

# *Beaded Honeycomb Evening Bag*

By

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## The Basics



The body of this purse is knitted in the Honeycomb Stitch. The beads are inserted with a crochet hook at given intervals.

The opening of this purse is created with a facile hexagon purse frame, purchased at [hardwareelf.com](http://hardwareelf.com). The “D” rings are supported with crochet diagonal strips attached on opposing sides of the frames ends. This structure adds more stability than a single tab.

The interior purse and lining have a zippered pocket. This unit is made separately, and then the knitted purse is stitched by hand to the unit.



The shoulder strap of this purse is constructed with beads, crochet in a spiral rope. The attaching ends are created by crocheting rows of 6 sc until unit measure 1 1/2 inches. These ends are attached to the “D” rings.

My shoulder strap measures about 42 inches.

## **Materials Required**

### **Purse Only**

1 skein -Navy Lindy Chain, by Knitpicks- this makes a 9 by 5 purse body.

\*If you plan on a larger purse, be sure to order at least 2 skeins of the Lindy Chain or it's equivalent.

1 - 32 inch circle needle, size #3

2 boxes (40 grams, approx 640 beads in each) of .06 of Iris beads (Knitpicks)

1 # 10.3 crochet hook (for bead insertion)

1- 8 inch facile hex purse frame from Hardware Elf.

2- "D" rings

### **Shoulder Strap**

1 ball of Navy Curio crochet thread (Knitpicks)

1 #3 crochet hook

3 boxes of .06, multi-Iris transparent beads, 40 grams each (Knitpicks-item # 2 81608)

Estimate for beads ( 5 bead spiral rope\_ approx 40 beads per inch) For this project I made a 40 inch shoulder strap using about 1760 beads

### **Lining**

1/2 yard of fabric of choice for lining purse.

1- 6-7 inch zipper

1/2 yard iron on interfacing

Thread to match

You can view videos on YOUTUBE if you need instructions on how to make a zipper pocket for your purse.

## Knitting Notes

**First**, you **must** swatch the honeycomb stitch with the yarn and beads you are going to use, before planning you cast on. Using beads changes the natural gauge quite a bit, especially using the Honeycomb stitch.

**Second**- Also swatch a piece of Stockinette, as it is use to make the casing. If you knit tight, you may need to add some stitches at the transition so that you have the proper width to cover the purse frame. If you are making a different size purse, you need to measure between the spring ends. Remember these ends need to be able to move.

I chose to use the same needle and stretched mine a bit, letting the color of the under purse show through on purpose.

As you can see the bead rests right in the middle of the honey comb diamond. It is inserted in the “knit deep” portion of the pattern, as illustrated on page 3.

\*\* This pattern is for a 9 by 5 purse body.

I used a facile hexagon purse frame obtained from [www.hardwareelf.com](http://www.hardwareelf.com). For this purse I ordered an 8 inch frame. Allowing for the ends to be free, this leaves approximately 7 3/4 inches of casing inside frame.

### Facile hex frame assembly-

<https://search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?p=how+to+assemble+a+hex+frame+for+purse&ei=UTF-8&hspart=mozilla&hsimp=yhs-003>

Copy the above address and enter it in your browser. This is a great YOUTUBE presentation.

