

SPIRAL ROPE

# Spiral reflection

Dangle the 2009  
Bead&Button Show  
bead between two  
complementary ropes

by **Lynne Soto**

The versatile spiral stitch  
takes on a different look  
depending on the type and  
size of beads you use.

I wanted to mimic the ridge that swirls down the length of the show bead. A spiral rope creates this effect. Using different beads in the same colors for each side of the rope adds subtle variety.

## step by step

### Spiral ropes

**[1]** On a comfortable length of Fireline, pick up five 11° cylinder beads, two color A three-cut beads, a 3 mm bugle bead, and two As (**figure 1, a–b**), leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail. Tie the beads into a ring with a square knot (Online Basics), and sew through the cylinders again (**b–c**). The cylinders will form the spine of the spiral rope. Move the loop just completed to the left of the cylinders.

**[2]** Pick up a cylinder, two As, a bugle, and two As, and snug them to the cylinders in the spine (**figure 2, a–b**). Sew through the top four cylinders in the spine and the cylinder added in this step (**b–c**). Move the loop just completed to the left so it sits on top of the previous loop.

**[3]** Repeat step 2 until the beadwork is  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (1.9 cm) short of half the desired necklace length. End and add thread (Online Basics) as needed. End the working thread and tail.

**[4]** For the second spiral rope, leave a 24-in. (61 cm) tail, and repeat steps 1–3, but for each loop, pick up a cylinder, a color B three-cut bead, an A, a B, an A, a B, an A, and a B, instead of a cylinder, two As, a bugle, and two As. Do not end the tail. Set the spiral ropes aside.

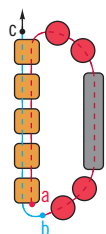


FIGURE 1

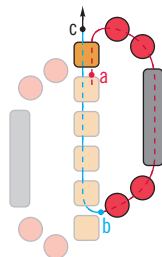


FIGURE 2

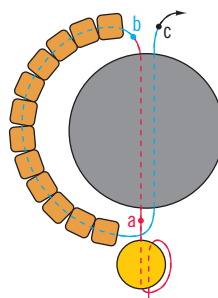


FIGURE 3

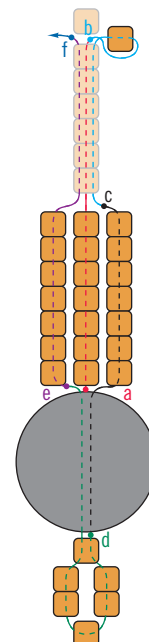


FIGURE 4

### Toggle bead

**[1]** On 1 yd. (.9 m) of Fireline, attach a stop bead (Online Basics), leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail, and pick up a 10 mm round bead (**figure 3, a–b**).

**[2]** Pick up 12 cylinders, and sew through the 10 mm (**b–c**). Repeat five more times.

**[3]** Repeat step 2, but pick up 11 As for each stitch, placing a color A strand between each pair of cylinder strands.

**[4]** Remove the stop bead, and end the tail.

**[5]** Select the spiral rope without a tail.

**[6]** With the working thread from the toggle bead, pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the end six cylinders of the spiral rope you just selected (**figure 4, a–b**). Pick up a cylinder, and sew back through the end six cylinders (**b–c**).

**[7]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the 10 mm (**c–d**).

**[8]** Pick up six cylinders, and sew back through the first cylinder and the 10 mm (**d–e**).

**[9]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the end six cylinders of the spiral rope (**e–f**). End the working thread (**photo a**).

## materials

necklace 20 in. (51 cm)

- 2009 Bead&Button Show commemorative bead by Kate Fowle Meleney (BeadAndButtonShow.com)
- 2 10 mm round beads (black)
- 3 g 3 mm bugle beads, #1 (black)
- 4 g 11° cylinder beads (silver-lined light bronze)
- 12° three-cut beads 7 g color A (red) 5 g color B (black)
- Fireline 4 lb. test
- beading needles, #13



