

# Quick Seed Bead and Crystal Bracelet

In the long run I guess the term 'quick' applies to this project the second time you make the bracelet. The first time has a bit of a learning curve, but once you've made one, the next dozen are a piece of cake. This bracelet is so much fun to make that you'll likely be thinking of your next one as you're in the middle of your first one.

Let's get started... oh, one thing... if you can use both your left and right hands to accomplish a couple of the steps you'll make the bracelet very quickly. Also, you'll not lose track of which side is left and which is right.

## Ingredients

### You'll need

- 8/0 seed beads metallic finish
- 11/0 seed beads in the same finish
- 15/0 seed beads in a contrasting metal finish
- 35-40 3mm crystals (either Swarovski or Czech Firepolish)
- 1 toggle clasp
- 2 needles
- Fireline-fine
- Thread conditioner
- Scissors



## Instructions

### Here We Go!

1. Cut your Fireline. I use this formula, cut 1 foot for every 1 inch of bracelet length. Six feet for a 6 inch bracelet, 6.5 feet for a 6.5 inch bracelet... I think you get the idea.

2. Condition your thread.

3. Thread both ends of the Fireline (yep, this is a double needle project).

4. String 1/2 of clasp to the center of the thread, even up your tails.

5. String both needles through 1 8/0 seed bead, and slide the bead down to the clasp.



6. Separate the threads, string 4 11/0 seed beads on each thread.



7. Pick up 1 8/0 bead on the right needle, pass the left needle through the bead in the opposite direction.

8. Pull the needles and threads in opposite directions until the 8/0 is on top of the 11/0 seed beads.



9. Pick up 2 8/0 beads on the right needle, 1 8/0 on the left. Cross the left needle through the 8/0 closest to the tip of the right needle. \*This is where working with both hands comes in, well, handy.\*

10. Pull the needles in opposite directions taking the beads down to the work. This will form a circle.

11. Repeat until the base is the desired length (don't forget to consider the second half of the clasp in the measurement). Don't worry about making the circlets super tight, we'll be cinching them up in the next few steps.



12. You should end with a threaded needle on each side of the final bead. Pick up 4 11/0 seed beads on each thread.



13. String both needles through an 8/0 seed bead, and the loop of the second half of your toggle clasp. Make a U-turn and take both needles back down through the 8/0 seed bead.



14. Separate the needles and string the left one down the left side seed beads, string the right one down the right side seed beads. Pass through the 8/0 in opposite directions. The 8/0's will now act as cross pieces.



15. Turn your work so that the clasp you just added is away from you. We're only going to work with the needle on the right for now.

## **Going Down the Sides**

After giving you 15 steps I thought I'd break it up for the next section.

1. String on 1 8/0 seed bead, pass through the first outside bead of the circlet.



2. Pick up another 8/0 seed bead, again passing through the outside bead of the circlet.  
3. Continue until you've filled all the spaces on the right side of the bracelet.



4. Pass through the cross bead.

5. Give your work a gentle tug, being careful not to pull too tightly. This will cause the beads you've just strung to get ziggged out.



6. Run the needle up the left 11/0 seed beads, through the 8/0 and the clasp, back down through the 8/0 and down the right 11/0 seed beads.



7. Pass through the cross bead.

8. Turn your work around so your needle is once again on the right.

9. Pick up an 8/0 seed bead, and fill all the gaps on the right side.

10. Pass through the cross bead.



## **Time to Embellish!**

Both needles should now be at the bottom of your piece on opposite sides of the cross bead. Use the needle on the right (the one with the longer thread).

1. Pick up 1 15/0 seed bead, 1 3mm crystal, 1 15/0 seed bead.
2. Pass the needle from left to right through the first cross bead.
3. Pull the thread until the trio of beads pops onto the top.
4. Pick up another trio, and repeat steps 2 and 3.
5. Continue until all circlets are embellished with a crystal.



## **Time to Finish!**

1. Run the left needle up the 11/0 seed beads on the right, through the 8/0, and clasp, then back down through the left.
2. Turn your work and repeat with the left needle.
3. Pick up the right needle and pass it through all of the side beads on the right.
4. Once again turn your work around and pass the right needle through all the beads on the right.
5. You should have a needle at each end of your bracelet. One will be on the left, the other on the right.
6. Let's reinforce the clasps one last time.
7. Take the right needle through the cross bead, up through the 11/0's on the left, through the 8/0 and the clasp back down through the 8/0, through the 11/0's on the right, and through the cross bead.
8. Turn your work and repeat on the opposite side.
9. Once again, you should have a needle at each end of your bracelet, one on the left, one on the right.

## **Tying Off**

I promise, we're nearly done. It's time to weave the threads through the piece, and secure them.

1. Pass the right needle through the first two beads of the circle, coming out at a cross bead.
2. Find the base thread for the cross bead by placing your needle into the circle, pull through, leaving a loop. Pass your needle through the loop then carefully pull until a knot is formed around the base thread.



3. Weave to the next cross bead, and repeat.
4. Continue knotting and weaving until you either run out of thread or patience.
5. Carefully cut your thread as close to the work as possible.
6. Turn your bracelet and repeat with remaining needle and thread.



**Done! Enjoy the compliments you'll be receiving.**