## Knitting Symbols

**K = knit**

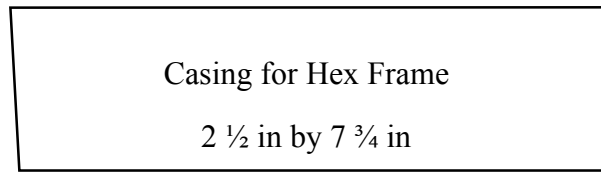
**P = purl**

**NA = needle A or first half of round.**

**NB = needle B or last half of round.**

**K deep= knit in stitch below the one you normally knit in.**

## Project Layout

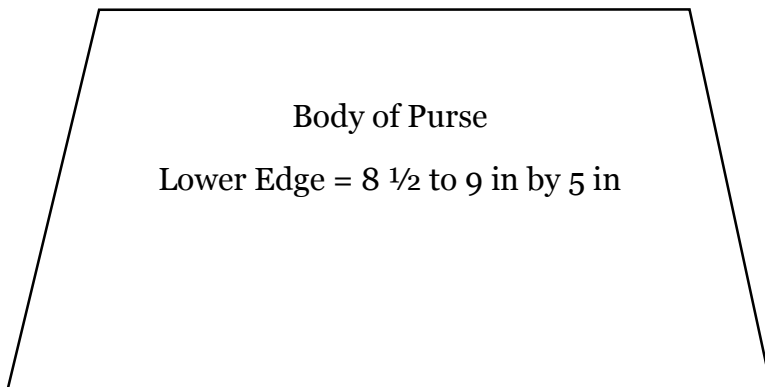


This illustration is just to acquaint you with the different sections of the purse.

The casing of the purse is knitted in Stockinette, which is worked back and forth, each side being worked separately.

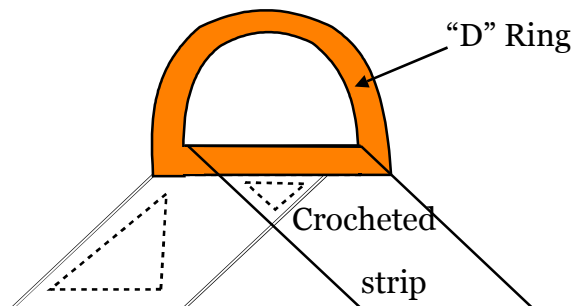


The facile hex frame of the purse has two sides, each of the sides needs its own casing.



The body of the purse is knitted in Honeycomb stitch.

In preparation for the strap to be attached, a “D” ring is placed at each end of the frame. The support for this “D” ring is a diagonal piece of single crochet diagonal strip using a foundation of 7 sts ( or use what ever your gauge is to match the width of the bottom edge of the ring).



It is crocheted to a length of about 3 - 3½ inches. The “D” ring base should set even with the top edge of the purse and be centered in the folded strip.

The diagonal strip allows for a firm diamond shaped stitching on both sides of the casing. The “D” ring is secured in

## Casting On

**Whatever size you have decided on for your purse, be sure to use an even number of stitches for your cast on.**



**The cast on-** Using #3 circle needle, knit cast on 44 +1 sts (or your #). Push your stitches to the left on to the cord of the circle needle. Make sure that the bottom edge of the cast on stitches is up, as seen "A."

Pull out the cord between the 44 th and 45 th stitch, then point the right tip of the needle to the left, as shown. "A"



With the cast on stitches resting on the cord, knit up 43 sts across, using the loops in the bottom edge of the original cast on. You should now have 44 sts on NA, and NB. "B"



Next, position stitches, so that both needle tips are pointing to the right as shown. The working yarn is coming out of the top of the last st. "C"





Flip the needle over and point both needles to the right. The working yarn should now be coming out of the top needle (or needle B which will be the last half of the round). **“D”**



Pull out NB (needle “B”) so that its tip is freed to begin the first half of the round. **“E”**



To begin the Set-up round, **purl** across, NA (needle A, the first half of the round). **“F”**

Turn needles so both tips point to the right. Pull out tip of back needle, NA, and use it to **purl** across NB, to finish the round. This is called “magic loop knitting.”

