

Dragon Egg Beaded Beads

a tutorial

by Sharri Moroshok



**A project for intermediate beaders
Knowledge of Peyote Stitch required**



the
**BEAD
SMITH**[®]

This project may be taught
and distributed exclusively by
customers of the BeadSmith.

Dragon Egg Beaded Beads

Materials List:

Size 11 Miyuki Delica (Size 11/0 Miyuki seed beads may be substituted) - **approximately 1 gram**

Size 15/0 Miyuki seed beads - **approximately 1 gram**

2x4mm Mini Duo in 2 colors - **first color 20, second color 40**

2mm Fire Polish Crystals - **20**

4 lb test Fireline

2 Size 11 or 12 beading needles

16mm round unfinished wood bead (any other kind of 16mm round bead may be substituted, but be aware that a base bead with a slippery surface, such as glass, will be harder to handle)

Color Key:

#1 = Size 11 Miyuki Delica (turquoise - in the photos)

#2 = 2x4mm Mini Duo (matte gold in the photos)

#3 = 15/0 Miyuki seed bead (silver in the photos)

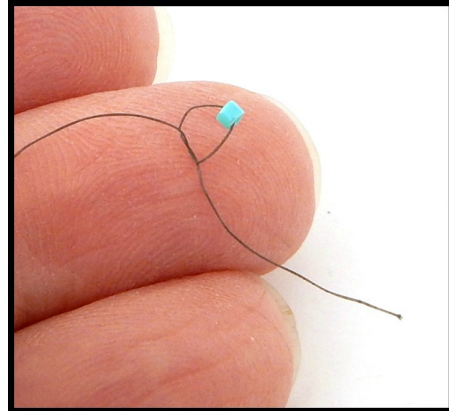
#4 = 2x4mm Mini Duo (matte silver in the photos)

#5 = 2mm Fire Polish Crystal (silver in the photos)

Dragon Egg Beaded Bead

Getting started

Thread needle with approximately 1 and 1/2 yards of thread. String on one #1 bead slide it to the end of your thread, leaving a short tail and tie with a simple overhand knot. **(photo 1)**



(photo 1)

Then string on 39 more #1 beads.

Total = 40 #1 beads

Continuing in the same direction as your stringing pass the thread back through the tied on bead.

(photo 2)



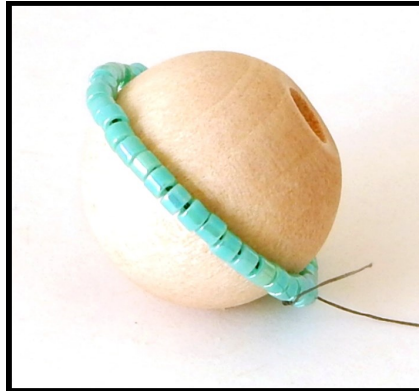
(photo 2)

Close the circle by passing the thread all the way around, back through the tied on bead and through 1 more bead. **(photo 3)**



Test the fit of your circle of beads on the base bead. You want it to be snug, but able to be pushed over the widest (center) part of the base bead without much pressure and without forcing the beads apart. If the fit is not right start over, choosing thinner beads if too loose and thicker beads if too tight.

(photo 4)



(photo 4)

Row 3 (the beads in your original strung circle will form rows 1 & 2)

Begin circular Peyote Stitch

Stitch

1 #1 bead to every other bead all the way around
the circle

Step up through a #1 bead

(photo 5)



(photo 5)

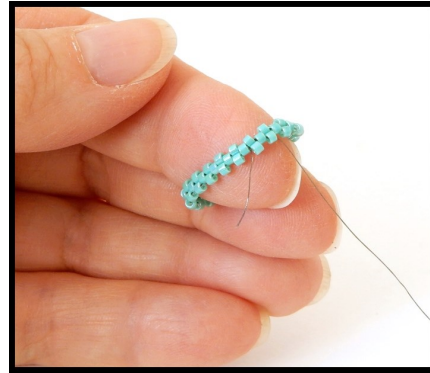
Test the fit of your beadwork on the base bead again. You want to be able to press it over the center of the base bead without any trouble, but not so loose that it falls right over.

(photo 6)



(photo 6)

Continue with your work off the base bead. Keep the tail underneath your beadwork. Later, when you place your beadwork on the base bead be sure the thread tail is tucked flat on the base bead and underneath your beadwork. You will then be able to cut off the tail shorter if that is needed.



(photo 7)

Place your circle of beadwork on a fingertip. You can turn your work with your free hand as you stitch around the next Row. (photo 7)

Row 4

Stitch

1 #1 bead

1 #2 bead

Repeat this pattern, alternating #1 and #2 beads, all the way around the circle

Step up through a #1 bead

(photo 8)



(photo 8)

Now gently tug the thread tight. Make sure all the #2 beads are lying straight and not twisted. Continue working with the circle of beadwork on fingertip.

