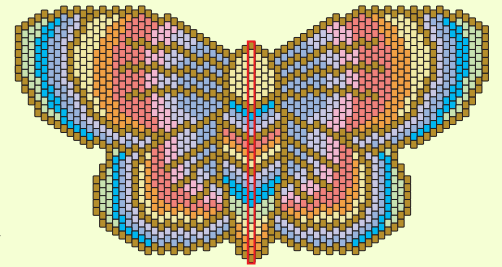


Bead Pattern Central Beading Tutorial

BRICK STITCH handweaving technique (diagonal)

Brick stitch is a popular handweaving technique that produces a sturdy diagonal weave. It can be worked flat and can be shaped and molded to fit a three-dimensional object. It's very useful for beaded objects that are heavily shaped. This guide teaches brick stitch using Delicas or Treasures. The technique is the same with seed beads, but the proportions of the resulting stitched piece will be narrower. When stitching a pattern, use the recommended size and type of beads for best result.

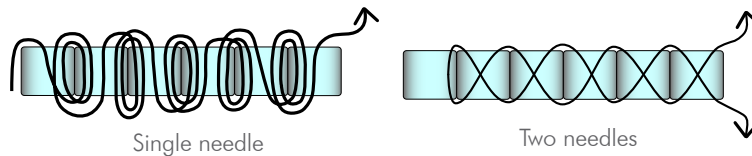
Brick stitch patterns are usually charted. In this example, the foundation row is outlined in red. This is the first row stitched; all subsequent rows are built off this row, in either direction.



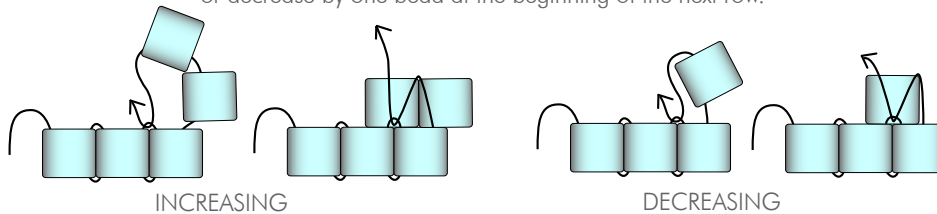
What you'll need:

Delica or Treasure beads, #10 or 12 beading needle, lightweight beading nylon such as Nymo B, scissors

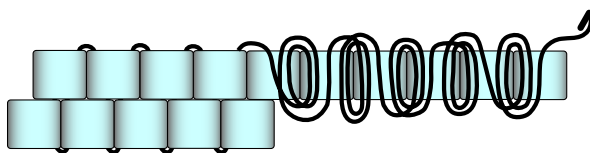
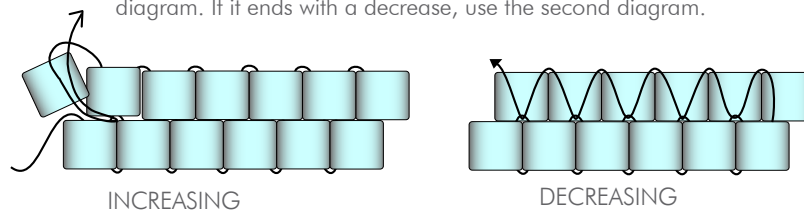
Begin by creating the foundation ladder, which can be made using one or two needles, as shown below. The foundation row is usually the longest central row in the pattern. In the sample pattern at right, the foundation row is outlined in red. All subsequent rows are built off the ladder.



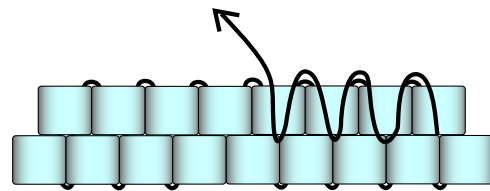
Your next row will either be larger or smaller than the foundation. Use the diagrams below to increase or decrease by one bead at the beginning of the next row.



Work across the row, adding one bead at a time. If the row ends with an increase, use the first diagram. If it ends with a decrease, use the second diagram.



If you're making a **large increase** in one row, you can "ladder out" until the required beads are added.



To make a **significant decrease**, weave the thread through the beads until your thread is in the proper position to begin the new row.