**\*\*This purl round make the elongated stitch of the first round of the Honeycomb pattern stand out more clearly, than if you knitted the set-up round.**

# Honeycomb Stitch Illustrations

## Bead Insertion

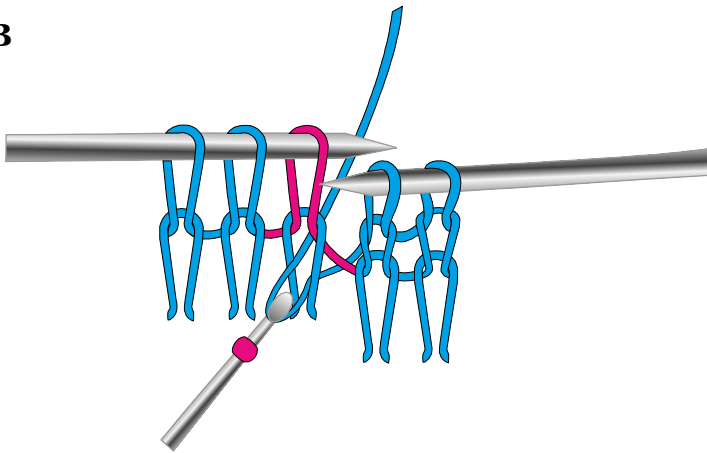
A

Rnd # 1 - [K 1; K 1 in row below/or K - deep] across.

In this pattern the bead is inserted in the K-deep st as follows:



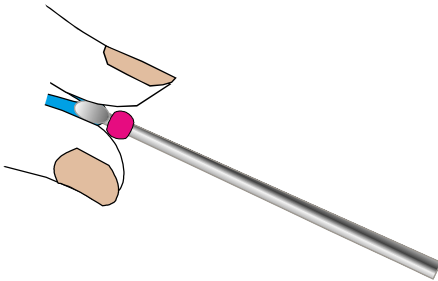
B



1. Pick up bead with crochet hook, slide it back as far as it will go. "A"

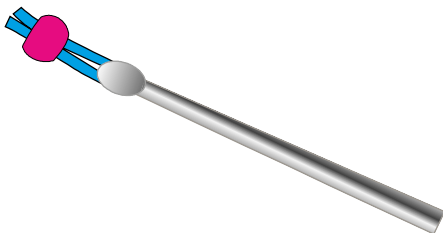
2. Using crochet hook instead of knitting needle, insert hook in stitch below the next stitch to your left (knit deep), pull yarn through. "B"

C



3. Leaving original stitch (in pink) on the left needle, grip bead and head of hook, with finger and thumb of left hand, and gently pull yarn through the bead. "C"

D



4. Once the bead is on the yarn "D", place the loop on the right needle, and gently wiggle the yarn and needles to adjust the tension, taking up any unnecessary slack.

\* Note- if it doesn't move, you have split the yarn.

Now repeat **K 1; K-deep across NA**, placing a bead on the yarn every time the pattern calls for a "**knit deep**" or knit in stitch below.

Repeat same for NB.



Rnd # 2 - Begin this round by bringing your yarn forward in preparation to purl P 1. Next, with the right tip of your needle, lift the long stitch coming out of the original purl row up and unto the left needle. Purl these 2 loops together. Repeat the process around, [P 1, Lift loop, P 2 tog].

Rnd # 3 - [ K-deep (insert bead), K 1]; repeat around.

Rnd #4 - Yarn back, set up to purl. [Lift loop, P 2 tog]. Repeat around.

Repeat these 4 rows for 5 inches, ending purl round.



### **The Casing**

Next, knit 3 rounds even. **You will note that your gauge has changed, and that your purse is drawing in. IF need be add stitches evenly on NA and NB to make sure you have the width you need.**

Rnd#4. Turn and purl across NB, 44 sts ( or your required number of stitches).

Working back and forth, knitting RS rows and purling WS rows, work Stockinette until piece measures 2 1/2 inches. Bind off.

Repeat this Stockinette casing for NA. Bind off.

