

Bead Quilled Workshop  
Upper Midwest Bead Society

By Kathy King



## Materials

Size 10 Delica beads

\*You can use size 8 or 11 Delicas as well, though the size 11 can get too tight with how often you pass through the beads  
8 mm round beads

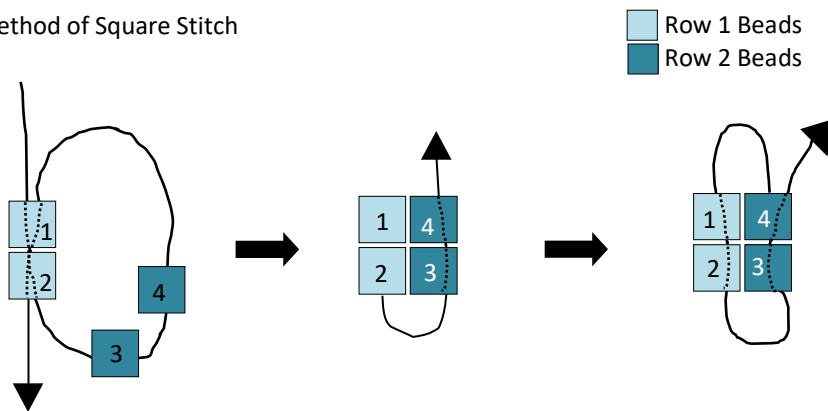
Beading Thread (Miyuki, One-G, Size AA C-lon)

## Bead Quilled Basics

Bead quilting uses two-bead ladder stitch to create thin strips of beads that can be manipulated into different shapes.

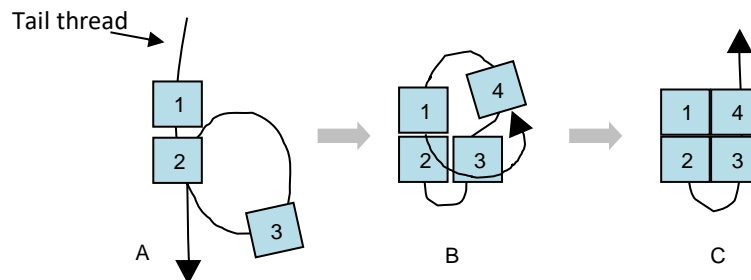
1. String two Delica beads for the first row (beads #1 and #2 in Figure F). Pick up bead #3 and #4 for the second row and go back through bead #1 and #2 in row 1. This will make row 2 sit next to row 1.
2. Go back through beads in row 2 a second time.
3. Do a complete second loop of thread through row 1 and row 2.
4. Continue adding beads until you have the required number of rows.

Figure F: Cheat method of Square Stitch



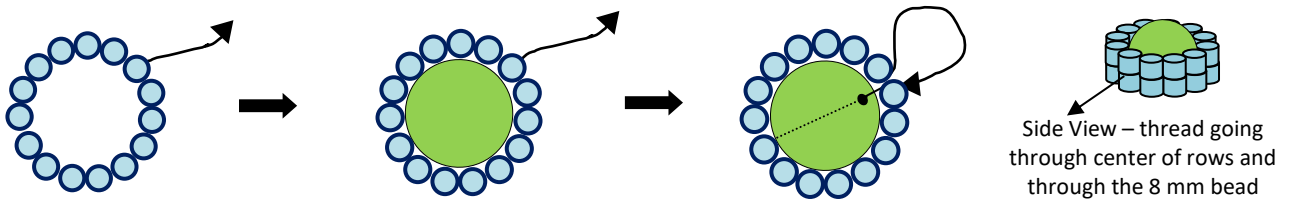
If you have trouble keeping your tension tight, you can also use the square stitch method of picking up one bead at a time. This method will create a tighter finished piece.

1. String two Delica beads for the first row (beads #1 and #2 in Figure A). Pick up the first bead of row 2 (bead #3) and go back through bead #2 in row 1. This will make bead #3 sit next to bead #2.
2. Go back through bead #3, pick up bead #4 and go through bead #1 again (see figure B). Continue back through bead #4 second time.
3. Now go back through both rows of beads, beads #1 and #2 in row one, and #3 and #4 in row two (see figure C).
4. Continue adding beads until you have the required number of rows.



