

“Let It Snow” Necklace

Holiday Pattern 2010

An original design by Laura McCabe, ©2010

Directions by Laura McCabe, Illustrations by Melissa Grakowsky Shippee



Materials:

- 12mm crystal rivolis, 4 stones
- 11° Japanese cylinder beads, 2 grams
- 15° round seed beads, 5 grams
- 11° round seed beads, 10 grams
- 15° Czech charlottes, 1 gram
- 3mm crystal bicones (#5301), 48 beads
- 6mm crystal rondelles (#5040), 8 beads
- 2mm crystal beads (#5000), 1 gross or more
- fireline, 6lb
- size 12 and size 13 English beading needles

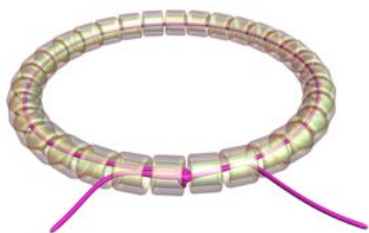
Inspired by the beautiful crystalline structure of snowflakes, this necklace design uses peyote stitch bezeled crystal rivolis as the base for herringbone points.

Stay warm, but let it snow . . .

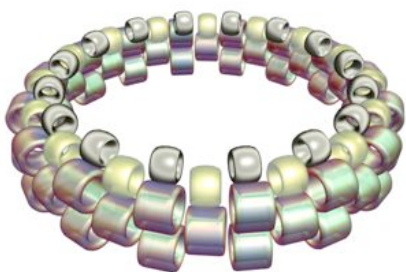


“Let It Snow” Necklace pattern is intended as a gift from the artist to her fellow bead people. Share the pattern and enjoy the project, but please, in keeping with the original intent, do not teach, sell or otherwise use this project for financial gain. Few things in life are free – as for the things that are – let’s keep them that way.

Part One: Building the Flakes



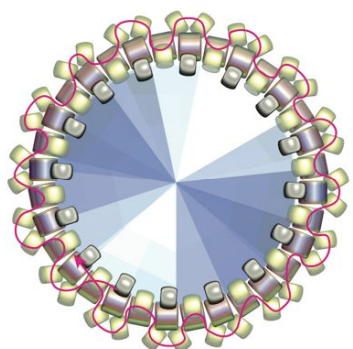
Step One



Step Two



Step Three



Step Four

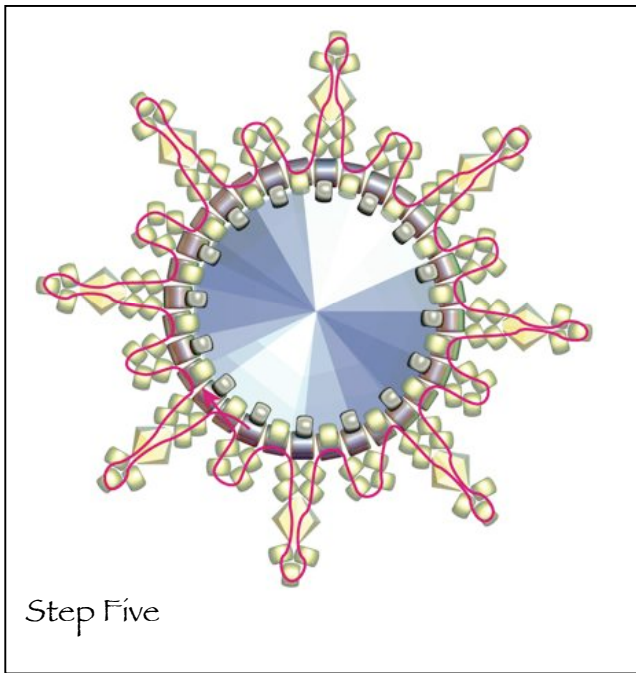
1. Begin by threading up 32 cylinder beads on 7 feet of waxed fireline. Tie a square knot and pass through a couple beads to hide the knot.

2. Peyote stitch one row of cylinder beads. Remember to step up at the end of the row. Then stitch one row of 15°s and one row of 15° Czech charlottes. Be sure to pull in with each round to create the “cupped” bezel shape.

3. Weave the thread up to the top row of cylinder beads. Place the rivoli right side up in the bezel and do one row of 15°s and one row of 15° Czech charlottes.