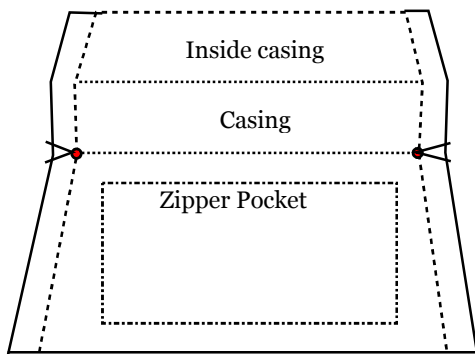
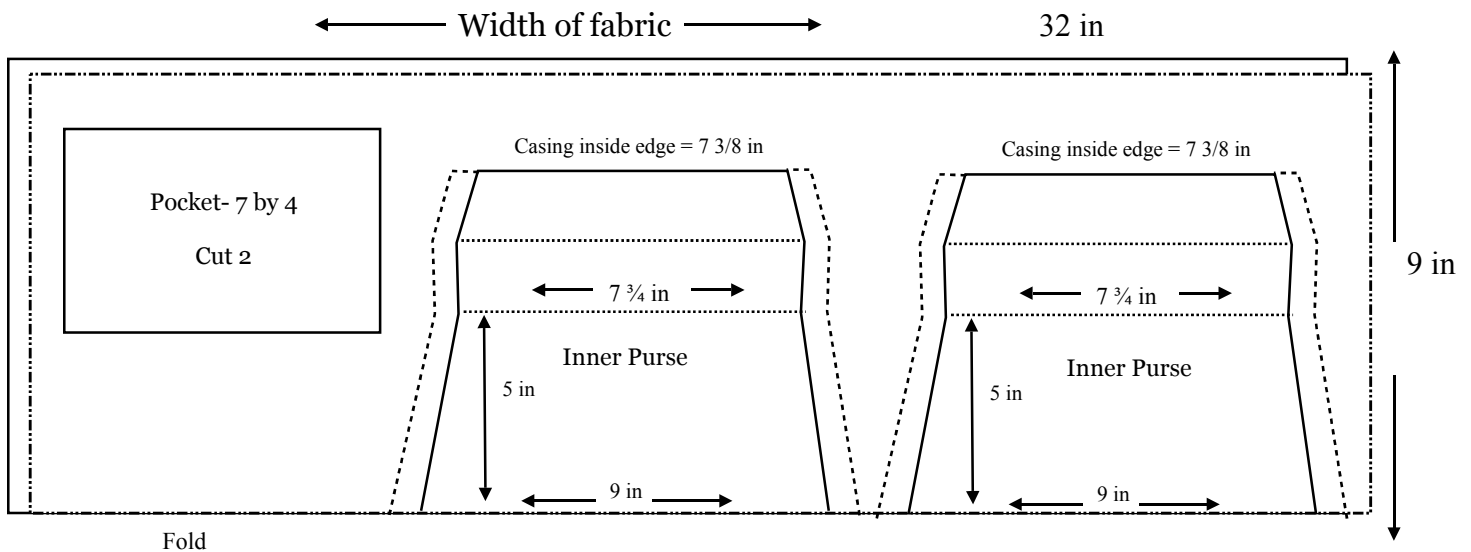
These two separate flaps will be folded over the interior lining bag, and stitches by hand to secure it to the inside purse.

## The Purse Lining

For this particular purse I made a double purse, lining and cover out of cotton. I put a zipper in the inside lining of the cotton purse.

Why two purses? First I wanted a bit of the lining to show through, and it does in the casing area. It also gave the purse some real stability, and this is especially good with this type of purse frame.

I also pressed iron-on interfacing to the inside lining, only.



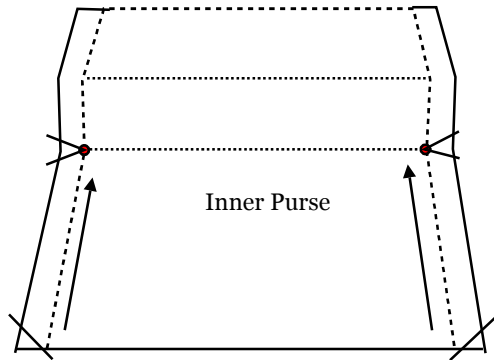
### Assembly

1. Unfold one unit for inner lining. Press interfacing to unit.
2. Opt- Position zipper pocket about 1 inch below top of purse body.
3. With right sides facing each other fold unit as shown and stitch from bottom along side seams to red dots.

