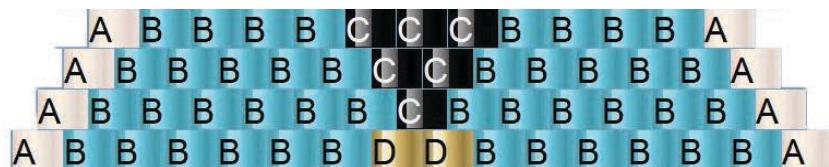
Ladder stitch leaving half of the thread as a tail. Most brick stitch designs are easiest worked up and down from the widest row in the design. We will first work the top half above the widest row. We will thread a needle onto the long tail to work the bottom half of the design.

Shown here is the widest row of the design. Build this using ladder stitch, and reinforce as you add each new bead. We will demo this in class.

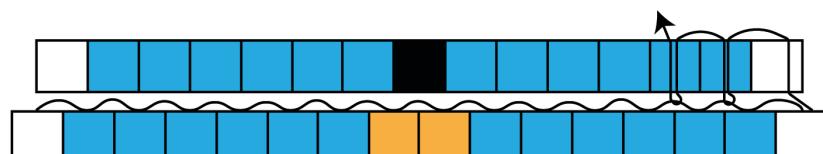


Step 2 - Begin Brick Stitch

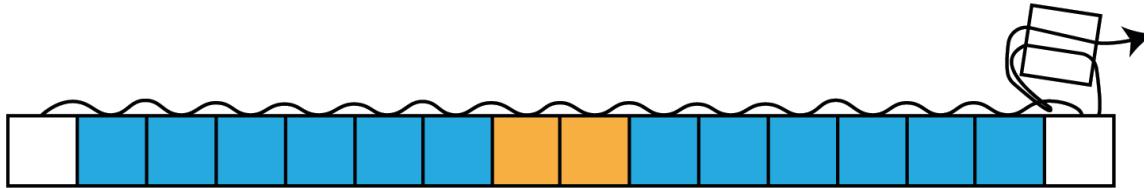
Create the next, three rows above this row using decreasing brick stitch. Decreases are accomplished easily by adding each new bead above the next thread bridge. There are a couple ways to start the row.



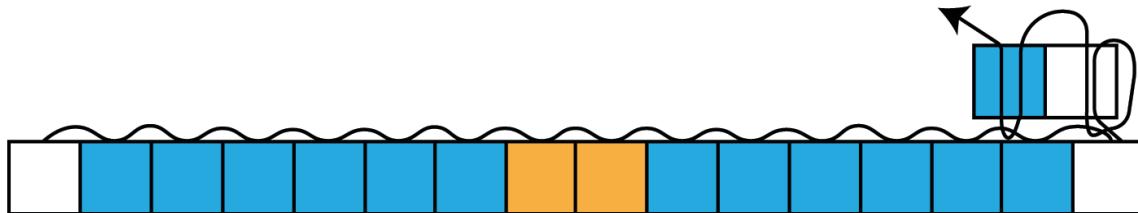
Method 1: You can pick up the first two beads and needle under the second thread bridge, coming up through the second bead. Then add each bead, one-by-one, needling under the next thread bridge.



Method 2: You can also start by adding just the first bead of the next row and needling under the first thread bridge. This method will show the thread on the side, but the bead will sit perfectly level.



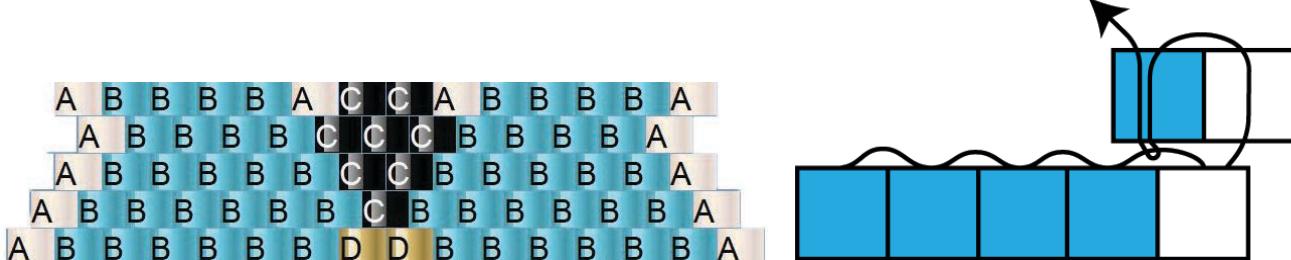
You can then continue on with the remaining beads in the row, one-by-one, by needling under the next thread bridge with each new bead.



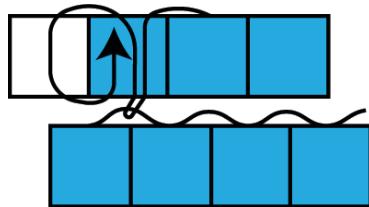
In method 1, you can straighten out the first bead in the row by going back through it, needling under the first thread bridge, then coming up through the second bead. In class we will demo both ideas and you can pick your favorite.

Step 3 - Increasing

The fourth row above the laddered base requires an increase. One way to accomplish an increase is to pick up the first two beads of the row and needle under the first thread bridge. Come up through the second bead.



When you reach the end of the row, you will not have a thread bridge for the last bead. Ladder the last bead onto the former.