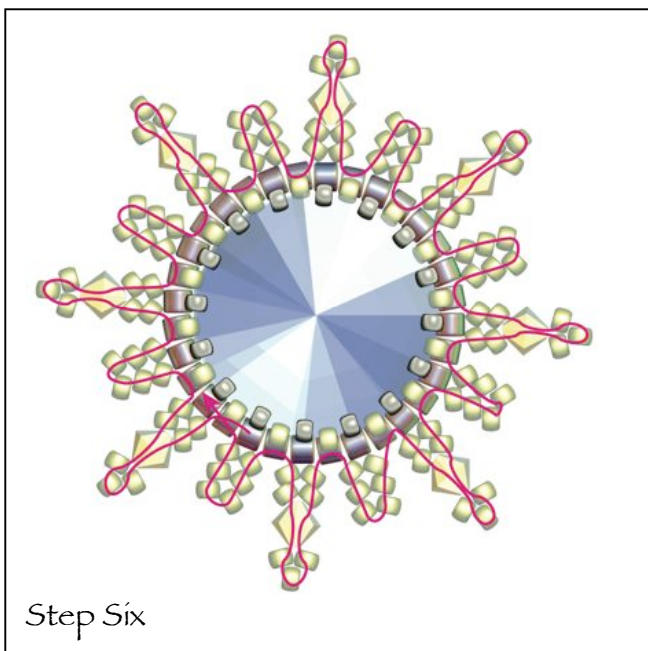
4. Weave the working thread so it is coming out of a bead in the middle row of cylinder beads. Add two 15°s between every bead in this row, for a total of 16 sets of two.

5. For the next round, begin with your thread coming out the first of the two beads in the first set added on the previous round. Add two 15°s and go down through the second bead in this first set of two (you have just completed a herringbone stitch). Come up through the first bead in the second set of two beads from the previous round. At this point you have a choice –you can do longer “in-between” points (as show in the illustrations) or you can do shorter “in-between” points (as shown in the photo). To do the longer points, add one 15° seed bead, one 3mm bicone, and three 15°s. Go back through the bicone to create a picot of 15°s. Add one more 15° seed bead and go down into the second bead in that



Step Five

6. At the end of step five, step up through two beads in the first ladder of herringbone. Add two 15°s atop this ladder and go down through three beads. Go back into the bezel and come up into the next ladder of herringbone (with the bicone). Without adding any beads, pass through all the beads in this ladder to reinforce the point. Continue in this manner, adding two 15°s to every ladder and reinforcing the ladders in between.



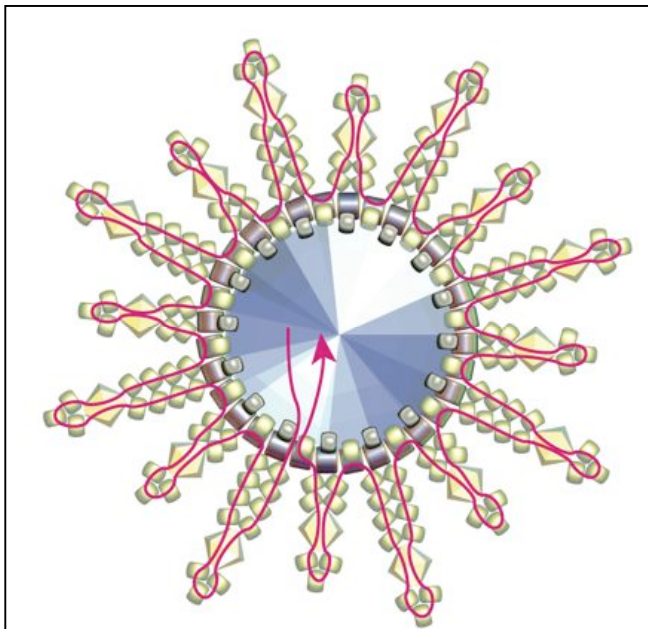
Step Six

set of two. If you prefer a shorter point, do not pick up a 15° before adding the bicone, and do not pick up a 15° after coming back through the bicone. Which ever option you choose, continue adding bead in this manner – two on every other ladder and the bicone and 15°s on the ladders between.



photo shows alternative version with shorter “in-between” points

7. At the end of step 6, step up through three beads in the first ladder of herringbone. Add one 15° seed bead, one bicone and three 15° seed beads. Go back down through the bicone, add one more 15° seed bead and pass down three beads. Go back into the bezel and come up in the next ladder of herringbone (one of the shorter points).



Step Seven

Pass through all the beads in this ladder without adding any beads. If this point is already sufficiently stiff, you can by-pass the short points entirely by zigzagging through the bezel and coming out into the third ladder of herringbone, where you will be adding beads as done on the first ladder. Continue in this manner adding 15°s and the picoted bicone atop every other ladder.

