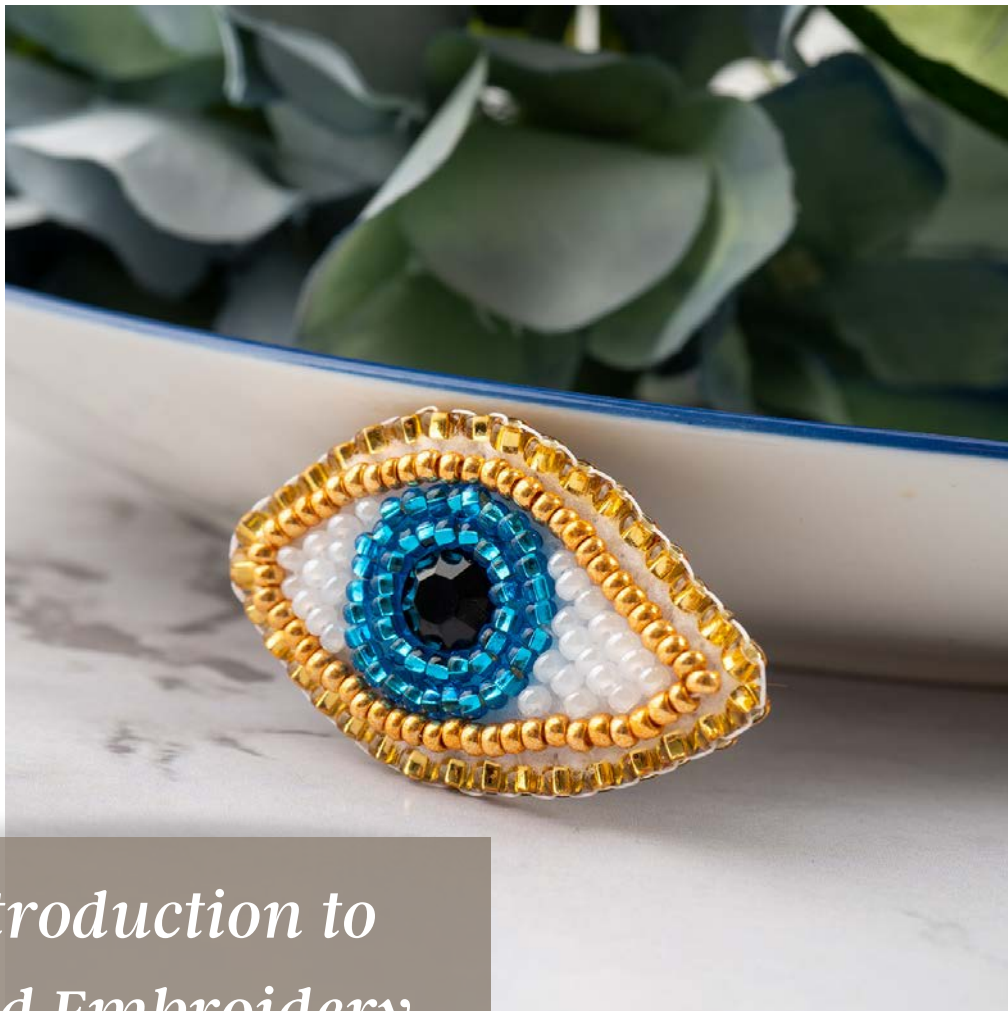


Michael's

Made by you™



*Introduction to
Bead Embroidery*

John Bead
ESTABLISHED 1954

Materials

John Bead Czech Glass Seed Beads

Size 8/0

Gold Silver Lined SKU 10549094

Size 10/0

Light Blue Silver Lined SKU 10478815

White Pearl SKU 10478830

Vintage Gold SKU 10416631

Stiffened Felt, White SKU 10153986

Basic Felt Walnut Brown SKU 10572115

Sticky Gems SKU 10426129

Wildfire Beading Thread .006 SKU 10104818

Size #12 Hard Beading Needle SKU 10348545

Fabric Pen or Fine Point Sharpie SKU 10636715

Fabric Glue SKU 10337239

Fabric Scissors SKU 10404020

Beading Mat SKU 10348546

Skill Level - Beginner

Time to Complete - 1 Hour

The logo for John Bead, featuring the name "John Bead" in a cursive script font, with "ESTABLISHED 1954" in a smaller, sans-serif font underneath.

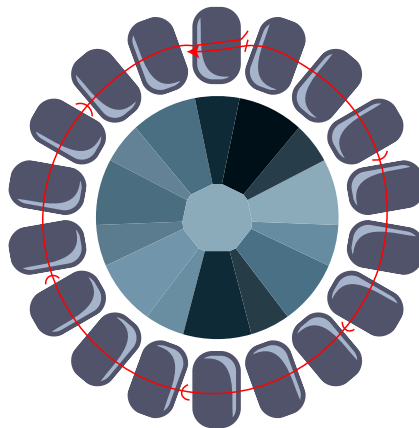
In this class we explore two, basic bead-embroidery stitches that can be used to create any design. The example project will demonstrate both bead embroidery techniques and then we will finish it with a layer of backing and brick-stitch border.

Step 1

Cut a 3.5 x 3.5 inch square of stiffened felt. Open a pack of sticky gems. Stick one in the center of the square.

Cut a comfortable working length of beading thread and thread on a size #12 needle. Fold over a section. This project is worked with a single strand. Tie a knot at the end of the thread, leaving a short tail. This tail will not need to be woven in. It will end up being glued down between the two sheets of felt.

Bring the needle up through the work, next to the sticky gem. String 18 of the Light Blue Size 10/0 seed beads. Go back through the first bead, then stitch down through the felt. Skip two beads, then come up through the felt in between the second and third beads. Tack over the strand in the ring. Repeat this step every three beads around.

