

Love the beads you have

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It is almost impossible to find any quality beads in South Africa and when you do, you need a bank loan to pay the horrible prices and we only have a few beading stores left that actually carry Miyuki or Toho beads. I am fortunate to still have a large stash of Miyuki's, due to huge online purchase I made back in 2010. Included in that purchase was a collection of Matsuno and Czech beads, which to date, I have ignored. But, to bead love, you need to be able to love the beads you have so, I have pulled them out and decided to start using them....so that I can hang on to my precious Miyuki's a while longer.



Flat CRAW Chain

Inspired by Marcia's love letters

You will need 30g size 11o beads for a 100cm long rope

Short Links

String 6 beads onto a span of stretched and conditioned thread; leave a decent tail to work away later, sew through all the beads again and exit the 1st bead strung. These are the floor beads. *Fig 1*

Row 1

1st Wall (side)

String 3 beads (1 side/1 ceiling/1 side), sew through the floor bead just exited and the next 2 beads along *Fig 2*

2nd Wall (front)

String 3 beads, sew back down the side bead of the previous wall, the 2 floor beads just exited and the next bead along *Fig 3*

3rd Wall (side)

String 2 beads, sew back down the side bead of the previous wall, through the floor bead just exited, the next 2 floor beads along and up the side bead of the first wall added. *Fig 4*

4th Wall (back)

String 2 beads, sew back down the side bead, through 2 floor beads, up the side bead and exit the ceiling bead of side 1 *Fig 5*

Sew through all the ceiling beads and exit the one to the right as shown - these beads will now be the floor beads for the next row *Fig 6*

Rows 2 - 7

Repeat the 1st row 6 more times *Fig 7*

Plan View

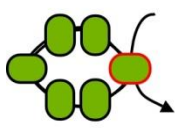


Fig 1

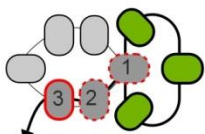


Fig 2

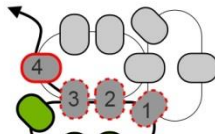


Fig 3

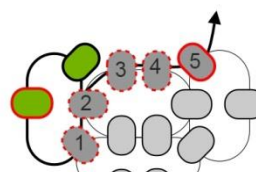


Fig 4

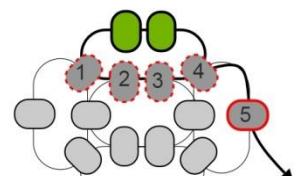


Fig 5

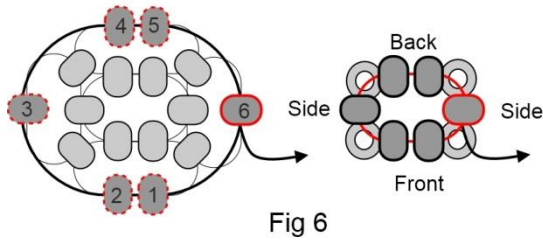


Fig 6

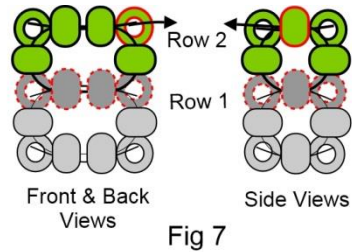


Fig 7

Long Links

Row 8

1st Wall (side)

String 5 beads (2 side/1 ceiling/2 side), sew through the floor bead just exited and the next 2 beads along Fig 8

2nd Wall (front)

String 4 beads, sew back down the 2 side beads of the previous wall, the 2 floor beads just exited and the next bead along Fig 9

3rd Wall (side)

String 3 beads, sew back down the 2 side beads of the previous wall, through the floor bead just exited, the next 2 floor beads along and up the 2 side beads of the first wall added. Fig 10

4th Wall (back)

String 2 beads, sew back down 2 side beads, through 2 floor beads, up 2 side beads and exit the ceiling bead of side 1 Fig 11

Sew through all the ceiling beads exiting the one to the right. Fig 12

Rows 9 & 10

Repeat twice more Fig 13

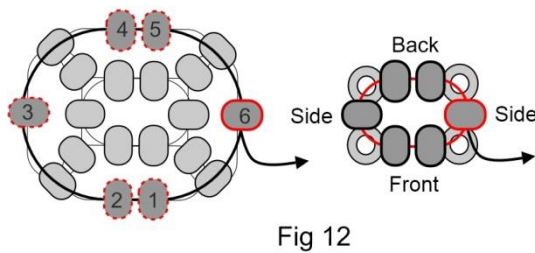
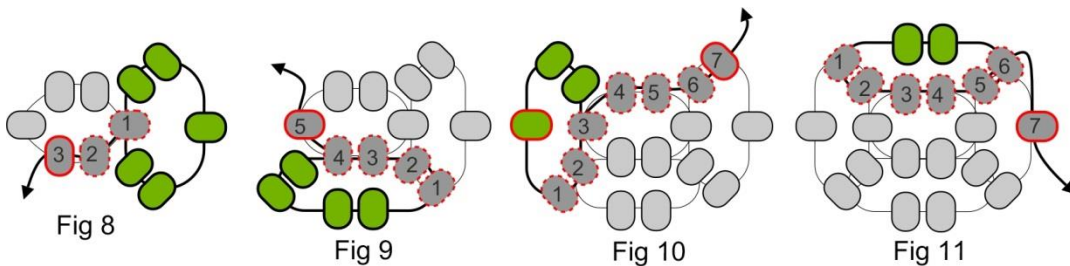


Fig 12

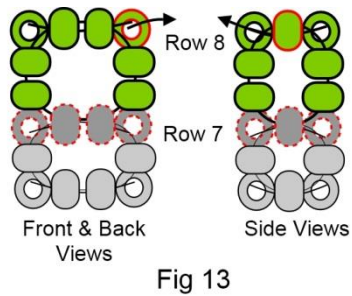


Fig 13

Repeat these 10 rows for as long as you desire. Attach a clasp to either end or, make it a continuous rope. The choice is yours.

Design Note

The centre link of the 3 large links, is perfect for adding a jump ring, to which you can attach charms or beaded letters.

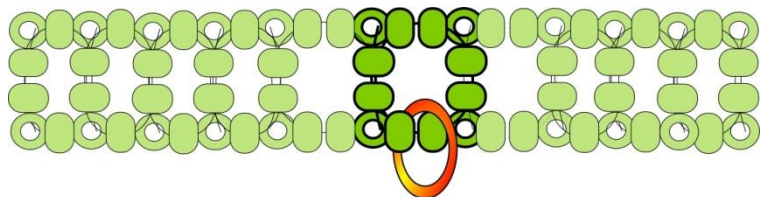


Fig 14