Back stitch to reinforce. Clip to seam at red dots.

Repeat step 3 for other unit.

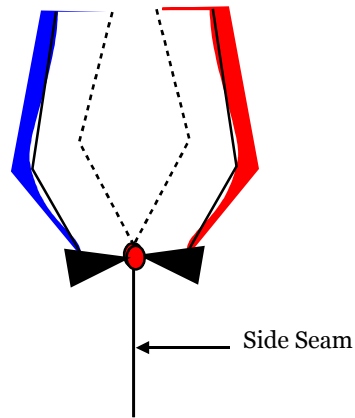
## Assembly-cont



4. Clip bottom corners, turn outside purse so that right sides face out. Leave inner lining with zippered pocket with wrong side facing out.

5. Slip out side purse into the middle of the inner lining. You now have units facing right sides together.

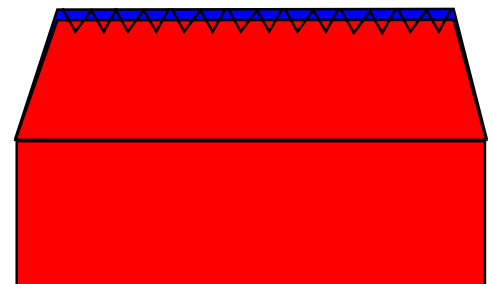
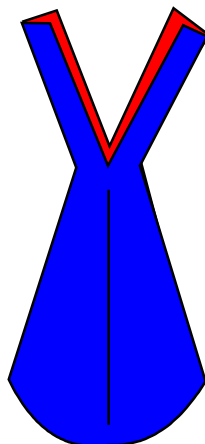
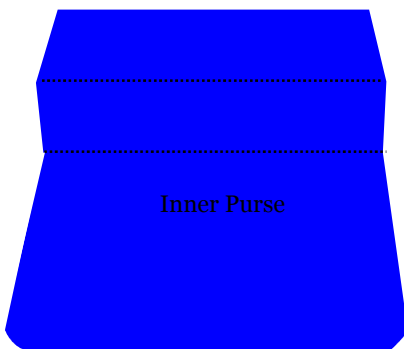
Turn the purse so you are looking at the side seams.



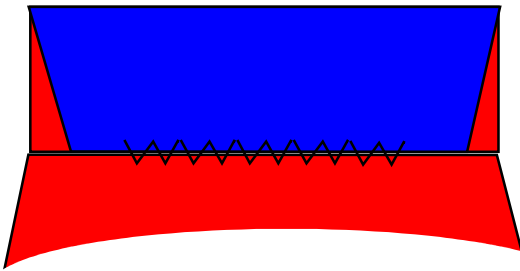
6. Pin each side of the units together so that front side edge matches front of lining (red). Back side edges are to back side lining (blue). Sew together from red dot to top.

Turn purse to other end, and repeat the process. Turn outside bag to right side. Press purse seams and side edges of casing.

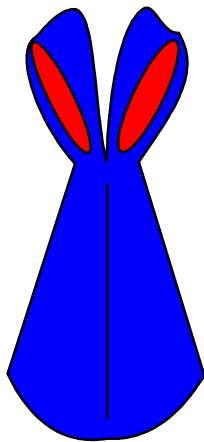
Zigzag top casing edges of cloth purse together.



Fold



Fold casing in half toward inside lining, and stitch down , forming the casing.



Repeat for the other side of the inner purse.

Once that you have completed this stage, slip your knitted purse over the top of the inner bag.

Fold the knitted casing over the top of the casing of the cloth inner purse. Slip stitch the top edge of the knitted casing to the zigzagged edge of the inner bag. See illustration at left , in “red.”



Repeat the same process on the opposite inside edge bag casing.

Now turn the bag to the out side.



