

# One-Lo- Many Strand Necklace

Diane Fitzgerald

## Materials

3 oz. multicolored size 9° to 11° seed beads  
200–300 small beads, stone chips, rondelles,  
or size 6° or 8° seed beads

Nymo D beading thread

1½ yards of size F or FF bead cord

Clasp

2 clamshell bead tips

## Notions

Piece of multicolored clothing or a picture

Tape

2 size 12 beading needles

Small sharp scissors

Clear nail polish

Lighter

Pencil

Paper

Small box about 4" x 4" x 1" deep

12" x 18" piece of cardboard

Fresh beeswax or microcrystalline wax

Use a favorite piece of multicolored clothing or a picture as a guide in choosing the bead colors for this necklace. Color mixing with seed beads, a process similar to mixing paint, is an important part of creating this piece.

**Step 1:** Use the piece of clothing or the picture's colors to guide you in assembling small quantities of seed beads in related colors. Mix ¼ to ½ cup of these beads together in a small dish by adding about a half-teaspoon at a time and

### ADDING NEW THREAD

Add a new thread in the middle of a strand rather than near the cord loops. Leave the old needle on the thread. Prepare a second needle and thread as you did the first. Pass the new needle through the last 4–6 beads just strung so that both needles are coming out of the same bead in the same direction. Tie the old and new threads together with a square knot. Apply clear nail polish to the knot. String more beads on the new thread. Later bring the old thread through several beads and clip the excess.

watching how the color mixture shifts. Only add small amounts each time. Next, assemble approximately 200 small beads—rondelles, E beads, or stone chips in related colors in a separate dish.

**Step 2:** Cut two 24" pieces of size F bead cord and fold in half. Place them on a table so the folded ends are 13½" apart and tape them securely to the table. Point the loops toward each other.

**Step 3:** Thread a needle with 3 yards of thread. Bring ends together and knot with a double overhand knot. Clip the tails close to the knot and melt the knot slightly with a lighter. Wax the thread so that the two strands stick together.

**Step 4:** Attach the thread to the cord loop with a lark's head knot. Bring the knotted end of the thread near the cord loop. Separate the strands. Pass the needle between the two strands so that the knot is near the bead cord.

**Step 5:** Adding Seed Beads: String seed beads and after each needle-full, or about 1¼" of beads, add a small bead or stone chip. When the length of the strand is exactly long enough to reach the other loop, pass the needle through the loop and back through the last 2–3 beads just strung going in the opposite direction (Figure 1). Avoid adding a small bead near the bead cord loops because it will interfere with the way the strands hang.

Repeat Steps 3–5 until you have the desired number of strands for your necklace, usually twelve to twenty-four strands.

**Step 6:** After the desired number of strands are strung, remove the tape from the bead cord on one end and string 6½" of large, bold, solid color beads on the strands (both strands go through the large beads). Bring the two ends of the bead cord through a bead tip, tie with a square



Figure 1

knot, and apply nail polish to the knot. Clip the excess cord and close the bead tip over the knot. Do the same with the cord on the other side. Attach one part of the clasp to each bead tip.

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