

Pattern Project: Triangle weave bracelet with single star

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Introduction

Outlined below (with diagrams) are some instructions for working a stitch which can be seen on bags worked with wooden beads from the 1930's, a couple of which were featured in an article in Journal 115 last year (Morris 2014, Figs 1 & 12). One of the bags is illustrated in Fig 4 showing how

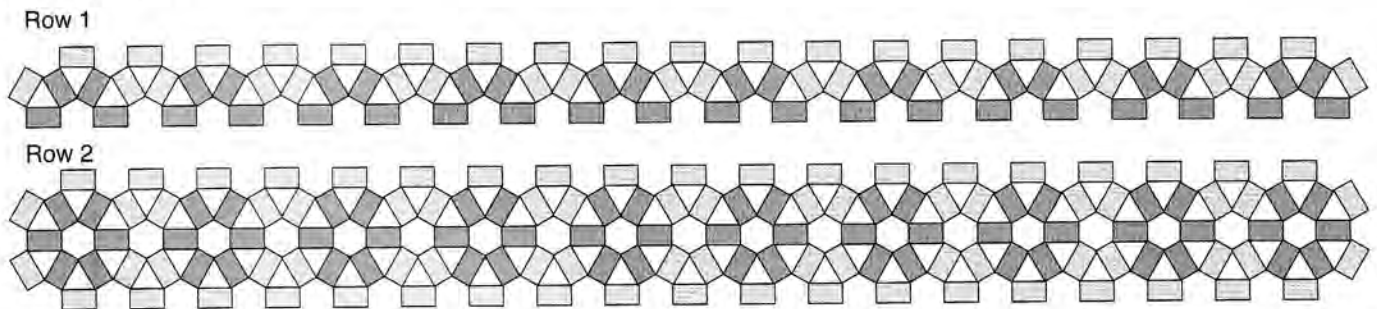
'triangle weave' (as I call it) can be used to form star-shapes in beadwork.

After the main instructions and materials' list (which can be used for making Bracelet #1), there are some diagrammatic patterns and images (but no instructions) for several other bracelet designs and earrings, all which use

triangle weave (Figs J-O). Experiment with them, and perhaps even design your own variations!

A planning grid for triangle weave (with Diane's permission) can be downloaded at: http://www.beadsociety.org.uk/pdf/Triangle_weave.pdf

Bracelet #1



Materials

Supplies for 7.5" (19cm) bracelet:

- 60 Colour A oval beads* (dark colour)
- 78 Colour B oval beads* (light colour)
- 10 3mm round beads
- 1 clasp
- Fireline thread, 6lb (D)

* Several kinds of beads may be used including rice beads; bicones, tubular beads (bugles are not recommended for bracelets as they may cut the thread), small ovals or round or oval firepolished. If using round beads or crystal bicones, add a seed bead before and after each bead and treat them as one unit. If using seed beads, use three seed beads to make a unit.

Method (Triangle Weave)

Remember, the key to doing Triangle Weave is that your thread can only go into the bead immediately on either side of the one it is coming out of: either an existing bead or a new bead. If you are familiar with right angle weave, you will notice the similarity between the stitches, i.e. never cut across an intersection, only go into the bead adjacent to connect new beads. Watch for the six-pointed star and the six outside beads that circle each star.

The new thread path and beads are shown with a **bold line and bold outline**.

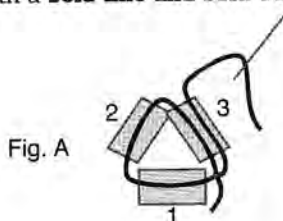
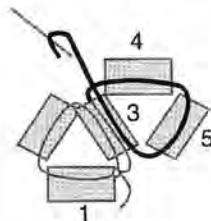


Fig. A

Row 1

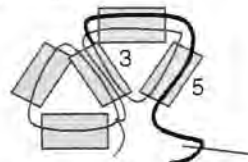
- 1 String on 3 beads. Knot the working thread to the tail. Pass forward through #3.