Spread the knitted casing evenly across the right side of the bag. From the top folded edge, measure down 1 1/4 inch. Pin knitted casing to inner bag.

With **small back stitches**, sew through knitting and inner bag.

\* if you have matching thread, you will not be able to see these stitches at all. Take your time, secure it well.

Repeat, on opposite side.

Now you can assemble one end of your hex frame, and insert it into one end of the bag. Once it is in place, then slip your final pin into the open end of the frame.

Now you can pop open your hand bag.

The next task is to attach the “D” rings.

To do this I crochet a 7 stitch diagonal strip, then folded it over the “D” ring.

In the illustration at the left, you can see that I positioned the ends of the strip so that their ends are parallel to the Honeycomb knitting of the main body of the hand bag

Sew the diagonal area as shown in photo, with small back stitches ( I even added some extra stitches on the inside of the diagonal, and slipped stitches the edges for good measure.

Adjust the “D” ring to set in the middle of the hex hinge, then stitch it in place as shown with green outline.

\* Make sure that the “D” ring is where you want it to ride before you take on stitching the “green” triangle.







### **Crochet Spiral Shoulder Strap**

1 inch = 40 beads and 24 inches of crochet thread using #3 hook.

Pre string your beads on the crochet thread. If you have to add, then wait, peel off thread from ball at other end and string your beads on the opposite end of your work. Because you know that you need at least 24 inches for each inch of the rope, you should be able to calculate the amount quite easily. I always add a few extra yards for good measure.

I have inserted a pdf illustration that I found on the net to show you the process. However, I used a **5 bead spiral**, instead of the 6 beads shown in the instructions. Below is how I started the strap.

MY strap begins with a **6 st sc base**. Crochet a 7 st chain. Turn. Work 6 sc in chain. Ch 1. Turn. Work 6 sc across, ch 1, turn. Cont in this manner until you have about 1 ½ inches. You can make this a bit longer if you like. This is the strip you will be using to attach the strap to the “D” ring.

Next row, join first and last stitch to form ring, insert hook in 1<sup>st</sup>, sc, push 1 bead over hook to right, yo, draw thread thru both loops on hook. Repeat across. You now have **5 beads** inserted into you unit. Next, put hook under 1st bead at your left, push bead to the right so that your loops are lined up. Bring working thread clockwise around bead you just pushed over to the right and bring it up and over the hook. Bring down a new bead, push it over the hook and to the right so that it sets on the original one you pushed over. Holding it firmly in place with the middle finger of your right hand, YO and draw loop thru both loops on hook. See illustration on next page.

**Follow the instructions in the pdf file.** Warning-this takes patience.

When you have the length you need. Chain 1, then work sc, around the circle, without adding anymore beads. Work 2 sc in last loop. You now have 6 sc. Chain 1, turn. Work sc in each sc across, chain one, turn. Work this strip to match your beginning foundation strip of 1 ½ inches or more.

Techniques > Bead Crochet Techniques >



### Crocheted Rope

See the tabs below for all products and tools used in this technique, plus any additional tips that may be helpful to you!

Description | Products Used | Tools Used

Circular bead crochet is done using beads and pearl cotton. Weaving is done using a size 6 (1.8mm) crochet hook. Beads are strung onto the pearl cotton before beginning to crochet.

#### Inspiration Level

Printer-Friendly

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Step 1

Leave the pearl cotton yarn on the spool. Thread the end through a twisted wire needle. Twisted wire needles are flexible, and although the eye looks big it will collapse down when pulled through a bead. Use the needle to string all of the beads you will need for the project.



Step 2

To help show the technique more easily, here we will show a six-bead rope, with each bead shown in a different color. String the beads in the sequence described for your project. Keep in mind that when the rope is woven, the beads will be arranged opposite of the way they are strung. **Tip:** String more beads than you think you will need since it will be impossible to add more once you've begun to stitch.



