



IT TAKES TWO FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

BY LESLIE ROGALSKI



Two-holed beads really stack up in bracelets! But most have small holes, making them pretty impossible to string with S-lon cord on a needle. Here's how to use cord with the needle already attached while preserving remaining thread for a second design. Finish with silicone lined "smart" beads for a much more stylish, adjustable sliding closure than the usual macramé. Make, wear and share!

Materials for 2 bracelets

Your choice beads (Tila or other two-holed beads, 8s and 11s)
One card size 6 Griffin cord with needle (nylon or silk)
1 big-eye needle

4 crimp covers to cover knots
2 size 4mm 1.4mm ID smart bead (closure)
2 Bead stoppers
Ruler
Scissors
Glue for knots (optional)

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ABOUT GRIFFIN CORD

The nylon or silk cord comes in 2 meters (6 ½ ft) on a single card. This tutorial shows how to preserve the attached needle and get two, single wrap adjustable bracelets from a single card of cord.

ABOUT SMART BEADS

Smart beads are round beads lined with silicone so they won't slip.

NOTE: Check that all holes of multi holed beads are open before stringing

STRING BEADS

Unwrap all the Griffin cord from its card. The needle will be bent. Use your fingers to re-bend at the folds to straighten as much as possible. If needed trim the needle down a bit with wire snips to get to a nice length of straighter needle.

FIGURE 1

Place a bead stopper 6.5 inches from the very end. String six inches of beads through one hole. Push them to the stopper. Place a second bead stopper against the last bead strung. Trim the long cord/needle leaving 6.5 inches at the other end of the cord strung through the beads.

FIGURE 2

Reposition one bead stopper to capture the end of the new long cord leaving 6.5 inches (Fig 2a). One bead stopper with two 6.5 inch cords should be at this end of the bracelet. With the long cord/needle sew through the other bead holes and depending on your design string new seed beads between them.

Leave 6.5 inches of cord exiting the second holes of the beads and trim. (Wrap the remaining cord/needle back around its card and set aside for a second bracelet.) Make an overhand knot with the two cords close to the beads (Fig 2b).

NOTE: The cord ends will unravel easily. Be careful when handling.

FIGURE 3

At the other end remove the bead stopper. Push the line of beads to sit gently against the overhand knot just made, and knot the tails close to the other end bead.

MAKE CORD & SMART BEAD CLOSURE

TIPS:

- Pre-stretch the silicone liner of the smart bead before use. Take a pushpin and carefully push it through each hole. Press against a soft mat or corkboard type surface so the pin goes all the way through the bead.
- Help yourself out by using a pliers to pull the needle and cords if needed!

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FIGURE 4

Crisscross the cords through a smart bead: At one end of the bracelet thread a big eyed needle on the two tails and pull them through a smart bead. If needed do this one cord at a time. Repeat for the two cords at the other end of the bracelet to pull through the smart bead in the opposite direction.

FIGURE 5

Pull the pairs of cords so the bracelet closes and the smart bead sits against the end beads..

TWIST CORDS

For a video of this project that best shows how to twist the cords, visit <https://www.facebook.com/thebeadsmith/videos/2229064173856896/>

Work with each pair of cords that exit the smart bead together from the same side. Twist just one of the cords in the direction of its coil until it kinks up on itself. Hold onto that cord to prevent it from untwisting, and twist the other cord in the same direction. Bring the two cord ends together and pull gently to straighten out any kinks. Don't let cords untwist.

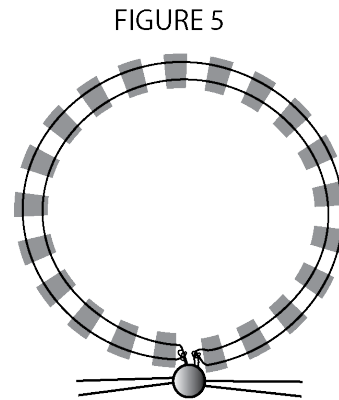
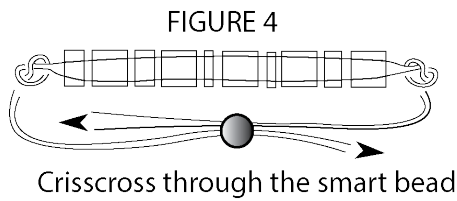
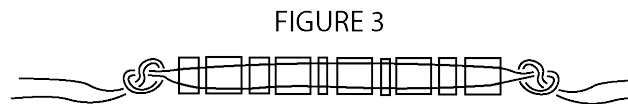
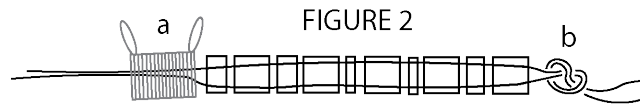
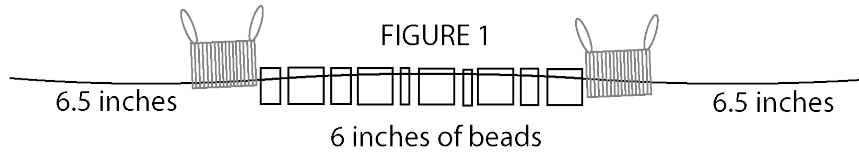
Twist both cords together in the opposite direction from that which they were twisted. As you form this new single cord, twist until it starts to kink up. Pull them to unkink but do NOT allow this new single cord to untwist. Make an overhand knot with both cord ends leaving about 3 inches between the knot and the end bead.

Repeat with the other pair of cords exiting the other side of the smart bead. Dab glue on the twisted cord end knots. Cover each knot with a crimp cover.



Look for BeadSmith Tila Mixes with full, half, and quarter sized Tila beads in great color combos: Royal Flush, Mixed Nuts, Wave, Pebbles, Island Hopper, and Sherwood Forest.

Cords are shown shorter than actual length.



Try this with other two holed beads!
Shown: Chevron Duos, GemDuos, and seed beads.

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