## Encased Round Beads

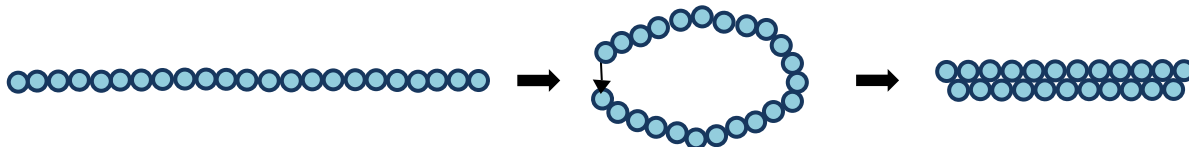
1. Create a section of ladder stitch (or square stitch) that is 2 beads high and 15 rows long. Connect the first and last rows, making sure to go through them two times.
  - \*If you are using size 8 Delicas with an 8 mm bead, you will only need 11 rows in your section.
  - \*If you are using size 10 Delicas with a 6 mm bead, you will only need 12 rows in your section.
2. Bring the needle out from the center (between the two beads in that row) of any row, away from the circle of beads. Pick up a 8 mm bead and place it inside the circle, lining up its hole under the row your thread is currently coming out of. Push your needle through the Delica beads, through the 8 mm bead and out the other side of the circle. Work through an adjacent row and back into the row the 8 mm bead is attached to, working back through the 8 mm bead and the rows of Delicas two more times to secure.



3. If you have a short tail left at this point, knot and cut off. If you tail is long, save for connecting shapes together later.

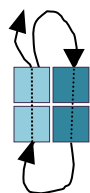
## “V” Shape

1. Create a strip that is 23 rows (46 beads) long. Fold the strip in half, connecting adjacent rows to create a straight bead quilled section (see Connecting Rows and Layers below).



## Connecting Rows

Connecting the rows consists of coming out the top of the first row and going down through both beads in the second row, then back up through both beads in the first row. The thread path will make a complete circle through the two rows.

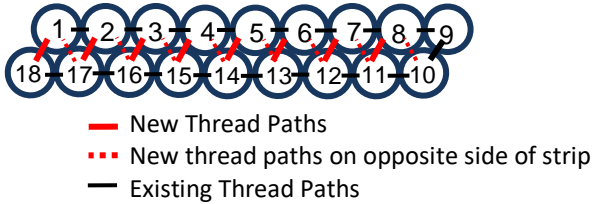


- Side view of Row 1
- Side view of Row 2

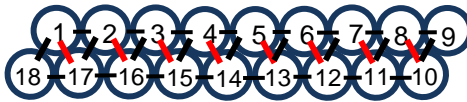
## Connecting Layers

To create a straight section, work down the two layers diagonally connecting adjacent rows until you reach the end. Work back in the opposite direction, again making diagonal connections between adjacent rows on both sides of the strip. You should have thread connections between all adjacent rows on both sides of the strip of beads once you have returned back to where you started.