Fig. B



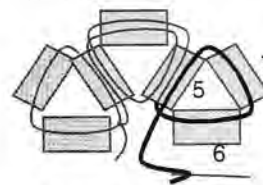
- 2 Add 2 beads, #4 and #5. Go forward through #3 to connect and make a second triangle.

Fig. C



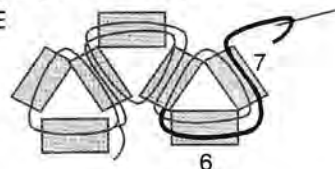
- 3 Go through #4 and #5.

Fig. D



- 4 Add 2 beads #6 and #7. Make a triangle by going down through #5.

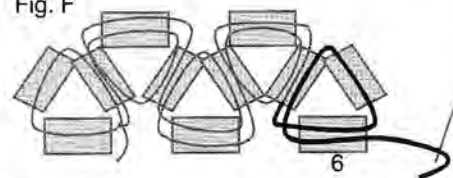
Fig. E



- 5 Go forward through #6 and #7. Repeat Steps 2-5 till the piece fits around your wrist. End with thread exiting the bead

in the position of #6 as shown in Fig F.

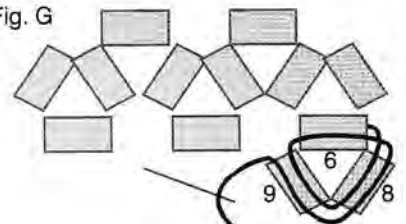
Fig. F



Row 2

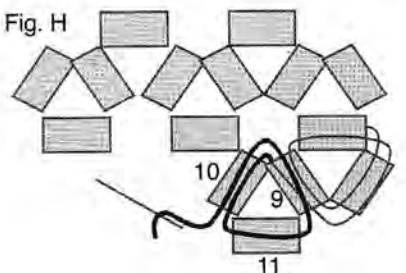
Now we are ready to turn and begin the next row.

Fig. G



- 6 Begin Row 2: Coming out of #6 on the right, add #8 and #9. Go Left to Right (L>R) through #6 and forward through #8 and #9.

Fig. H



- 7 Coming out of #9 at the top, add #10 and #11. Go forward through #9 and continue through #10. (You might think of this step as adding the sixth ray of the star and the bottom horizontal.)

Continued on page 10



Fig 1 Bracelet #1 using bicones, and 11/0 seed beads.



Fig 2 Bracelet as shown in instructions using rice beads



Fig 3 Bracelet variation using seed beads in a three-bead unit and embellished with pinch beads.

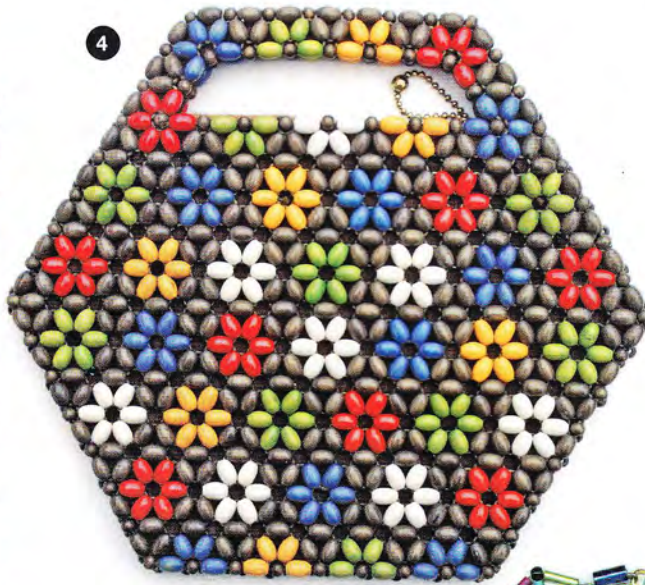
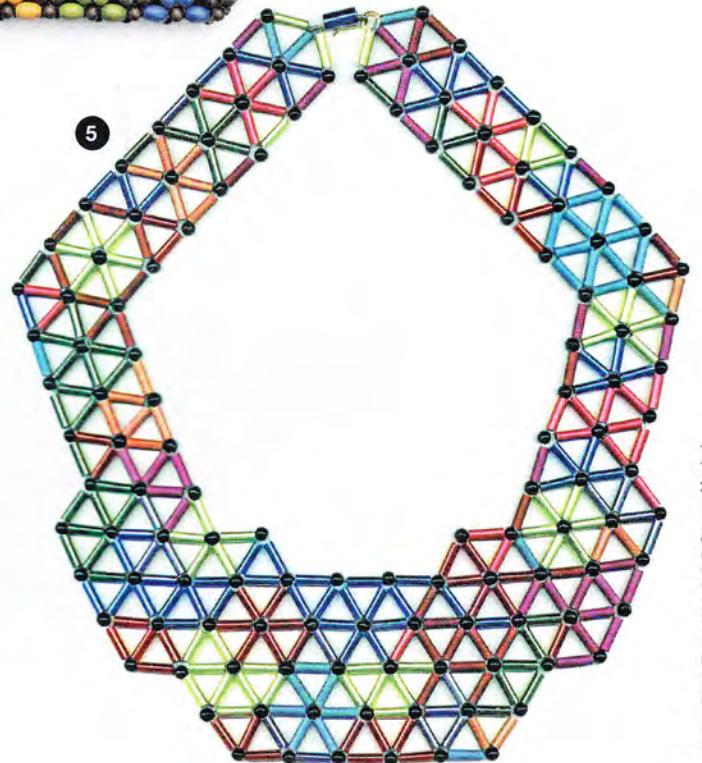


