Even count peyote stitch is created in alternating rows that always form an even number of staggered columns. You can make the strip as wide as you would like, as long as the total width is an even number of columns. In this example, we are creating a total of six columns.

1. Leaving a six inch tail (or longer if specified), add a stopper bead to keep your beads from sliding off your thread as you work. Choose a small bead that is a different color from the ones in your design. Loop through the bead twice and pull tight. [Diagram 1]

2. String beads for the first two rows (in this case six). [Diagram 2]

3. Perform an even count turn. To do this: string another bead (7), skip an existing bead (6), and thread through an existing up bead (5). Pull the thread so that the new bead (7) is stacked on top of the existing bead (6). [Diagram 3A]

**Tip:** To help keep the first rows from tangling, slip an unthreaded needle or wire through every other bead to hold them in the correct position until they start to stagger on their own. Make sure the beads are staggered as shown in the diagram with bead (1) as an up bead, bead (2) as a down bead, etc. [Diagram 3B]

4. Continue adding a bead, skipping a bead, and threading through the next up bead in the row until you get to the end. The beads should be stacked like the diagram. [Diagram 4]
5 Perform an even count turn. String a bead (10), skip an existing bead (1), and thread through the next existing up bead (9). Continue adding a bead, skipping a bead, and threading through the next up bead in the row until you get to the end. [Diagram 5]

6 Repeat this step until your pattern is complete. Add thread as needed. To do this, stop in the middle of the row, leave existing thread so you know where you left off. Weave a new thread into the body of the piece exiting in the same place as the original thread as shown in [Diagram 6]. Tie off the first thread in the same manner then continue beading with the new thread.

Tip: You may find it easier to flip the piece over so that you are always moving from right to left. When following a pattern, note that the front of the pattern will always be with the tail on your left.

7 Remove the stopper bead. Weave the tails into the body of the piece to secure, unless the tails will be used later to connect other elements [Diagram 7].

Visit the Design Studio for a Video Tutorial about Even-Count Peyote