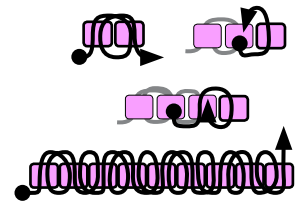


# THE BRICK STITCH

A brick stitch looks similar to a peyote stitch, but turned sideways. This technique is a bit stiffer than peyote, making it ideal for use in earring designs and small pins. A brick stitch is called such because of the off-set rows made by the beads, resembling a brick wall. The beginning of a brick stitch is made by sewing a series of beads that lay side-by-side, in a technique called the ladder stitch. Layers are added to this base row by sewing through the stitches holding the layer below together. The result is an off-set pattern, or basic brick stitch.

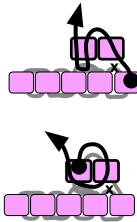
## First form a row of Ladder Stitch

1. Pick up two beads on the needle and bring your thread up through the first bead and down through the second bead so that the beads sit side by side.  
Add another bead to the thread and bring your thread back down through the second bead.
2. Bring your thread back up through the third bead, add another bead to the thread and bring your thread back up through the previous bead again.
3. Continue this "clockwise, counter-clockwise" stitching until you have the desired number of beads. Be sure to end with the thread exiting upwards, if it doesn't just turn your work over.



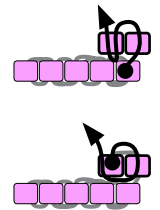
## To decrease at the start of the row

1. Add two beads and move the needle under the exposed loop between the second and third base row beads (skip the first loop), moving from back to front. Remember, you will always string two beads at the start of each new row. Bring the needle up through the second added bead.
2. Go down through the first added bead, and then come back up through the second bead once more.



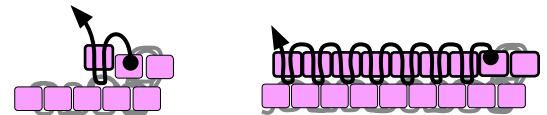
## To increase at the start of the row

1. Pick up two beads and move the needle under the exposed loop between the first and second base row beads, moving from back to front. Bring the needle up through the second added bead.
2. Go down through the first added bead then come back up through the second bead once more.



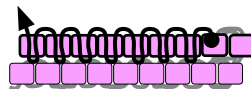
## To stitch the row

1. Pick up a new bead. Go under the next closest exposed loop, moving from back to front. Go back through the added bead.
2. Pick up one more bead and repeat until you reach the end of the row. Make sure your thread is exiting out of the top of your last bead.



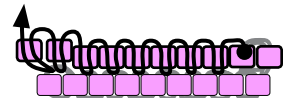
## To end on a decrease

Continue until you reach the end of the row. After you catch the last exposed loop, make sure your thread is exiting out of the top of your last bead.



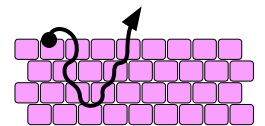
## To end on an increase

Follow the directions to end on a decrease. Then, pick up a bead and catch the last exposed loop again. Go back through the added bead. The thread should be exiting out the top of the added bead.



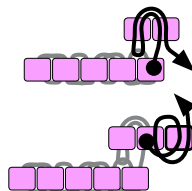
## Move the Thread

Weave your thread through the beads however you prefer to get to the next point where you will need to add new beads with the thread oriented in the correct direction.



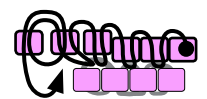
## Increase +1 at the start of the row

1. (Increase) Do step one of a normal increase at the start of the row. Go down through the 1st bead added.
2. (+1) Pick up a bead and go back down through the bead you just exited. Go up through the new bead. Move.



## Increase +1 at the end of the row

1. Begin as you would for a normal increase at the end of the row. Pick up a bead and go back up through the bead you just exited.
2. Go down through the new bead. Move.



## Increase +2 or more

To increase +2 or more, follow the instructions for an Increase +1 and then continue with ladder stitch until all beads are added. Move.

## Add a bead on its side

Pick up a bead and move the needle down through the next bead in the row.