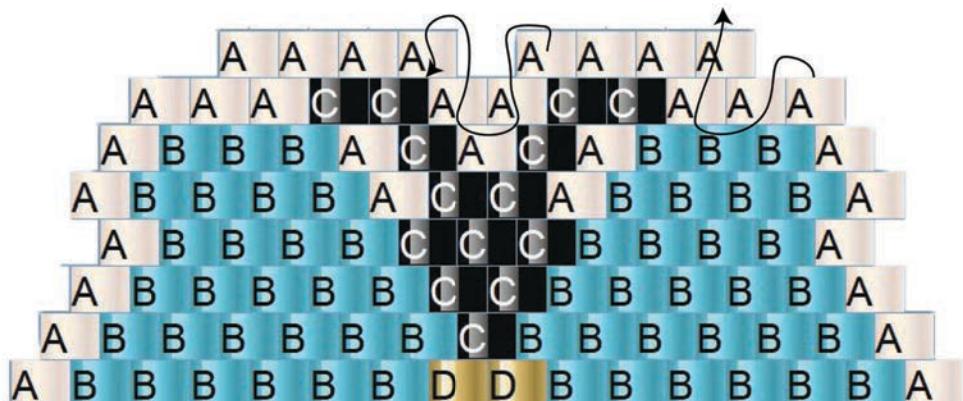


For the next two rows, decrease as normal. You may need to weave to exit from the edgemost bead to start method 1.

Step 4 - Larger Decreasing

To work the top row, you'll need to decrease twice. Weave down through the next bead, then up the next bead after that. Complete the first four beads of the row.

The next (center) position is skipped. If you don't mind the thread showing, you can weave over the last bead as shown, loop through the beads below and resume brick stitch into the next thread bridge.

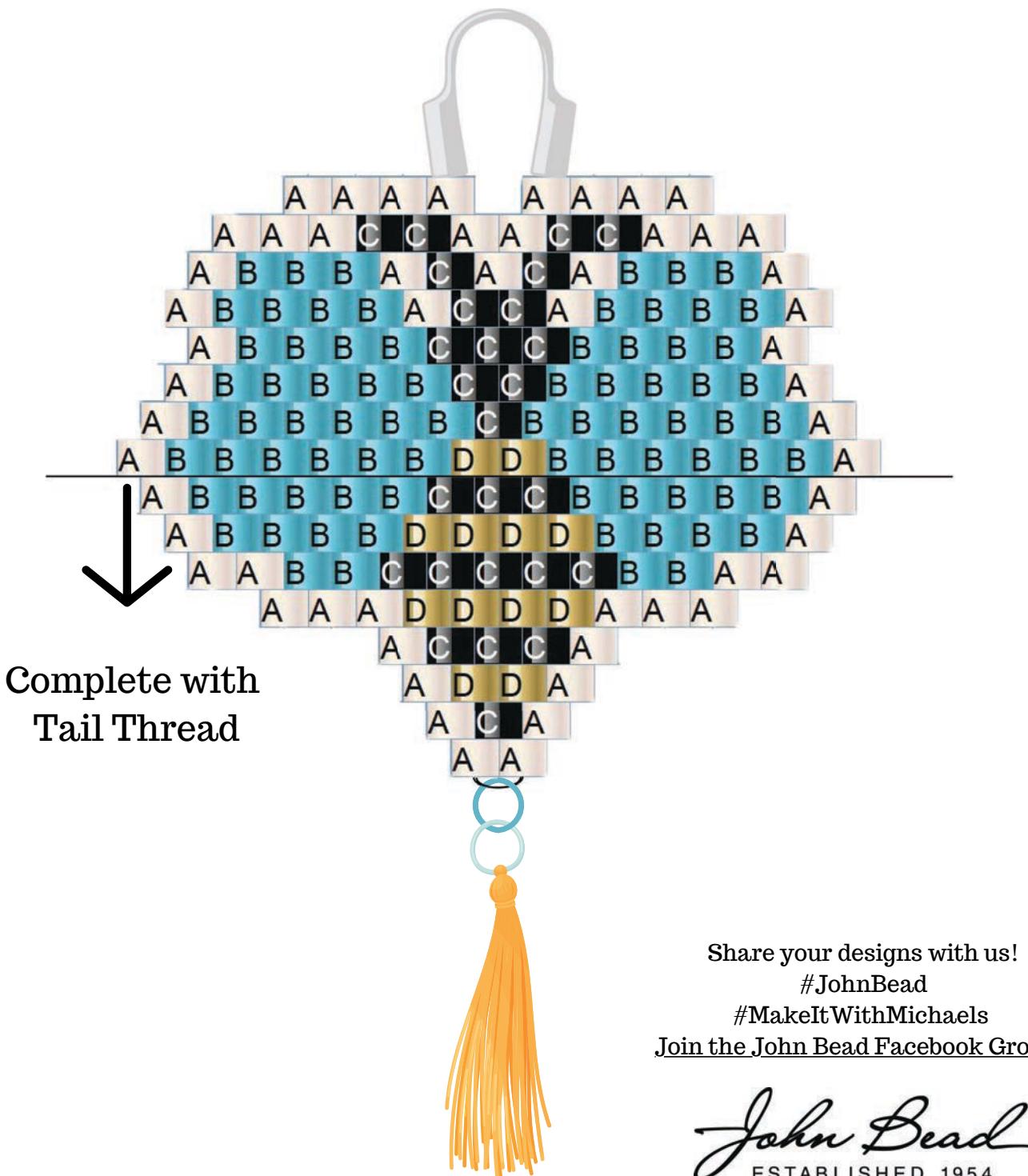


Alternatively, you could weave back through the former bead and through the work on a path that takes you to exit from the second white bead.

Step 5

Weave back to add and reinforce a wire guardian in the position shown.

Weave in remaining thread and trim. Thread a needle onto the tail thread left in Step 1. Using decreasing brick stitch, complete the bottom rows. With the last two beads of the final row, go through the jump ring of a tassel or charm if desired and reinforce, weave in, and trim.



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