

Basic Beading

To add three-dimensional sparkle to your design use beads

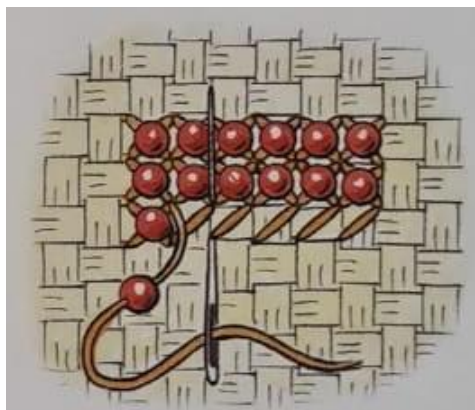
There is variety of shapes in beads. Embellishing cross-stitch designs include tiny, round rocailles, seed beads, cylindrical bulge beads and tear-shaped drop beads. Faceted beads have tiny light reflecting surfaces. You may purchase beads from needlecraft shop, bead shop or by mail order.

It is simple to stitch with beads. Use strong sewing thread or quilting thread that matches or blends with the beads. Match the beads to the fabric count for an even finish. Larger beads can be apply to alternate stitches or space them farther apart. Smaller beads which have tiny holes can be use on finest embroidery or tapestry needle.



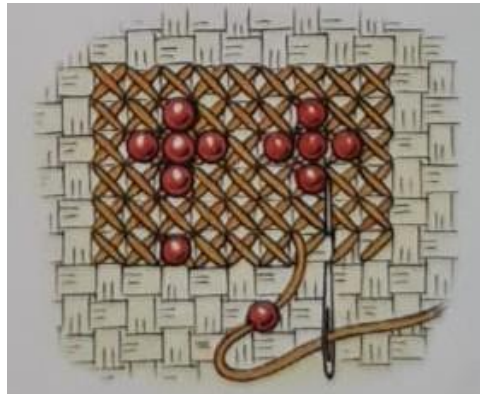
Beaded cross-stitch

Work a row of diagonal stitches. Then, as you complete each stitch in the row with the top diagonal stitch, slip a bead onto the thread before you insert the needle.



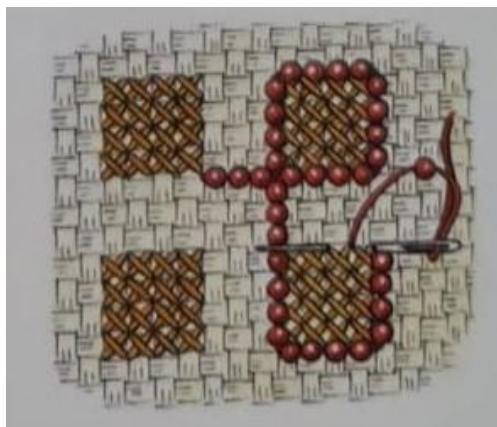
Working a repeat pattern

Apply beads to the top diagonals of groups of stitches arranged at regular intervals.



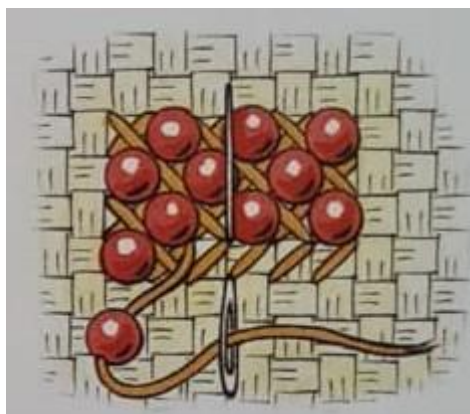
Beaded backstitch

Use beads that match or are slightly smaller than the fabric count. As you outline your design with back stitch, apply a bead with every stitch.



Applying large beads

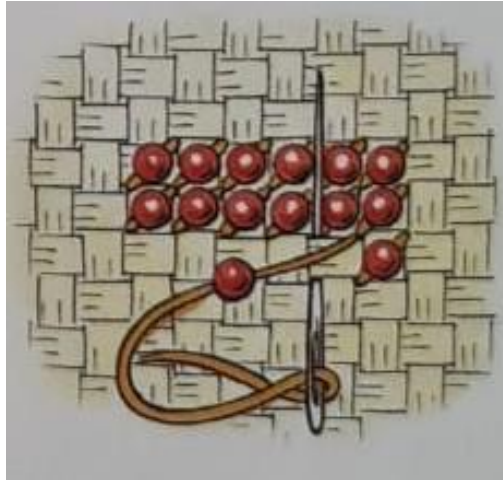
To apply beads that are larger than the fabric Count and larger than the cross stitches, work beaded cross-stitch, as shown to the left, but apply beads only to alternate stitches.



Beaded half cross-stitch

Bring the thread out to the front, add a bead, and insert the needle one hole down and one to the left, pushing the bead down the thread so that it lies against the fabric.

Bring the needle out one hole up to start the next stitch.



Information taken from Reader's Digest: The Big Book of Cross-Stitch Designs
The Reader's Digest Association, Inc. Pleasantville, New York/Montreal/London/Sydney/
Singapore