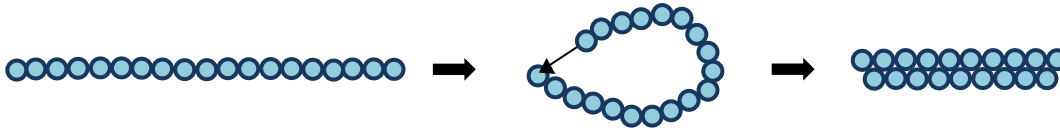
Connecting thread paths – first pass



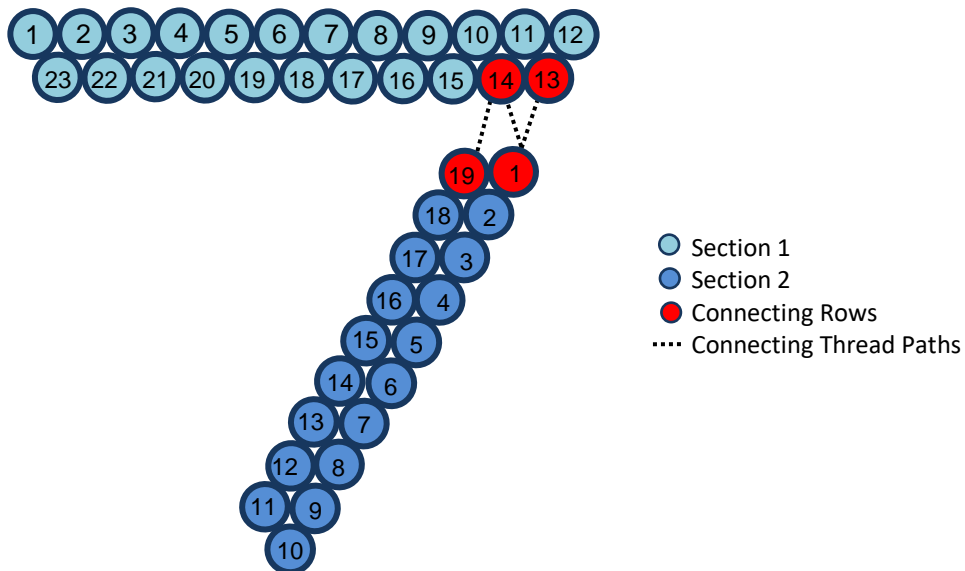
Connecting thread paths – second pass

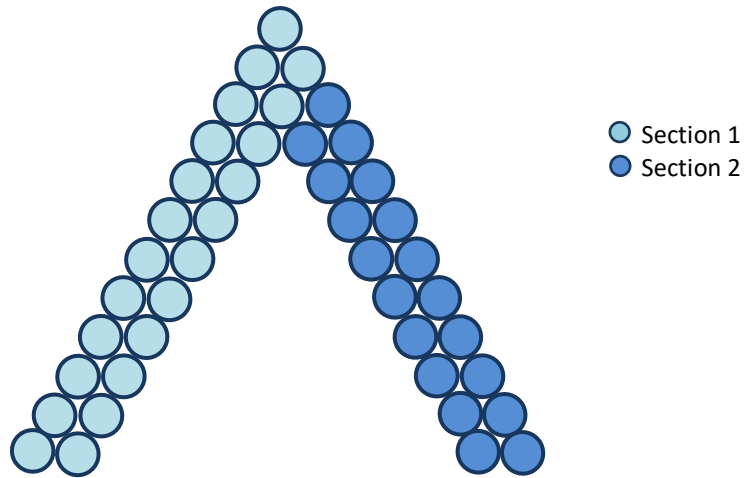


2. Create a second strip that is 19 rows (38 beads) long. Again, fold the strip in half, connecting adjacent rows to create a straight bead quilled section.



3. Align the two sections up as shown below, with the shorter beaded section under the longer beaded section, to form a 45-degree angle. Connect the two adjacent rows from each section to one another. Make sure to go through the connections at least two times each to secure them. You can knot your thread and cut off any tail now or save it to connect pieces at a later time.

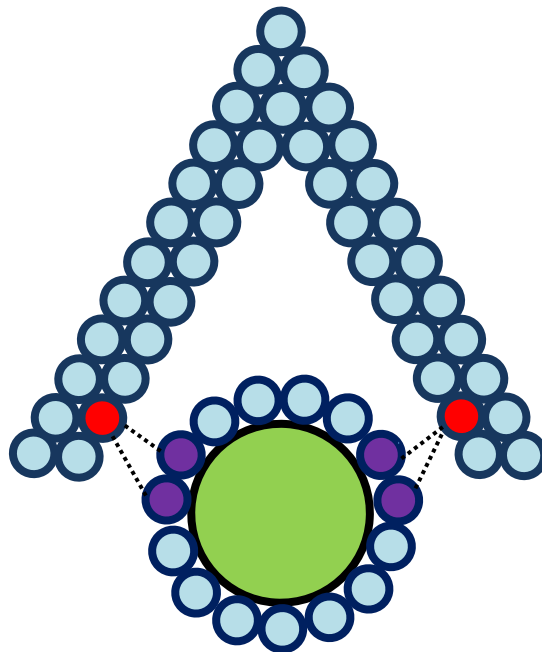




Connecting the two shapes

1. Align the V shape and encased bead as shown below. You will be connecting four rows (two on each side) from the encased bead to two rows on the V shape (one row on each side).

If you are using a different size round bead, having a different number of rows around it, just align rows from the circle and from the V shape and connect, making it as centered as you can (unless you want it uncentered –asymmetrical works just as well).



- Connecting rows from V shape
- Connecting rows on encased bead

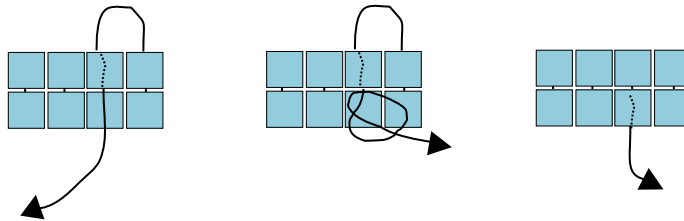
In the example shown in the picture, I added an accent thread color to the inside of the V shape. This is done after the piece is made and consists of making at least two passes in and out of each row along the inside of the V shape. The more passes you make with the thread, the heavier the accent color.



### Additional Bead Quilling Tips

#### Starting and Ending Threads

- When ending a thread, bring your needle out between the two beads in a row. Half hitch the thread you're working with to the thread running between the two beads in that row.
- Bring the needle out the second bead in the row and cut the excess thread.
- Adding thread is done in the same manner. Bring your needle, with the new thread, out between two beads in a row, knot the thread, continue out the second bead in the row, and start beading.



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Thank you!

Please contact me with any comments or questions.

Website: [www.kathykingjewelry.com](http://www.kathykingjewelry.com)

Email: [kathykingnc@gmail.com](mailto:kathykingnc@gmail.com)