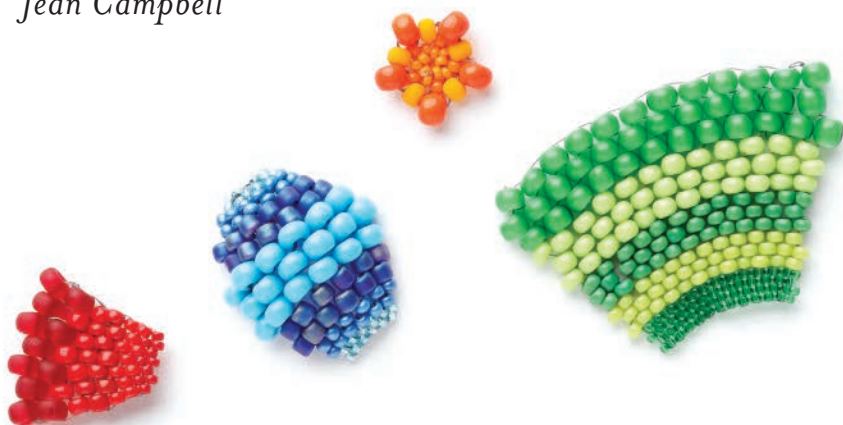


stitch pro { USING BEAD SIZES TO SHAPE PEYOTE STITCH }

Jean Campbell



Do peyote-stitch increases and decreases fumble you up? Why not try using different bead sizes to make your increases and decreases instead? You see, when you start with large beads and transition to small ones, it's magic—you've made a decreasing shape. The same goes when you do it the other way. Start with small ones and end with big ones, and you've got an increase. The trick is where to put your large and small beads to get the shape you want. Check out my examples below, and you'll be making curves, trapezoids, ovals, and discs before you know it . . . the easy way.

MATERIALS & TOOLS

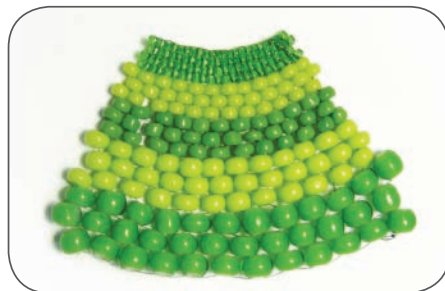
Size 15° seed beads (A)
 Size 11° seed beads (B)
 Size 9° seed beads (C)
 Size 8° seed beads (D)
 Size 6° seed beads (E)
 Size B nylon or 6 lb braided beading thread
 Scissors
 Size 11 beading needle

TECHNIQUES

peyote stitch

PROJECT LEVEL ①①①

See p. 94 for helpful technique and project-level information.



CURVE

For this technique, you'll string beads in decreasing size from right to left.

Rows 1 and 2: String 3E, 3D, 3C, 3B, and 4A.

Row 3: String 1A, skip the last bead strung in the previous row, and pass back through the next bead; repeat across the row in this bead order: A, B, B, C, D, D, E.

Row 4: String 1E and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat across the row in this bead order: E, D, C, C, B, A, A.

Row 5: String 1A and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat across the row in this bead order: A, B, B, C, D, D, E.

Repeat Rows 4 and 5 to the desired length.



TRAPEZOID

Start your first row with big beads, then taper to small ones to form the angle. To form an even trapezoid, work in odd-count peyote stitch so you'll have a definite center.

Rows 1 and 2: String 7E.

Row 3: String 1E, skip 1E from the previous row, and pass back through the next E; repeat three times. Tie the tail and working threads together to form a knot and pass back through the final E.

Row 4: String 1D and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat twice.

Row 5: String 1D and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat once. String 1D, loop the thread between exposed threads at the end of the previous 2 rows, and pass back through the final D to form a turnaround.

Rows 6–8: Repeat Rows 4, 5, and 4 using C.

Rows 9–11: Repeat Rows 4, 5, and 4 using B.

Rows 12–14: Repeat Rows 4, 5, and 4 using A.



OVAL

This little oval domes when you make it. Again, you'll come up with a nicer shape when you do this with odd-count peyote stitch.

Rows 1 and 2: String 2A, 2B, 2D, 3E, 2D, 2B, and 2A.

Row 3: String 1A, skip 1 bead from the previous row, and pass back through the next bead; repeat across the row in this bead order: B, D, E, E, D, B, B. Tie the working and tail threads together to form a knot and pass back through the final B.

Row 4: String 1A and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat in this bead order: B, D, E, D, B, A.

Row 5: String 1A and pass back through the next bead from the previous row; repeat in this bead order: B, D, E, E, D, B. String 1B, loop the thread between the exposed thread at the end of the previous 2 rows, and pass back through the final A to form a turn-around.

Rows 6–12: Repeat Rows 4 and 5 three times, then repeat Row 4.



DISC

Making discs this way is a little tricky because the thread often shows, but it can be done if you play with the bead sizes a bit.

Round 1: String 5A, pass through all 5A again to form a circle, and tie a knot to secure it.

Round 2: String 1A and pass through the next A of Round 1; repeat four times. Step up through the first A added in this round.

Round 3: String 1B and pass through the next A of Round 2; repeat four times. Step up through the first B added in this round.

Round 4: String 1D and pass through the next B of Round 3; repeat four times. Step up through the first D added in this round.

Round 5: String 1E and pass through the next D of Round 3; repeat four times. Step up through the first E added in this round. ♦

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