

Knotty Necklace

Diane Fitzgerald

Materials

Forty-five to fifty 6–10mm beads (crystals, pressed glass, lampworked, etc.)

100 size 11° seed beads in color to complement the larger beads

3 yards of size FF, FFF, #18 cord or one card of 72" beadcord with needle (check to be sure the cord will pass once through your seed bead and three strands through your large bead)

Size B or finer Nymo beading thread

Notions

Scissors

T-pin

Size 12 beading needle

Watch crystal cement (G-S Hypo Cement)

Nail polish



This simple necklace can be worn in a number of ways: looped twice or three times around your neck; folded in half twice, twisted, and secured with a ring closure; folded in half three times and worn as a bracelet with a ring closure; or just as is, long and loose.

Step 1: Coat one end of the cord with clear nail polish and let dry to stiffen. Make an overhand knot 6" from the end of the cord. String 1 seed bead, 1 larger bead, and 1 seed bead. Snug the beads close to the knot and tie another knot close to the last seed bead strung. Insert a t-pin in the loop of the knot and, while holding the cord, push the t-pin toward the bead to tighten.

Step 2: Make another knot 1" to 1½" away from the last knot and string the same sequence of seed bead, larger bead, and seed bead. Snug with a knot. Tie another knot 1" to 1½" away from the last knot. Repeat until the necklace measures 72" to 84".

Step 3: Knot the ends together with a square knot between a seed bead and a large bead. Set aside.

BURYING THE CORD ENDS

Step 4: Cut a 10" length of Nymo. Thread it through the needle and tie the ends with a square knot. Dab the knot with nail polish so it doesn't come undone. Allow to dry. Pass the needle and most of the thread through the bead so only a loop of thread is still extending. Place one of the cord ends through the loop then pull the loop through the bead (Figure 1). Do the same with the remaining cord end.

Figure 1



Make the final knot by doing the first half of a square knot, then passing the ends around the cord, and doing a complete square knot. Saturate the knot with glue. Clip the ends near the knot.

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