

Spiral Brick Stitch Tutorial

Materials:

For 18" rope necklace, you'll need a total of 35 grams of 8° beads.

For a 3 color spiral, you'll need 13 grams of each color.



Attach a stop bead, if you like, with a 6" tail.

Stitch a ladder stitch 8 beads wide. Go through each bead twice to reinforce. This will help hold the beads in place while you create the first several rows.

For a 3 color spiral, stitch

A, B, C, A, B, C, A, B

Note the start thread and the end thread are exiting through the bottom of the strand.



Coil the end of the ladder stitch around to the left.



Slide the needle underneath the thread bridge between the first two beads and pull through.



Stitch back through that same bead.

The ladder stitch strand is coiled around, and the last bead of your strand is straddling the first two beads of your strand. Thread is coming out the top of the last bead.



Start adding beads.

Pick up a C bead and slide the needle (working from the center out) underneath the thread bridge between the second and third bead of the ladder strand.

Note that you are picking up a C bead, and the next bead on the ladder strand is a C.



Pull the thread through and then stitch up through the C bead just added.

Thread is coming out the top of the bead.



Pick up an A bead and slide the needle underneath the next thread bridge. Notice that your next bead after the thread bridge is an A bead.

You will always pick up the same color as the next bead on the row below.



Continue the spiral, by picking up a bead, sliding the needle under the thread bridge and then stitching through the bead just added.

You do NOT need to step up. You'll continue spiralling around and around until you reach the desired length. Although you've started with an 8 bead ladder, you'll have 6 beads going around the spiral.



Keep the tension loose! Every so often, roll the strand of beads on your beading mat to help all the beads fit into place.

Glue on bead caps to finish the ends. Hint: If your strand does not fit into the bead cap, use the 6" starting tail to continue the rope with 8° beads and 8° delicas. Switch over to 8° beads and 8° delicas at the finishing end to match.

This is not so good for a bracelet. The beads are too tight and it won't curl around your wrist. It makes a great necklace and there is no center cord needed as a support.

Use 8° hex beads and 8° seed beads.

Use all 11° seed beads for a much smaller profile.

Use 11° seed beads and 10° soft edge triangles.

Experiment with 2 and 3 color spirals.

A, B, B, A, B, B, A, B (Start with 8 beads for a 6 bead spiral)

A, A, B, A, A, B, A, A (Start with 8 beads for a 6 bead spiral)

A, B, A, B, A, B, A, B for a 2 color spiral. Just pay attention to the first color added when you connect the ends of the ladder strand.

Use up any 8° beads and make a shorter length. Glue on bead caps and then string chain, beads or pearls to finish the necklace.