

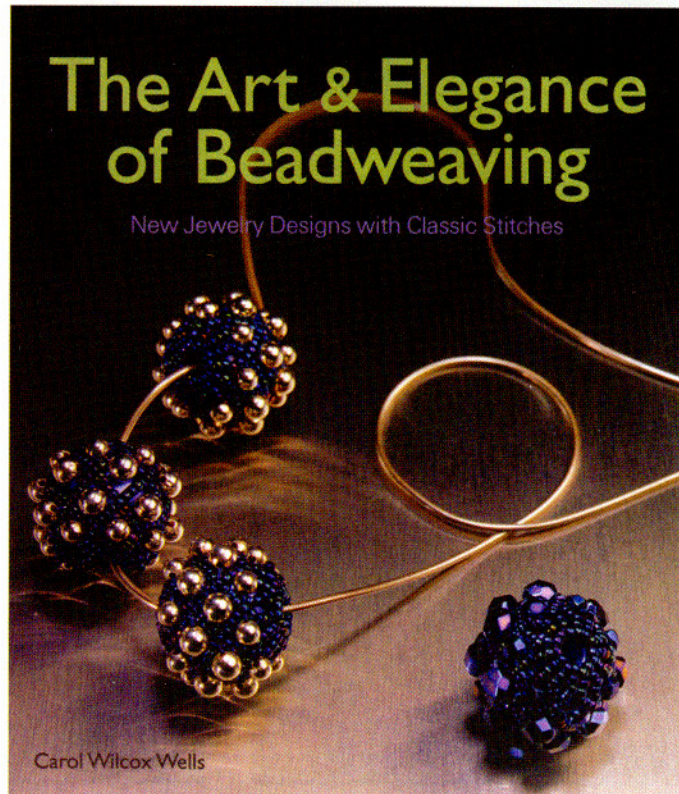
The Art & Elegance of Beadweaving: New Jewelry Designs with Classic Stitches

Carol Wilcox Wells

New York: Lark Books, a division of Sterling Publishing Co., 2002.
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We all enjoy a new book that whets our enthusiasm for beadwork and Carol Wilcox Wells's just-released book, *The Art & Elegance of Beadweaving: New Jewelry Designs with Classic Stitches*, will not disappoint you. The timing of this book is right: Many beadworkers are familiar with the basic stitches and are now looking for variations that will take them in new directions. The book focuses on six areas of beading: beaded beads, the chevron chain, crocheted ropes, herringbone and peyote stitches, and spiral ropes. Each section contains lavish photos of work by several bead artists, excellent illustrations with numbered beads, and many, many ideas for using these techniques in a variety of ways.

In a new version of an old zigzag chain, the chevron chain, Carol shows us how to use it three-dimensionally, flat, and combined with other techniques. Her *Pagoda Basket* is quite intriguing. For some of the projects, Carol has invited well-known bead artists to contribute instructions in areas they have explored. Among my favorites are the *Elegant Elements* by JoAnn Baumann and Tina Bloomenthal, Carol Horn's simple but classic *Rainbow Collar* in herringbone, and the *Peyote Spiral Bracelet* by Suzanne Golden.



While there are occasional very minor lapses in the instructions (just how long is a "long" thread, and is the thread used single or double?), most beadworkers, whether new to beading or experienced, will be able to follow the instructions easily. They will feel refreshed and invigorated looking through this book, ready to begin a new project! ☺

—Diane Fitzgerald