Step 3

After you finish stringing all the beads, do NOT cut the thread. You will continue to use thread from the spool as you crochet. Remove the twisted wire needle. Leave an 8-12-inch tail, and make a slip knot. In the diagrams, the tail is shown much shorter than in reality to prevent confusion about which end is the tail.



Step 4

Slip the loop onto a crochet hook. Tighten the loop around the shaft of the crochet hook.



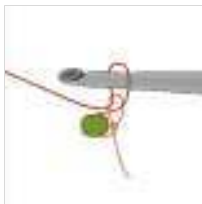
Step 5

Begin by making a chain. Since this is a six-bead rope, the chain will be six beads long. Slide one pre-strung bead down into position, near the slip knot, sitting toward the back side of the crochet hook.



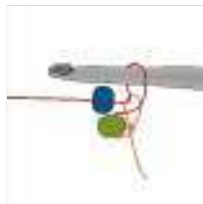
Step 6

Bring the yarn around the hook from the back to the front. This operation is referred to as "yarn over".



Step 7

Catch the yarn with the hook, and pull it through the loop. This completes one chain stitch with a bead.



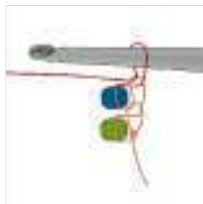
Step 8

Slide one pre-strung bead down into position, near to the hook, sitting toward the back side of the crochet hook.



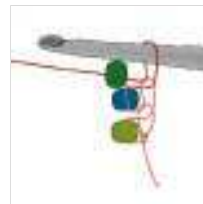
Step 9

Yarn over the front of the crochet hook.



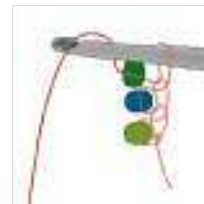
Step 10

Catch the yarn with the hook, and pull it through the loop. This completes one chain stitch with a bead.



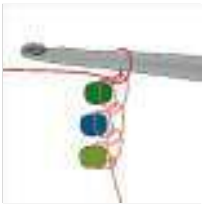
Step 11

Slide one pre-strung bead down into position, near to the hook, sitting toward the back side of the crochet hook.



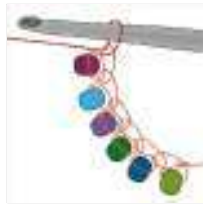
Step 12

Yarn over the front of the



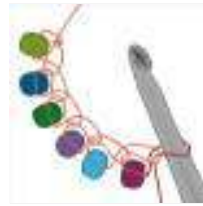
**Step 13**

Catch the yarn with the hook, and pull it through the loop, completing another chain stitch with a bead.



**Step 14**

Repeat steps 11-13 until you have a chain of six beads. The chain will have a slight curl.



**Step 15**

Leave the loop in place around the hook, and grab the tail end of the yarn. Pull it up next to the crochethook.



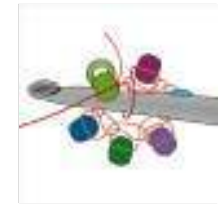
**Step 16**

Join the ends to form a ring by sliding the hook through the first loop of the chain next to the tail. Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.



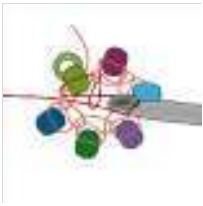
**Step 17**

Connect the chain into a ring. Bring the working yarn around the bead you just pushed over the crochet hook so that it is between the first (peridot) and last (fuchsia) bead of the first round. The yarn will cross over the hook.



**Step 18**

Slide a pre-strung bead (peridot) into position, so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned to the right of the hook. When working with a different pattern, this bead may be a different color than the bead in the previous row. For this tutorial, the bead will always be the same color as the bead in the previous row.



**Step 19**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



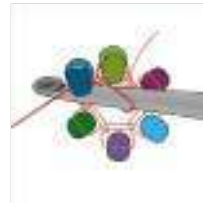
**Step 20**

Slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (navy). Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.



**Step 21**

Bring the working yarn between the first (peridot) and second (navy) bead of the first round. The yarn will sit on top of (over) the thread loop on the hook.