Fig 4 Vintage 1930's handbag made with wooden beads and 'triangle weave'. Wendy Buck's Collection.

Fig 5 Necklet made using 'triangle weave', size 3 bugles and seed beads.

Fig 6 Snowshoe Earrings made using 'triangle weave' and size 2 bugles

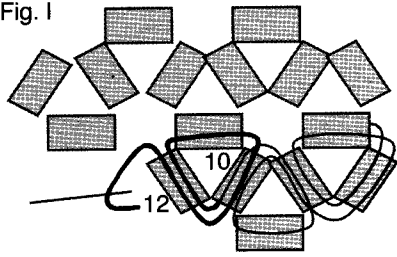
Fig 7 Close up of bracelet #1



Photos: Diane Fitzgerald 1-3, 5-7; Graeme Morris 4

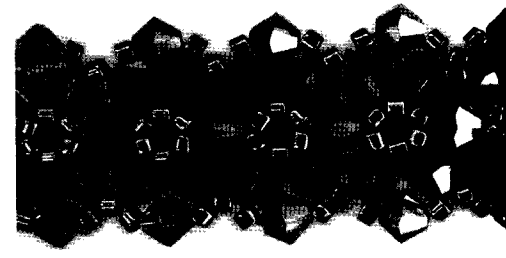


Fig. I



8 Coming out of #10 at the bottom, add #12. L>R through the horizontal bead in the row above and continue through #10 and #12. (Now you're closing off or connecting the last ray of the star.) Repeat Steps 6-8 until you reach the end of the row.

Add a loop closure to one end and sew a button to the centre of the star at the other end, or attach a clasp as shown in the diagrams for rows 1 & 2.



More projects and inspirations

Materials for use with Triangle Weave

- Beads: A variety of beads may be used for the Triangle Weave Bracelet including seed beads, rice beads, bicones, tubular beads (not bugles), small ovals or round or oval firepolished. About 100-150 rice beads or small ovals will be needed. If using round firepolished, add a seed bead on each side of the round bead.
- Thread: For seed beads, pearls and other beads with small holes, use Nymo D thread single. For larger beads such as rice beads or bicones, use Nymo D thread or Fireline double and well waxed so the strands stick together.