Row 5

Stitch:

1 #3 bead stitching to the top hole of the next #2 (Mini Duo) (photo 9)

(photo 9)



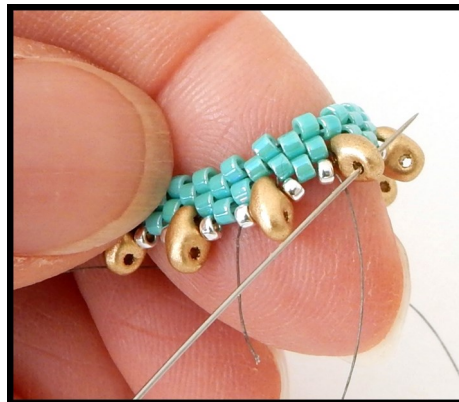
Continue stitching #3 beads in each Peyote space around the circle. They should snug right into the spaces on either side of the top hole of the Mini Duos

Make sure thread tail continues to lie underneath the beadwork

Step up through a #3 bead (photo 10)



Without adding a bead, stitch into the bottom hole of the next adjacent Mini Duo. (photo 11)



(photo 11)

Row 6

On your needle pick up 1 #3 bead, 1 #1 bead and 1 #3 bead - this is a 3-drop Peyote Stitch.

Stitch

- 1 3-drop (#3, #1, #3) stitching to the bottom hole of the next Mini Duo (photo 12)



(photo 12)

Continue stitching this 3-drop all the way around the circle, stitching to the bottom hole of each Mini Duo.

Step up through a 3-drop, then without adding a bead, stitch through the next adjacent Mini Duo and 3-drop. (photo 13)



(photo 13)

If you are reaching this point for the first time, gently tug thread tight. Drop your working thread. You may want to leave this thread on a needle because you will be coming back to it. Proceed to top of page 8.

If you are reaching this point for the second time, Skip to the * at the bottom of page 8.

Thread a new needle with about 1 yard of Fireline. Flip your beadwork so that the original Row becomes your working Row. Weave the new thread through beadwork until it is secure. Exit thread on the new working Row so that it is positioned immediately before any Peyote Space that is in between Mini Duos on the other side. (photo 14) Your thread will be traveling in the opposite direction of the first thread. Cut the new thread tail off flush.

If Row 6 on the other side loosens too much just tug that thread tight.

(photo 14)



Place the beadwork back on fingertip with the new working side at the top. (photo 14)

Repeat Rows 4-6 (page 6-8) on this new working side. (photo 15)



(photo 15)

* Place beadwork on the base bead, centering as best you can. This is why the original Row needed to be so precisely fitted - so that the beadwork could be adjusted and centered. Loosen Row 6 a bit on both sides. Keep pressing the beadwork back and forth until you are satisfied that it is pretty well centered on the base bead. Tighten both working threads. Remember they are traveling in opposite directions. Cut the original thread tail short if necessary.

Working gently so as not to pull the beadwork off center, stitch a reinforcing round of thread through the last Row (Row 6) on each side. (photo 16)

Exit thread through any #3 (15/0) bead just before a #1 (Delica) bead. (photo 17)



(photo 16)



(photo 17)

Center beadwork again - there should still be a bit of play left in the beadwork to do this. Pull both working threads tight.

You may resume working on either side. If one side appears to be a bit further from the base bead hole end choose that side. Working on that side will help to re-center your work on the base bead.

Tip: To keep the beadwork centered on the base bead, I find that, as I work, it helps to grip the beadwork gently rather than gripping the base bead.

Row 7

Thread is exiting a #3 bead just before a #1 bead

Stitch

1 #4 bead stitching to the next adjacent #3 bead

Then, without adding a bead, stitch through the next adjacent #2 and #3 beads (photo 18)



(photo 18)

Continue around the circle.

You will probably need to press each Mini Duo in place to make them lie fairly straight, but they most likely will not really lie flat at this point.

Step up through the top hole of the next adjacent Mini Duo

(photo 19)

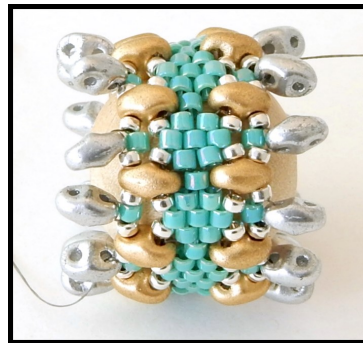


(photo 19)

Drop this working thread and pick up your other working thread. Make sure your new working thread is pulled tight .

Repeat Row 7 on the other side.

(photo 20)



(photo 20)

Continuing to work on this side

Row 8

With thread exiting the top hole of a Mini Duo

Stitch:

1 #5 bead stitching to the top hole of the next Mini Duo

Continue around stitching in 1 #5 bead in each Peyote Space

Step up through a #5 bead

Gently tug thread tight

(photo 21)



(photo 21)

Repeat Row 8 on the other side. Then, without adding a bead, stitch a reinforcing round of thread on each side. Exit thread through any #5 bead and then, without adding a bead, stitch through the bottom hole of the next Mini Duo. (photo 22)



(photo 22)

Row 9

Stitch

- 1 #4 bead in each Peyote Space stitching to the top hole of the next Mini Duo (photo 23)



(photo 23)

The Mini Duos may flop around as you stitch them in. Just press them back into place and pull your thread firmly. (photo 24)



(photo 24)

Without adding a bead, stitch into the bottom hole of the next adjacent Mini Duo. Stitch all the way around - bottom hole to bottom hole - drawing the bottoms of the Mini Duos together. You may want to stitch around more than once to make these end beads really tight. (photo 25)



(photo 25)

Weave thread through the beadwork until secure and then cut off flush. (photo 26)



Repeat Rows 8 & 9 (pages 12-13) on the other side and finish the same way.