



RIGHT-ANGLE WEAVE

Crystal birthstone bracelet

Substitute crystals for gemstones in a sparkling special-occasion (your birthday!) bracelet

by **Connie Whittaker**

Make this quick-and-easy birthstone bracelet with peanut beads and bicone crystals. It'll come together in time for your birthday bash, plus it makes a great last-minute gift for all the other birthday girls on your calendar!

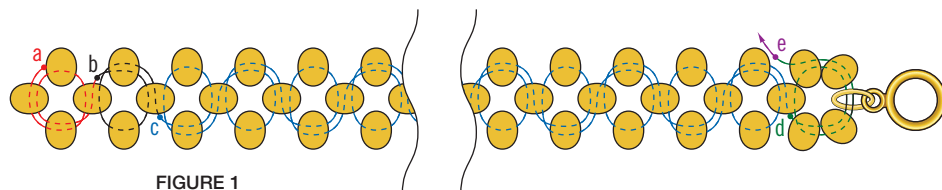
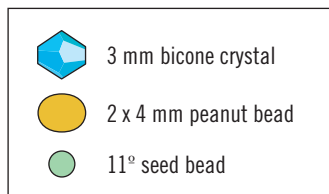


FIGURE 1

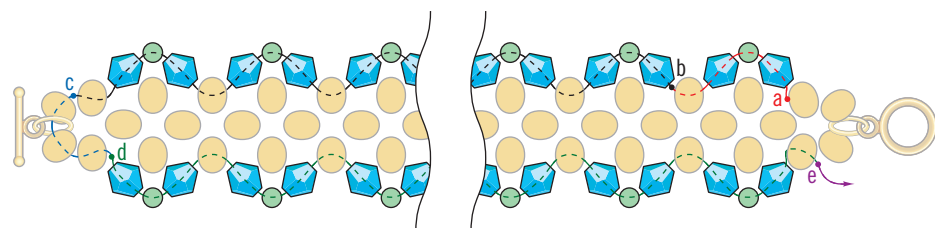


FIGURE 2

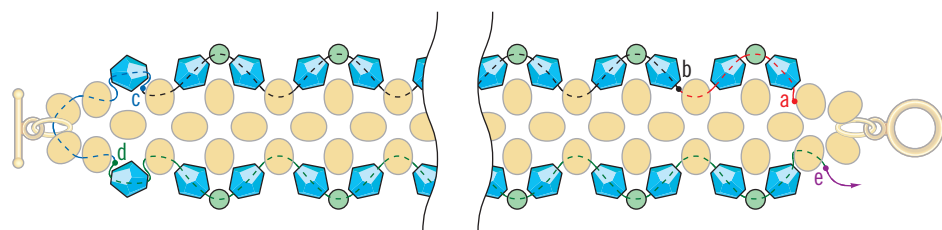


FIGURE 3

stepbystep

[1] On 2 yd. (1.8 m) of thread, pick up four 2 x 4 mm peanut beads. Tie the beads into a ring with a square knot (Basics), leaving an 8-in. (20 cm) tail, and sew through a few more beads (**figure 1, a–b**).

[2] Work in right-angle weave as follows: Pick up three peanuts, and sew through the bead your thread exited in the previous stitch and the first two beads picked up in this stitch (**b–c**). Repeat this stitch until the band is the desired length minus the length of your clasp (**c–d**).

[3] Pick up four peanuts and a jump ring attached to half of the clasp, and sew through the bead your thread exited in the previous stitch. Continue through all the beads picked up in this step (**d–e**).

[4] With the tail, repeat step 3 to attach

the other half of the clasp at the other end of the band. End the tail (Online Basics).

[5] With the working thread, pick up a 3 mm bicone crystal, an 11° seed bead, and a 3 mm. Skip the next edge peanut, and sew through the following peanut (**figure 2, a–b**). Repeat this stitch to the end of the band (**b–c**). Depending on how many right-angle weave stitches are in the band, your last embellishment stitch will end by sewing through the first peanut in the clasp loop (as in **figure 2, point c**) or by sewing through the last right-angle weave stitch (as in **figure 3, point c**). If the latter, pick up a 3 mm, and sew through the first peanut in the clasp loop to complete the embellishment.

[6] Sew through the clasp loop (**figures 2 and 3, c–d**), and embellish the other edge as a mirror image of the first edge (**d–e**). End the thread. ●

materials

bracelet 7½–8 in. (19.1–20 cm)

- 76–100 3 mm bicone crystals in your birthstone color
- 5 g 2 x 4 mm peanut beads
- 1 g 11° seed beads
- clasp with 2 attached 6 mm jump rings
- Fireline 6 lb. test
- beading needles, #12

DESIGNER'S NOTES:

- This bracelet would make a great Mother's Day gift. Select the appropriate crystal to represent each child, and work a repeating pattern that includes them all.
- Don't want to use birthstone colors? Use your favorite pairing of crystals and peanut beads for an everyday bracelet.

Connie Whittaker is an associate editor at Bead&Button magazine. Email her at cwhittaker@beadandbutton.com.

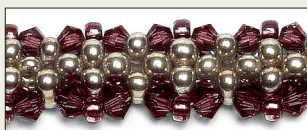


Birthstone colors crystallized

Many traditional birthstones have direct crystal equivalents, but a few do not.

Find the crystal equivalent of your traditional birthstone below:

| Month | Birthstone | Crystal color |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| January | garnet | garnet or Siam |
| February | amethyst | amethyst |
| March | aquamarine | aquamarine |
| April | diamond | crystal |
| May | emerald | emerald |
| June | pearl | light amethyst |
| July | ruby | ruby |
| August | peridot | peridot |
| September | sapphire | sapphire |
| October | opal | rose |
| November | topaz/citrine | topaz |
| December | blue zircon | blue zircon |



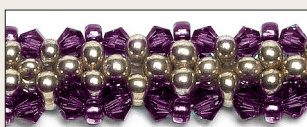
January



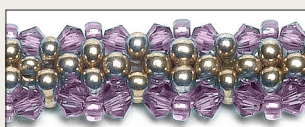
May



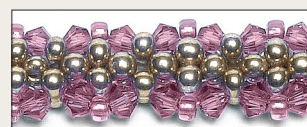
September



February



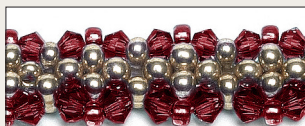
June



October



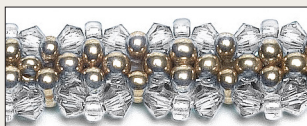
March



July



November



April



August



December