Fig J

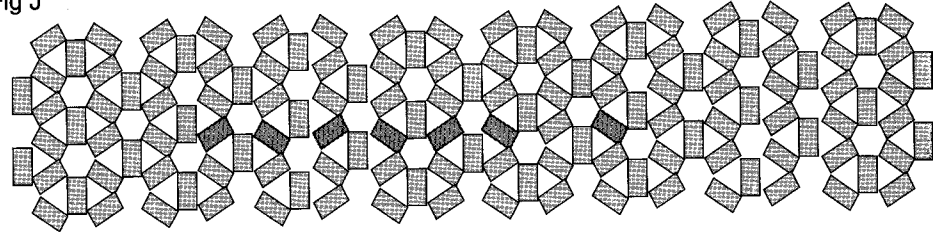


Fig K

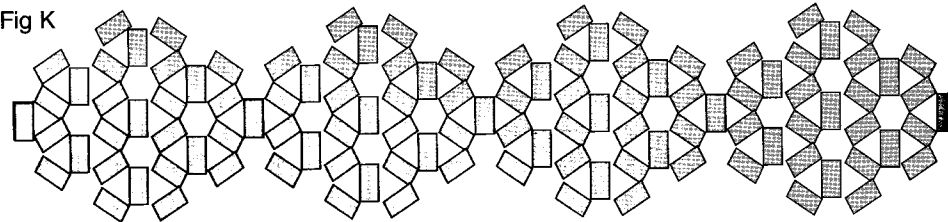


Fig L

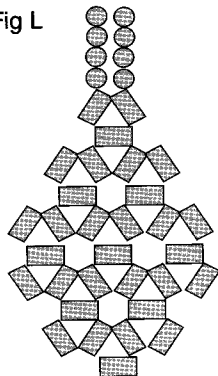


Fig M

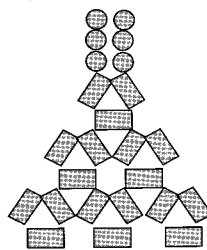
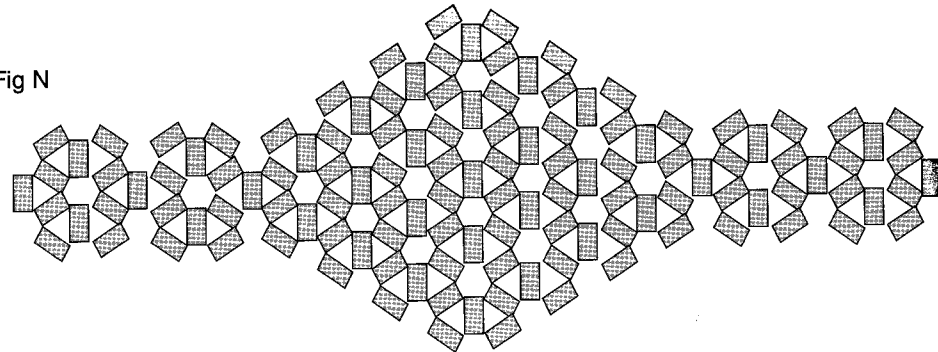


Fig N



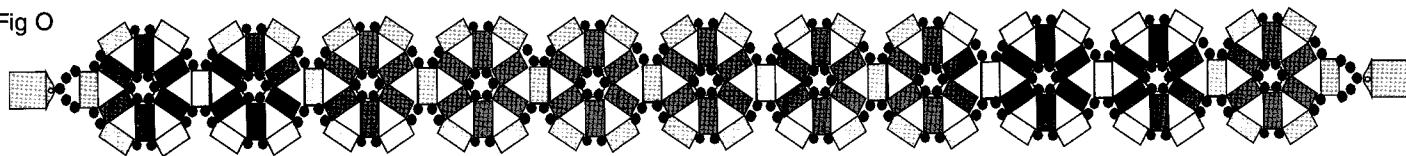
Patterns J, K, N & O are bracelet patterns using 'triangle weave'. They could use any beads, or longer beads such as the ovals in Fig 2. Patterns L (Snowshoe) and M

(Triangle) are earring patterns. Use size 2 bugles for Snowshoe and size 3 bugles for Triangle.

Bibliography

Morris, C. A. 2014 'Can't see the wood for the beads!' *Journal of the Bead Society of Gt Britain* 115, 29-33

Fig O



Bead supplies for early birds and night owls alike

BigBeadLittleBead
 www.bigbeadlittlebead.com ☎ 01462 438233