Joining two bead crochet tube ends

This technique allows the joining of two six-around tubes of bead crochet into one end, which is then re-duced prior to finishing, or the creation of a crocheted loop by joining one end of a bead crochet tube to the other so the crochet can be continued.

Complete the tube crochet to the desired length. Bind off the last stitch of the working end, then bury the thread tails from both ends in the fibers of the tube. Position the two ends together so the last stitch of the working end is next to the first stitch of the starting end as shown in diagram A.

A

B
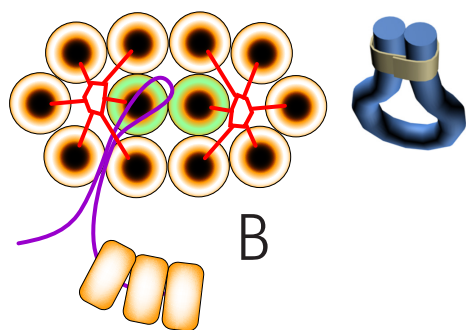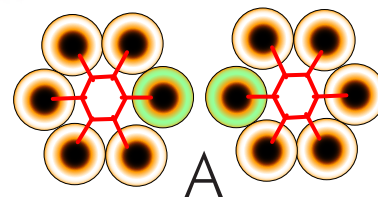
Tape the two ends together in this position so the beads appear as shown in B. Thread the required number of beads onto a new thread; pull up a loop through one of the outer stitches as shown. Crochet around the ten outer beads. You will notice that the beads of the start-ing end are already positioned horizontally; it may take a bit of force to push the hook through and pass the bead to the far side of the hook. The beads of the finishing end will be positioned correctly and no force will be necessary. Your "tube" will look like diagram C from the top.

Work a second round of ten beads. In the next round, you will decrease by two stitches by slip stitching without a bead in the beads shown in green in diagram D.

C

D
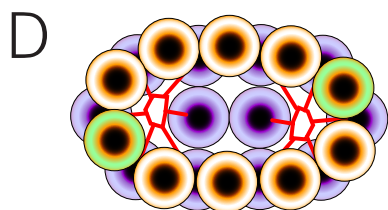
Work another round, in which you skip the stitch-es that have only a slip stitch and no bead. The two beads on either side of the slip stitch will be drawn together. Work another round of eight; the top of your tube will look like diagram E.

E

F
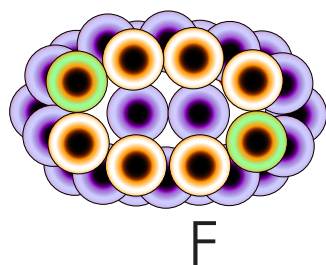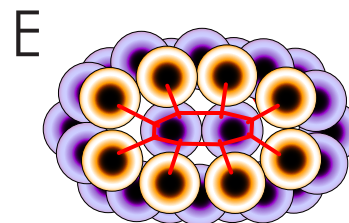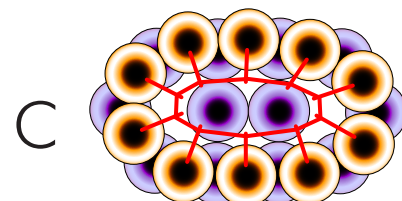
In the next round, work a slip stitch without a bead in the beads shown in green in diagram F. Work anoth-er round in which you skip the slip stitches without beads. The two beads on either side of the slip stitch will be drawn together as shown in diagram G. Work as many additional rounds of six as desired for your specific project.

G