To add additional sparkle to your flake, add one 2mm crystal bead between every cylinder bead in the top row of cylinder beads in the bezel.

Weave off both tails, half hitching once or twice before cutting the thread.

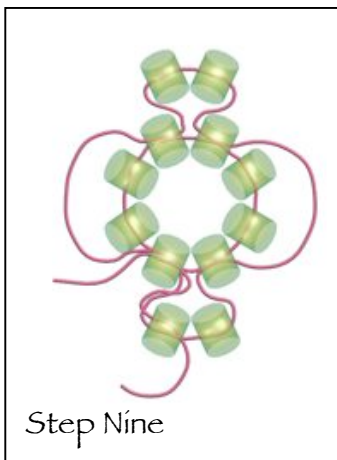


Step Eight

Repeat steps 1 thru 7 two more times to create a total of three flakes.

Part Two: Building the Neck Strap

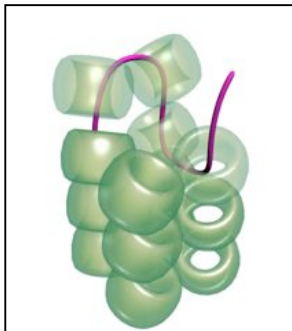
8. Begin by threading up eight 11°s onto approximately 8 feet of waxed fireline. Leaving approximately 15 inches of tail, pass through the first bead to create a circle of 8 beads.



Step Nine

9. Pick up two 11°s and go through the next bead. Then skip over two beads (thread on the outside) and go through the bead after that. Pick up two 11°s and go through the next bead, then skip over to beads (again, thread on the outside) and go through the bead after that (which should be the bead the tail thread is coming out of). Step up through the first bead added in this round.

10. Pull on the tail thread and the working thread and the two herringbone ladders will pop into place. Continue herringbone stitch with 11°s and the occasional 2mm crystal bead.

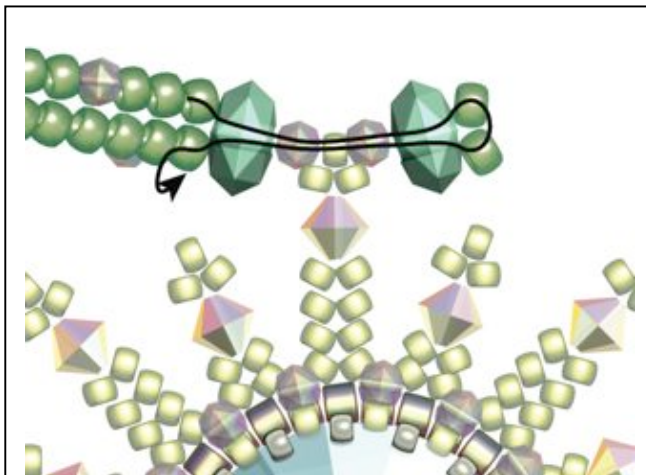


Step Ten

Remember to step up through two beads at the end of each round.

For an 18" necklace, weave approximately 7 inches of herringbone. If you wish to shorten or lengthen, remember that each additional ½ inch will add one full inch to the over all length. Reducing this length by ½ inch will reduce the finished length by one full inch.

Part Three: Attaching the Flakes

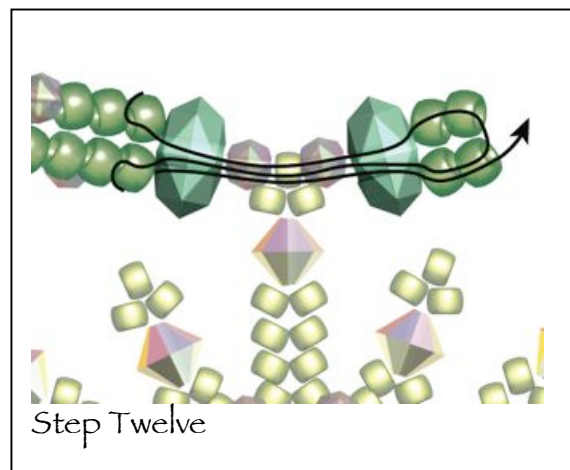


Step Eleven

11. To add the first flake, come out of the first bead in the first ladder of herringbone, thread up one 6mm rondelle, one 2mm crystal bead, pass through the 15° at the tip of one of the long points on the first flake, thread up one 2mm crystal bead, one 6mm rondelle, and two 11°s.

Go back through the rondelle, the 2mm crystal bead, the 15° in the tip of the flake, the 2mm bead, and the rondelle.