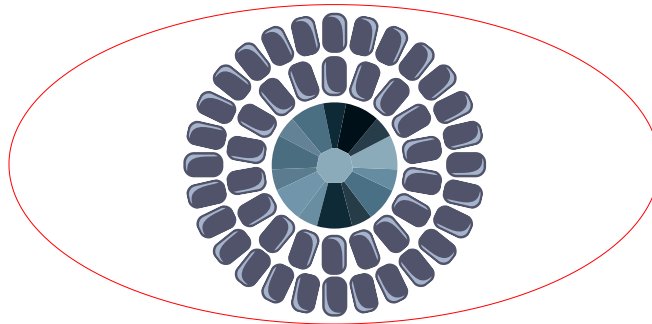


Step 2

Come up through the felt next to the ring just made. String 28 Light Blue, Size 10/0 seed beads. Go back through the first bead, then stitch down through the felt. Come up through the felt in between the third and fourth beads and tack over the thread. Repeat this step around.

Step 3

Set aside the needle and thread for a moment. Using a fabric pen or fine point sharpie, draw an almond shape, the oval of an eye, that touches the top and bottom beads of the second ring we just made.

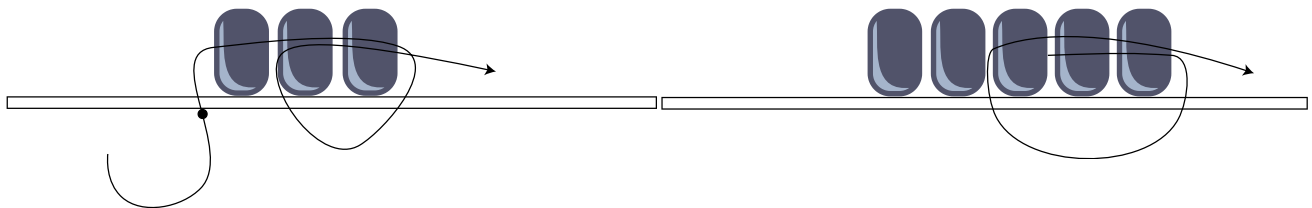


Step 4

Come up through the felt along the line we just drew, top center, above the first bead of second ring. Using the two-back stitch method, trace the oval line with Vintage Gold, Size 10/0 seed beads.

The two-back method: Come up from under the felt. Pick up three beads. Stitch down through the felt, then come back up in between the first and second beads. Go through the second and third beads.

Pick up two more beads. Stitch down through the felt. Come back up up through the felt, three beads back. Stitch through the three beads. This step is repeated, tracing along the line in your design.



Step 5

Continue Step 4 until you reach the first bead in the oval. Go through that bead and stitch down through the felt.

Tip: If at any point you need to add thread, simply tie off the short working thread by half-hitch knot to the nearest strand under the felt. Thread a new strand and tie a knot at the end leaving a short tail. Bring it up through the felt under the work where you left off. It can help to go through a few passed beads to maintain the flow of a curve.

Come up inside the gold oval, next to the blue ring of beads. Using the two-back method with white pearl 10/0 seed beads, fill in the space by creating four rows on each side of the iris. The bead count here might vary, just get as close as you can to filling in the space. Tie off remaining thread (see Tip above).

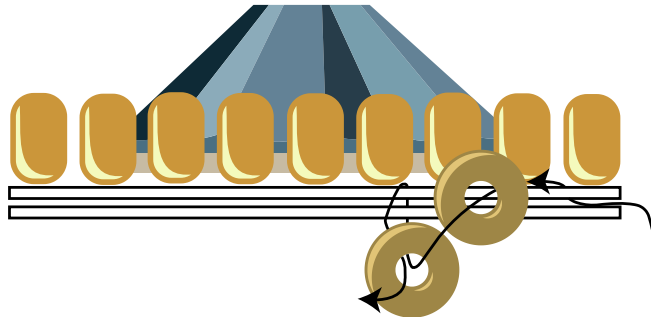
Step 6

Trim the eye along the row of gold 10/0 beads. Be careful not to cut any thread. Using fabric glue, apply a thin layer to the bottom of your piece and place it down onto the backside of a new piece of felt. In the sample design, a contrasting color of basic felt was used. Allow to dry.

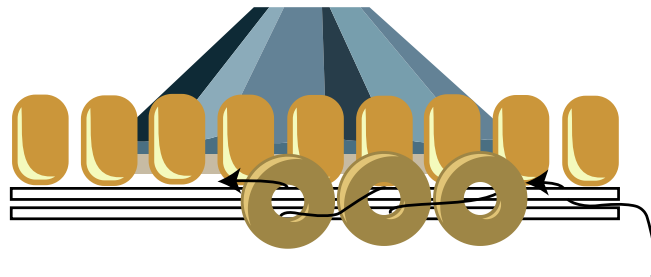
Step 7

Trim the backing layer of felt along the outside of the piece using fabric scissors. Begin a new strand of beading thread and knot the end leaving a short tail. Bring the needle in between the layers to come up through the top layer of felt, on the edge next to the outer line of beads. Try to snuggle the knot and tail in between the two layers.

Pick up two, size 8/0 Czech seed beads in Gold Silver Lined Color. Stitch through both layers of felt, from back to front, approximately two beads' length from the place the thread is exiting. Go back through the second bead.



Pick up one bead. Stitch through both layers of felt, from back to front, and come up through the bead. Repeat this step around.



Join to the first bead added in this step by going down through the first bead, stitching through both layers of felt from back to front, then coming back up through that bead.

To weave in remaining thread, go down through the next bead and again stitch through the layers of felt, coming back up through the bead. Two repeats of this should be sufficient to lock in the thread. Trim the remaining thread above the bead.

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