

BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

PEYOTE STITCH

TUBULAR PEYOTE STITCH (even-count)

Tubular peyote, sometimes called peyote-in-the-round, creates a cylinder of beadwork.

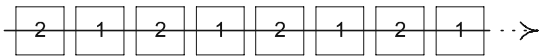


Fig. 1

Start by stringing the beads for the first two rows of your pattern, alternating beads from each row (Fig.1). You will start with a row 2 bead. The total number of beads in this string should be an even number.

Using a square knot, tie the two ends of the thread together, leaving a 6 to 8 inch tail.

Warning: Be careful not to pull the beads together too tightly or your cylinder will be stiff and rigid. I recommend leaving at least 1 beadwidth of play in the cycle of beads.

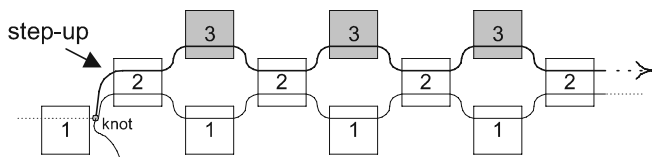


Fig. 2

Bring the needle through the first bead of the string (it will be a row 2 bead). *Pick up the appropriate row 3 bead and bring the needle through the next row 2 bead of the string. Repeat from * around until all the beads of row 3 have been added (Fig. 2).

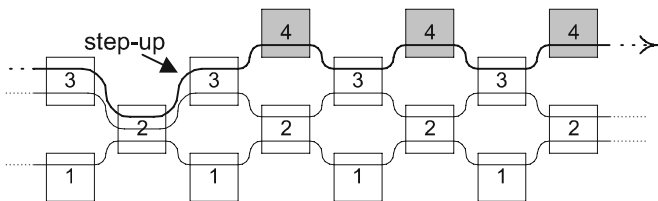


Fig. 3

When you get to the end of the round, bring the needle through the last bead of the previous round (to complete the current round) and then through the first bead of the current round to “step-up” to the new round. The step-up causes the beginning and ending point of each successive row to move over one bead, so be sure to follow the pattern carefully (Fig. 3).

😊 Helpful Hints

Tension

The tension in tubular peyote is very important. The tighter the tension the more rigid the piece will be. For the designs in this book you want the tension to be very soft (drape-like). If you find that the first couple of rows are too tight, carefully snip the thread between two beads and remove the first couple of rows. Attach a new piece of thread and redo the removed rows, being careful to match the tension of the rest of the piece. I have also found it helpful not to tie a knot when starting the tubular peyote. Instead, I work the needle back through about half the beads of the original string and start the pattern from there. Be careful to follow the pattern from that point.

Beading Support

It is also helpful to bead around a smooth cylinder tube, such as a bottle, straw or paper tube when doing tubular peyote. If you cannot find the right size tube, take a paper or plastic tube (such as a toilet paper tube) and cut it lengthwise. Squeeze it together until it is the right size and tape it closed, then insert it into the circle of beads. Remove the beading support once you start decreasing the peyote piece. For small straight tubular peyote pieces (used in the straps) I usually leave the tube in for support.

DECREASING AND INCREASING IN PEYOTE STITCH

DECREASING FLAT PEYOTE FROM THE SIDE

The turn at the end of row 4, and all even number rows, will be a natural turn. The turn at the end of row 5, and all odd number rows, will be an unnatural (figure-8) turn. You can use the figure-8 turn shown above or you can use a modified version of this turn from this point on at the end of all odd number rows.

Steps to perform the modified version of the figure-8 turn

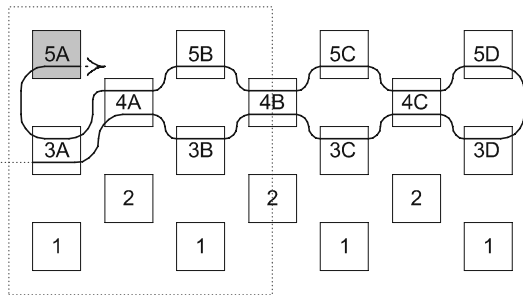


Fig. 10

1. After picking up the second-to-the-last bead (5B in Fig. 10) bring the needle through the last bead of the row you are working off of (4A) and the end bead of the previous row (3A) and pick up the end bead (5A) for the current row.

2. Bring the needle through the nearest bead of the previous row (4A in Figure 11).

3. Going back toward the side of the strip, bring the needle through the bead directly below it (2A).

4. Bring the needle through the second-from-the-top edge bead (3A) and then through the top edge bead (5A), going in the other direction.

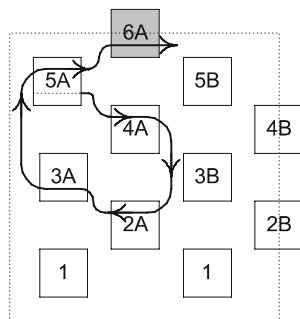


Fig. 11

The needle is now positioned to add the first bead (6A) of the next row.

The odd-count flat peyote will have a center bead (Fig. 12).

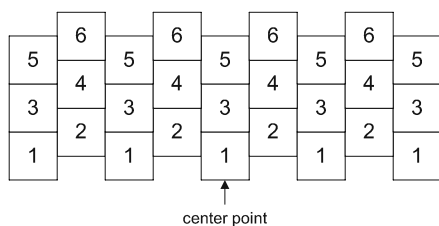


Fig. 12

To decrease flat peyote from the side, you simply do not add that last bead. In order to position the needle for the next row you must do what I call a 3-bead turn around.

