

APRIL 2010 PROJECT OF THE MONTH

BEAD TO RIBBON NECKLACE

INGREDIENTS

- 30 - 40 feature beads, different shapes and sizes
- spacers and bead caps to fit your pattern
- 40 - 60cm of tigertail or softflex
- 4 x crimp beads
- 2 x 80cm lengths of ribbon for a long necklace, 40cm for a short necklace. You may have more than 1 colour/type if desired.
- 2 x leather ends, 2 x 4mm jumprings and a clasp if preferred to tying the ribbons in a bow at the back.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- Chain Nose Pliers
- Wire Cutters
- Scissors
- A rubber tipped clamp
- A bead mat to work on
- A design board will be helpful

RECIPE

1. Take your feature beads and work the main pattern for the center of the necklace. You will find a design board helpful for this. Secure your clamp at one end of your tigertail. Thread on all your beads in the pattern you have chosen.

TIPS

- Be symmetrical: start with the biggest beads in the middle, and work your way out to smaller beads **OR**
- Be random or asymmetrical with your beads, especially if you are making a longer necklace.
- use spacers and bead caps to frame your beads. They will also catch the light and lift your piece.
- If you are having trouble choosing your beads, start with a central bead or three and work your way out. Once the feature/s is chosen, everything else will flow from there.

2. Take off the last bead on one side.

- Slide down a crimp, the same bead you just took off and another crimp

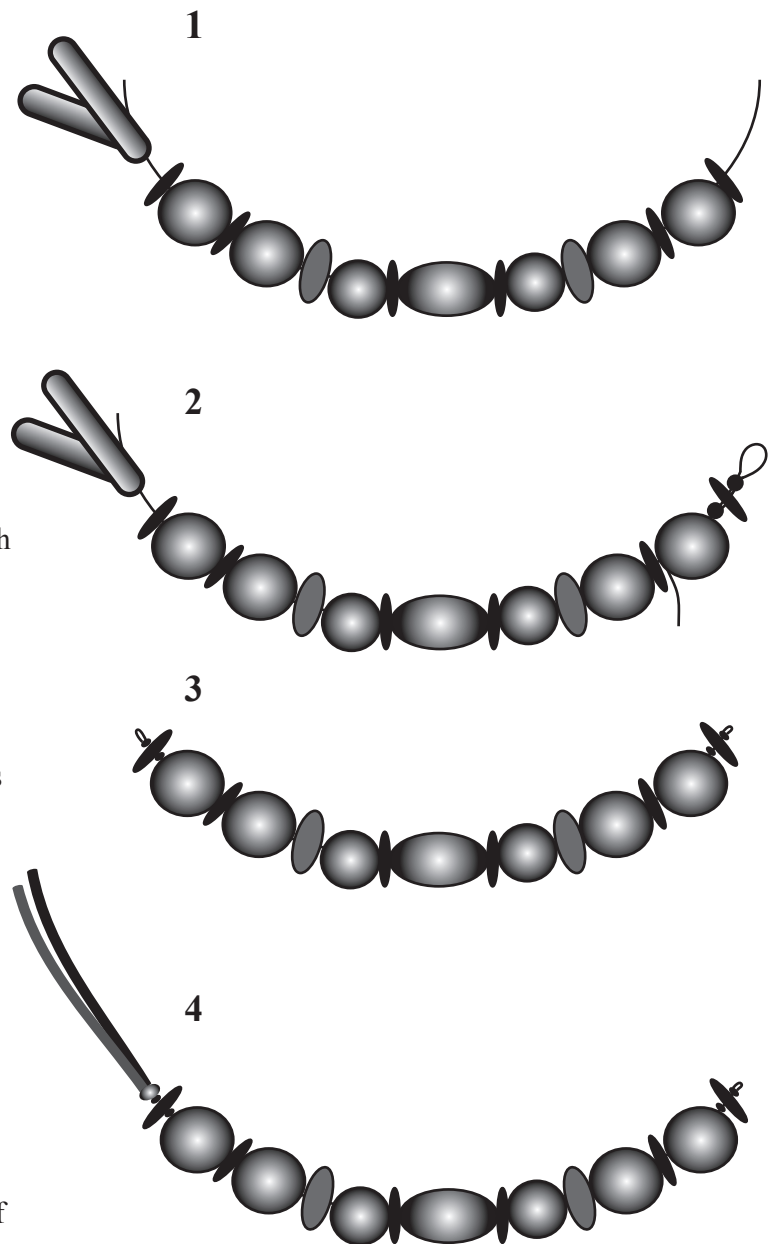
- Take the end of the wire, turn it around, and pass back through the last crimp, the bead, the first crimp and several of the other beads. Pull tight until there is just a small loop approx 4 -5 mm long (big enough for your ribbon/s to pass through).