a

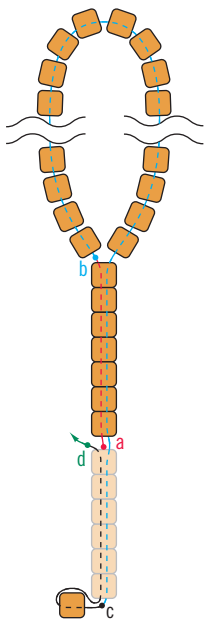


FIGURE 5

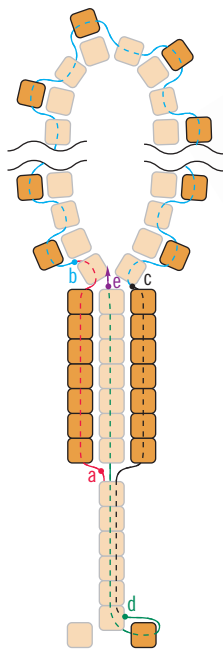


FIGURE 6

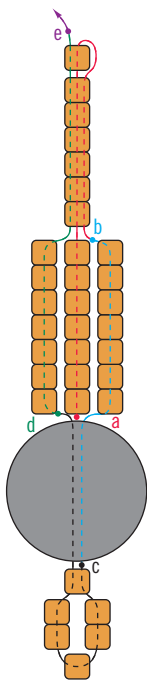


FIGURE 7

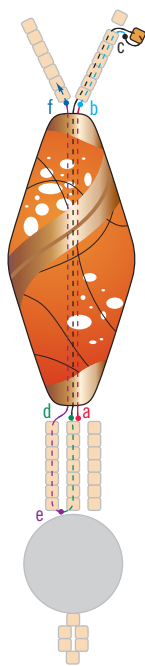


FIGURE 8

## Toggle loop

**[1]** With the 24-in. (61 cm) tail from the remaining spiral rope, pick up seven cylinders (figure 5, a–b).

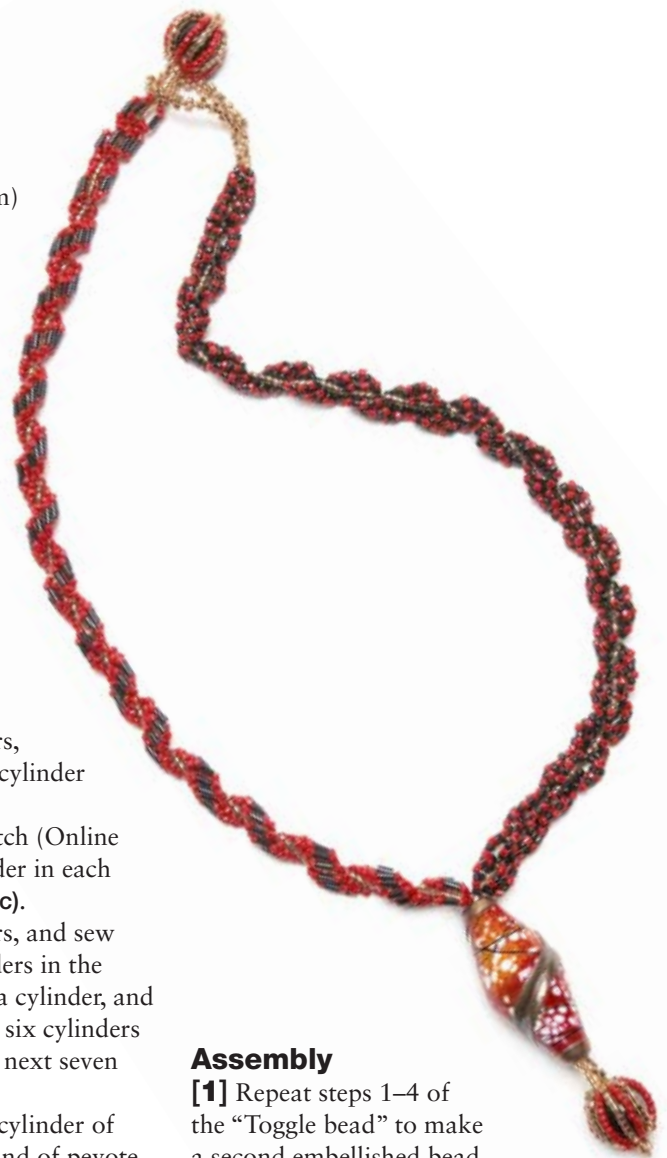
**[2]** Pick up an even number of cylinders to fit around the toggle bead (approximately 38). Sew back through the seven cylinders picked up in step 1 and the end six cylinders of the spiral rope (b–c). Pick up a cylinder, and sew back through the end six cylinders in the spiral rope (c–d).

**[3]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the first cylinder in the loop (figure 6, a–b).

**[4]** Working in peyote stitch (Online Basics), pick up one cylinder in each stitch around the loop (b–c).

**[5]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the end six cylinders in the spiral rope (c–d). Pick up a cylinder, and sew back through the end six cylinders in the spiral rope, and the next seven cylinders (d–e).

**[6]** Sew through the first cylinder of the loop. Add another round of peyote stitch, sewing through the same cylinders as you did in the first round. End the working thread (photo b).



## Assembly

**[1]** Repeat steps 1–4 of the “Toggle bead” to make a second embellished bead.

**[2]** Pick up 14 cylinders, skip the last cylinder, and sew back through six cylinders (figure 7, a–b).

**[3]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the 10 mm (b–c).

**[4]** Pick up six cylinders, and sew back through the first cylinder and the 10 mm (c–d).

**[5]** Pick up seven cylinders, and sew through the top seven cylinders (d–e). Sew through the focal bead, and snug it close to the dangle (figure 8, a–b).

**[6]** Sew through the six cylinders on the end of a spiral rope (b–c). Pick up a cylinder, and sew back through the cylinders and the focal bead (c–d). Snug the spiral rope to the focal bead.

**[7]** Sew through seven cylinders in the dangle (d–e). Sew through the adjacent seven cylinders and the focal bead (e–f).

**[8]** Repeat steps 6 and 7 to attach the other spiral rope. Retrace the thread path to secure each connection. End the working thread. ●



*Lynne Soto is an associate editor of Bead&Button. Contact her at [lsoto@beadandbutton.com](mailto:lsoto@beadandbutton.com).*

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