

Christmas Beading with Susan Roberts Peyote pods and Snow children

Peyote Pods



Peyote pods are made with Delica (or Seed) beads. Delica beads are cylindrical and fit together like bricks on a wall, Seed beads are bit more rounded, they still fit together but there will be some gaps. The three different shaped pods in the pictures above all start with the same beaded taco (in picture 4 on second row) but by combining different numbers of tacos we get different shaped pods. Although Delica beads are small you don't need to pick them up to thread them and they have a good sized hole in the centre. I am planning to demonstrate everything with Hama beads (the beads children make pictures/shapes from on peg boards that you then iron to get them to stick together (I'm raiding my mums stash that my niece has grown out of!), I will also use these in my written instructions to back up what you will learn so you can see as clearly as possible what to do. There may also be a video or two to go alongside the class. It doesn't matter if you are left or right handed, I'm right handed and work on the back of a taco if you are left handed you will work on the front of a taco instead.

We will start off with basic geometric patterns like those above as this means you don't have to follow a written pattern. You can make these as small or large as you want so everyone who wants should be able to complete their first pod by 'zipping' their tacos together on day one of the course.

For day 2 (or the afternoon on day 2 if you work quickly....) I will be designing some simple pods with a Christmas theme that you can work into 2, 3 or 4 tacos to form your pod. These work in the same way but you will be following a pattern to work them, designs will be available in September.

No previous beading experience is necessary to work my peyote pods. I'm expecting that most people haven't done beading before so will have beads, bead kits, thread, beading needles and fabric beading mats for you to buy, I will be keeping the cost as low as possible, So a beading mat to stop your beads rolling away will be around £1.50, a reel of thread around £1.50 and a kit of

beads to make your first pod around £3.00 (the beads for your second pod might be a bit more as the patterns will probably be a bit larger). I will also provide stuffing for your pods.

You will need, thread scissors and beading needles if you have them for your lace already. If you have any sort of pattern holder/marker for cross stitch or knitting you might find this helpful, but if you don't that's fine we can use card markers, if you have use a magnifier for your lace you may find it useful.

Peyote snow children



If you have **done beading before and followed written beading patterns** you have the option to work a snow child. My snow family is based on a free pattern for a faerie that you can download from The Beadworkers Guild website (<https://beadworkersguild.com/all-ibw-patterns/>). You don't need to be a member to be able to access the file.

Faerie Pattern by Nancy Jenner



The faerie and snow family aren't beginners patterns. It will not be possible to go straight from working your first peyote pod on day one to working a snow child on day 2. One of the pods designs I'm planning will be for a snowman.

The snow children (with two black buttons on their fronts) are the same size as the faerie, my instructions will tell you how to adapt the faerie pattern into a snow child. The faerie pattern was designed for size 11 seed beads but my snow family is in Delica beads (you can use either), they should be Miyuki beads in both cases as these are the most regular beads so will give the best result. If you are looking to work a snow child please contact me in advance so we can look at what additional beads you might need rather than you buying lots of different sizes/colours of beads.

If you are an existing beader and want to work something else please contact me before the course to discuss.

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I have a card machine for anyone who wants to purchase beads, equipment, kits etc with a credit/debit card, I will do slips of paper so you can keep a tab on what you have used and we will settle up (by card or cash) on Sunday afternoon.