Go back down into the second bead in the first ladder of herringbone.



Step Twelve

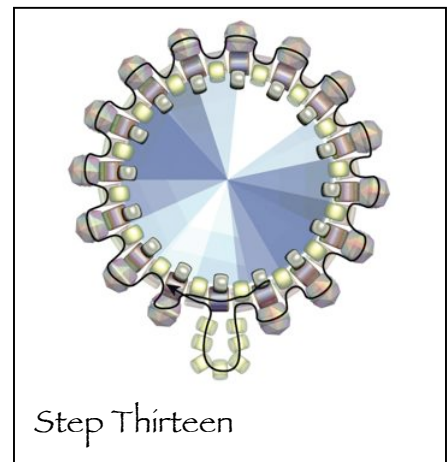
12. Come up through the first bead in the second ladder of herringbone. Go through the rondelle, the 2mm bead, the tip bead in the flake, the 2mm bead, and the rondelle. Add two 11° rounds. Go back through the rondelle, 2mm bead, tip bead, 2mm bead, and rondelle, and down into the second bead in the second ladder of herringbone.

Go up through the first bead in the first ladder of herringbone, through the rondelle, 2mm bead, tip bead, 2mm bead, rondelle,

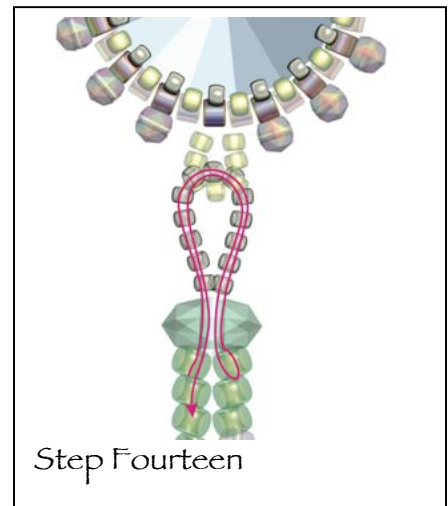
and through one of the newly added 11° s. Use these two sets of 11° to continue onward with two ladder herringbone, again interspersing 2mm bicones amongst the 11° s. Continue stitching until you have 17 rows of herringbone. Add the second flake in the same manner described above in steps 11 and 12. Stitch another 17 rows of herringbone and then attach the third flake in the manner described above. Once the third flake has been attached, continue stitching in herringbone until the length from the third flake to the end of the neck strap matches the length of herringbone from the start of the neck strap to the first flake attachment.

Part Four: Building the Clasp

13. To create the “button” portion of the clasp, bezel a rivoli as described in steps 1 through 3 in part one (page 2). Once the bezel is complete, weave the working thread so it is coming out of a bead in the middle row of cylinder beads along the outer edge of the bezel. Add one 2mm crystal bead between every bead in this row. In the last position, rather than add a 2mm crystal bead, add seven 15° s. Weave off both tails, half hitching once or twice before cutting the thread.



14. To attach the button, use the tail thread at one end of the herringbone neck strap. Coming out of the first bead in the first ladder of herringbone, pick up one 6mm rondelle and thirteen 15° Czech charlottes. Go back down through the rondelle and into the second bead in the first ladder of herringbone. Come up through the first bead in the second ladder of herringbone. Pass again through the rondelle and the loop of thirteen Czech charlottes. Go back down through the rondelle and into the second bead in the second ladder of herringbone. Weave off the tail, half hitching once or twice before cutting the thread.



15. To build the loop at the other end of the neck strap, come out of the first bead in the first ladder of herringbone. Thread up one 6mm rondelle and then alternating: one 15° ,



Step Fifteen

What I used:

Cylinder beads:

Warm clear dichroic aikos
(www.dichrobeads.com)

11°s: Toho 755

15°s: Miyuki 551

15° Czech charlottes:
sterling silver

3mm bicones: Swarovski
#5301 (crystal AB2X)

6mm rondelles: Swarovski
#5040 (pacific blue opal)

2mm crystal beads:
Swarovski #5000 (crystal
AB)

one 2mm crystal bead . . . until you have a total of 17 crystal beads and eighteen 15°s (starting and ending with a 15°. Go back down through the rondelle and into the second bead in the first ladder of herringbone. Go up through the first bead in the second ladder of herringbone. Pass through the rondelle and the loop of beads, go back down through the rondelle and into the second bead in the second ladder of herringbone. Weave off the tail, half hitching once or twice before cutting the thread.



photo courtesy of www.dreamstime.com

Happy Holidays!
Bead on my friends . . .