Steps for the 3-bead turn around

1. Bring the needle through the bead that is directly below the empty space that was created because of the decrease. In the Figure 13 the decrease is an edge bead, but it doesn't have to be. The 3-bead turn around can be done anywhere on the row.

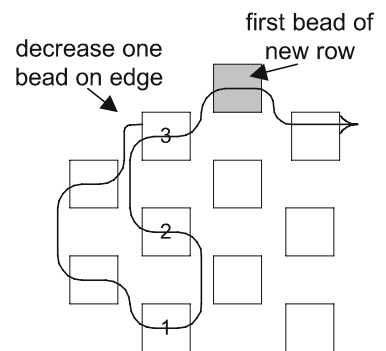


Fig. 13

2. Bring the needle through the bead that is directly below the current bead going toward the center of the strip.
3. Bring the needle through the third bead from the top of the next column (marked 1), again going in the direction towards the center of the strip.
4. Bring the needle through the second bead from the top in the same column (marked 2), but this time go in the direction towards the side.
5. Bring the needle through the top bead of the same column (marked 3), looping back to go in the direction towards the center of the strip.

The needle is now positioned to add the first bead of the next row.

DECREASING IN TUBULAR PEYOTE OR IN THE MIDDLE OF FLAT PEYOTE

It takes three rounds (rows) to complete a decrease in the tubular peyote or in the middle of the peyote strip.

Steps to decrease in tubular peyote or in the middle of the flat peyote

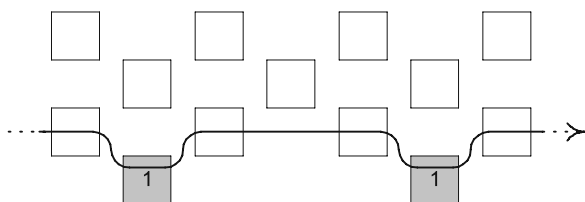


Fig. 14

1. On the first round (row), DO NOT add the bead. Do not bring the needle into the previous row, just bring the needle straight from one bead to another. The thread will show (Fig. 14).

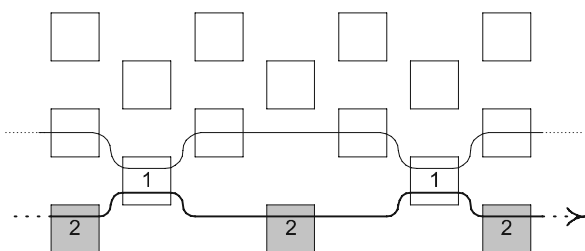


Fig. 15

2. On the second round (row), add a single bead in the large space left in the previous pass. Pull the thread to snug up the space (Fig. 15).

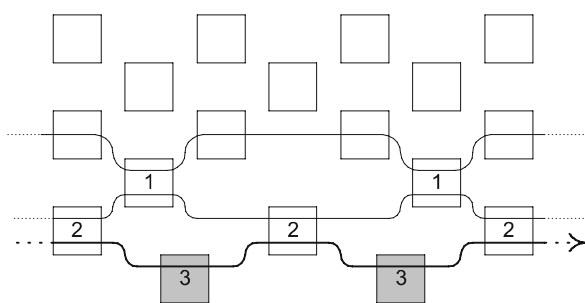


Fig. 16

3. On the third round (row), peyote as normal. You are now in position to do another decrease in the same column as the first (Fig. 16).

INCREASING IN TUBULAR PEYOTE OR IN THE MIDDLE OF FLAT PEYOTE

It takes three rounds (rows) to complete an increase in the tubular peyote or in the middle of the peyote strip.

Steps to increase in tubular peyote or in the middle of the flat peyote

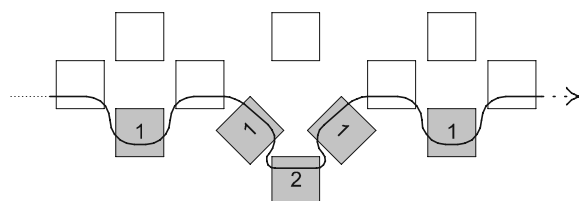


Fig. 17

1. On the first round (row) place three beads in the space instead of one at the point you want the increase. The first and third beads will be beads for the current row, but the middle bead will actually be the bead from the next row, so follow your pattern carefully (Fig. 17).

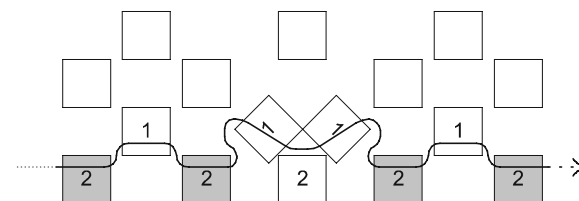


Fig. 18

2. On the second round (row), no beads will be added at the increase points. When you get to the three beads of an increase, go through the first and third beads only. DO NOT GO INTO THE MIDDLE BEAD (Fig. 18).

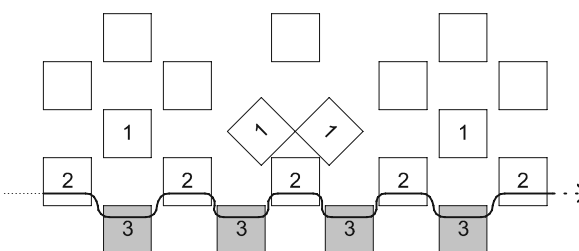


Fig. 19

3. On the third round (row), peyote as normal, going through the top bead of the three beads of the increase. You are now in position to do another increase in the same column as the first (Fig. 19).