

The Beader's Bible



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This is an indispensable guide to beads and beading techniques, presenting essential beading know-how together with a wide range of inspirational projects, tips and ideas. Beads are the oldest and most widespread art form, having been used in virtually every culture since ancient times. Over the years new materials and methods of making beads have been introduced and now bead workers have a vast array of stunning beads to work with. Beading has also developed over the years and, even though many traditional techniques are still popular, the craft is constantly evolving. With so many techniques, and such a vast array of beads and materials available for the contemporary bead worker, there is definitely a need for a comprehensive guide. The Beader's Bible is just that - an encyclopaedia of beads and beading techniques that aims to educate and inspire anyone who loves working with beads. The Beader's Bible begins by looking at beads themselves; how to choose beads from metal, modelled, gemstone, seed beads and cylinder beads to hex beads, crystals, glass and bugle beads. There are handy tables to help you to understand how beads are measured and bead quantities, as well as advice on choosing bead colours: monochromatic, analogous, complementary, split complementary, tetradic, and triadic. You are then guided through the basic to more specialist tools and equipment that you will need in bead work: bead reamer, thread conditioners, cup bur, various pliers, wire cutters, and

various needles, bead loom, tube looms, necklace planning boards, wire jig and bead mats. You will find each beading technique explained in detail throughout the chapters. However, the book begins by giving you the basic knowledge of essential techniques, such as working from a chart and knotting. Because people generally focus on one type of beading at a time the book is divided into eight chapters that cover all the traditional techniques: bead loom weaving, off loom bead stitches, ropes and cords, fringing, netting and tassels, threading and stringing, wire work and jewellery techniques, bead embroidery and knitting and crochet. Within each chapter you will be guided through the basic skills, tools and materials, before tackling more advanced techniques. Inspiration pages will give you interesting ideas using the different techniques, and there are over 30 fabulous 'Bead Something Now' projects, ranging from beautiful bags and jewellery to stylish scarves and accessories - perfect excuses for trying out your new skills! Combining beading with knitting, crochet, embroidery and wirework for unique results and with easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions, clear diagrams and stunning photography combine to create the must-have resource for beaders of all abilities.

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