**Step 22**

Slide a pre-strung bead (navy) into position, so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned to the right of the hook.



**Step 23**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



**Step 24**

Slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (dark green). Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.



**Step 25**

Bring the working yarn between the second (navy) and third (dark green) bead of the first round. The yarn will sit on top of (over) the thread loop on the hook.



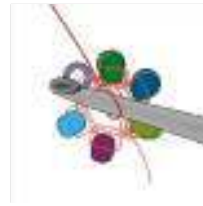
**Step 26**

Slide a pre-strung bead (dark green) into position so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned to the right of the hook. Bring the yarn across the front of the hook.



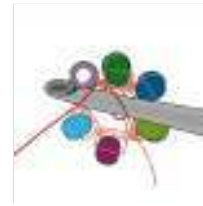
**Step 27**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



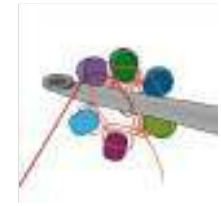
**Step 28**

Slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (purple). Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.



**Step 29**

Bring the working yarn between the third (dark green) and fourth (lavender) bead of the first round. The yarn will sit on top of (over) the thread loop on the hook.



**Step 30**

Slide a pre-strung bead (lavender) into position, so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned to the right of the hook. Bring the yarn across the front of the hook.



**Step 31**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



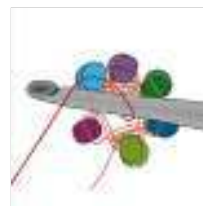
**Step 32**

Slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (turquoise). Push the first bead to the right of the



**Step 33**

Bring the working yarn between the fourth (lavender) and fifth (turquoise) bead of the first round. The yarn will sit on



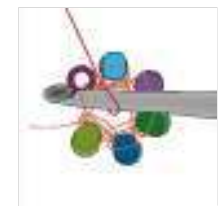
**Step 34**

Slide a pre-strung bead (turquoise) into position, so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned



**Step 35**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



**Step 36**

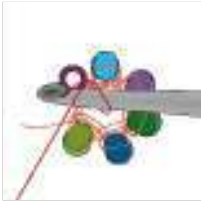
Slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (fuchsia). This is the last bead of the first round of

crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.

top of (over) the yarn loop on the hook.

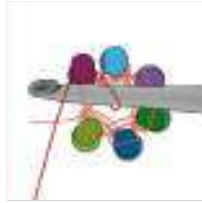
to the right of the hook. Bring the yarn across the front of the hook.

six. Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook.



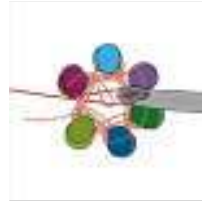
**Step 37**

Bring the working yarn between the fifth (turquoise) and sixth (fuchsia) bead of the first round. The yarn will sit on top of (over) the thread loop on the hook.



**Step 38**

Slide a pre-strung bead (fuchsia) into position, so that it sits on top of the bead of the same color in the previous row, positioned to the right of the hook. Bring the yarn across the front of the hook.



**Step 39**

Pull the thread through the two loops on the hook.



**Step 40**

To begin the third round, slide the hook through the next loop of the chain next under the next bead over (peridot). Push the first bead to the right of the crochet hook so the bead hole runs parallel with the hook. Repeat steps 21-39 until the chain reaches the desired length. Make sure on each round that sequence of bead colors match the previous row.



**Step 41**

As you create your rope you will notice that when you are working on a row the beads will sit with the holes oriented on a horizontal plain. When you add the next row, the beads turn, so that they sit next to each other with the bead holes pointing upward.



**Step 42**

Congratulations, you have learned to crochet a rope! Once you reach the desired length, you'll need to decide how to properly end off the thread. Check out our [Crocheted Rope Invisible Join](#) or [Crocheted Rope Clasp Option 1](#) to finish your piece.

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