- Squash both crimps firmly.

3. Repeat the above on the other side and trim the excess wire.

4. Take 1 piece of your ribbon (or 2 or 3 if you have multiples) and thread it through one of the tigertail loops. Double the ribbon, and tie a knot right at the base of the loop. The knot will hide the loop. This gives you 2/4/6 strands of ribbon to go around your neck. Repeat for the other side. You can tie these ribbons in a bow to make the necklace any length you like **OR**

5. Work out the length you want for the necklace as a whole (remembering that the clasp will add length) and cut the ribbon to the right length. Secure a leather end at each side, then attach your clasp using your jumprings.



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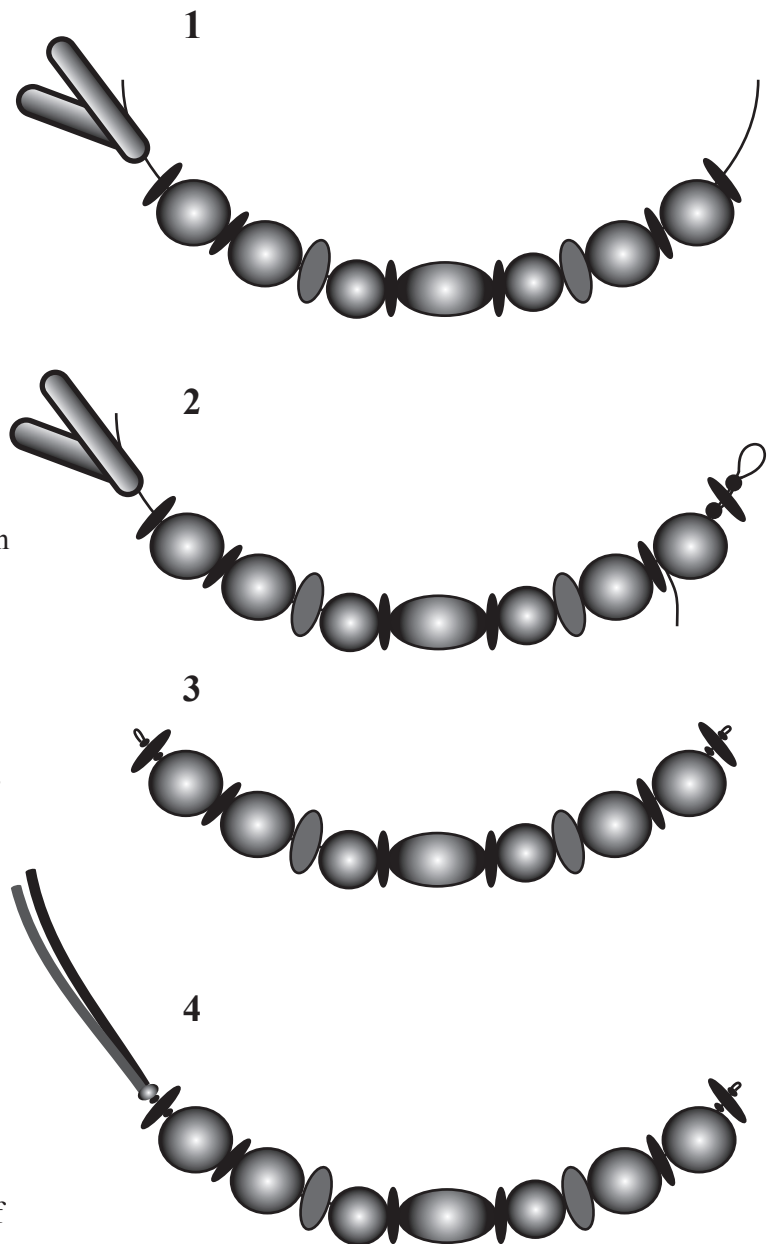
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