

Christmas Beading 2023 with Susan Roberts Peyote stars (and pods)

Peyote Stars



For those of you who joined me last year for Peyote Pods, this year you can progress to Peyote stars in Delica beads. Pods and stars use the same principles of herringbone increases and peyote stitches. Whereas the basic building block of a peyote pod is a taco, the basic building block of a star is a warped square (they have four sides and they are equal in length but after four rows they won't lie flat, hence a warped square).

Like with pods you will start by learning the basic shape and way of working/holding your warped square but once you've done 5 or 6 rows you can move on to a proper pattern. Like with last year's pods there will be a number of patterns for you to choose between and I will have kits to go with the patterns (I'm currently working on the designs and patterns). You need five times as many beads to make a star compared to a pod so those of you that worked a number of pods in a weekend, don't expect to make as many stars! Like last year there will be some videos of me working in large beads that I will send out about a week before the course.

For those who want to work something a little different there will also be the option of a necklace with warped squares. I will only have a small number of kits for this design. If you are interested in a colour combination other than red, black and white please let me know before the course and I will see what I can do, there are some smaller beads and larger crystals so it will depend on what I have in my bead stash as to exact colour combinations.

I will have all the pattern options for you to see at the September 2023 NCLG meeting.

Peyote Pods

For those who are new to beading you will need to start with peyote pods:



Peyote pods are made with Delica (or Seed) beads. The three different shaped pods in the pictures above all start with the same beaded taco 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 will demonstrate everything with Hama beads (the beads children make pictures/shapes from on peg boards). I will also use these in instructions to back up what you will learn so you can see clearly what to do. There will also be a few videos to go alongside the pods. 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 the course. I've designed 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.

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. A beading mat to stop your beads rolling away will be around £1.50, I have a small amount of thread left at £1.50 a reel but after this thread is likely to be around £2.50 a reel (I got thread from someone who was closing their bead store last time and was selling thread cheaply) and a kit of beads to make your first pod around £3.00 (the beads for your second pod will be a bit more as the patterns are 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.

If you are an existing beader and want to work something else or want to work a star/pod pattern you have bought please contact me before the course to discuss.

Susan Roberts (contact details in the front of Pillow Talk)
July 2023

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.