

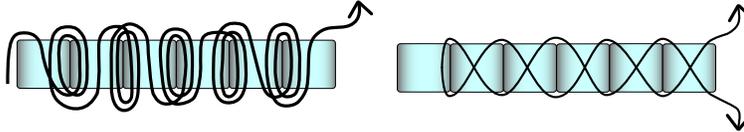
DESIGNER BEADING TUTORIAL ANN BENSON

Basic Brick Stitch

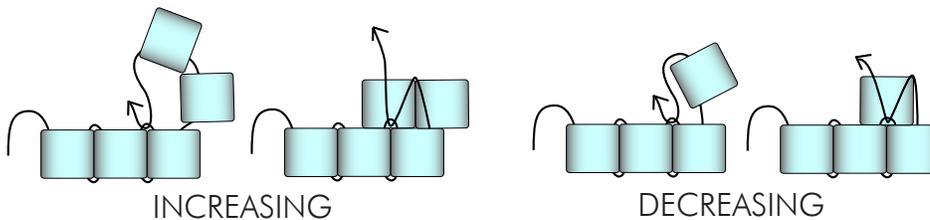
Brick stitch has a similar appearance to peyote stitch, but is woven into the threads of the previous row, as opposed to the bead holes of the previous row. It is easy to shape by increasing and decreasing, and is more rigid than peyote stitch, which allows it to be used for free-standing designs where the shape must be maintained. It is thread-thirsty and does take a bit more time than peyote. Brick stitch is worked from graphed charts, and can be stitched flat or in the round.

Brick stitch is often combined with peyote stitch; it can be used to add one more row to even-count peyote to yield an odd-counted design, and it can be used to shape even-edged peyote stitch designs.

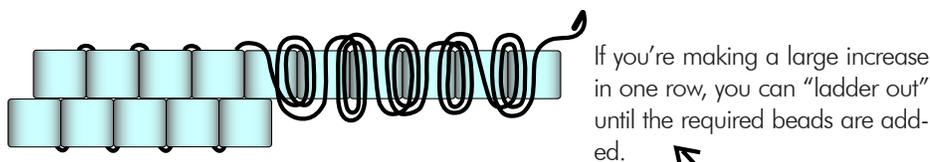
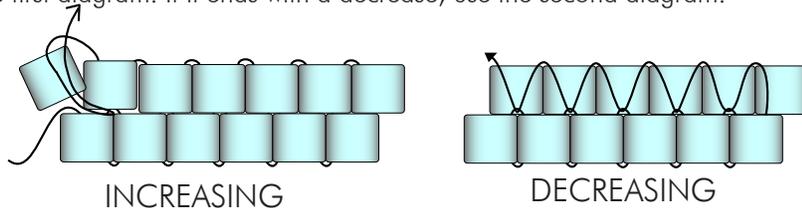
Brick stitch starts with a foundation "ladder," which can be made using one or two needles, as shown below. The foundation row is usually the longest central row in the pattern. All subsequent rows are built off the ladder.



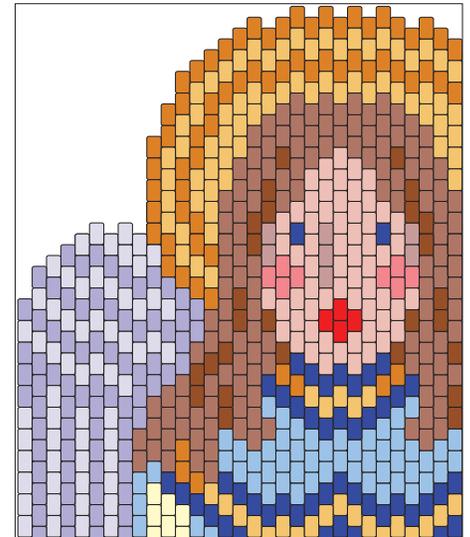
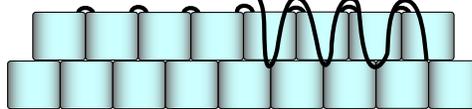
The diagrams below show how to increase or decrease by one bead at the beginning of the first non-ladder row.



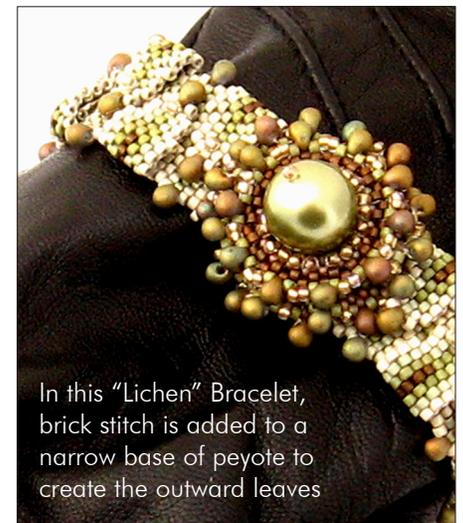
Work across the row, adding one bead at a time. If the row ends with an increase, use the first diagram. If it ends with a decrease, use the second diagram.



To make a significant decrease, weave through the beads until your thread is in the proper position to begin the new row.



Brick stitch with 11° seed beads



In this "Lichen" Bracelet, brick stitch is added to a narrow base of peyote to create the outward leaves



This "Paisley" Bracelet is worked in brick stitch with added embellishments