

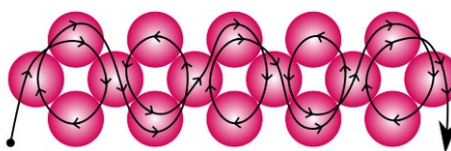
# Right Angle Weave

by  
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*This stitch is called right angle weave because each time you pass through a bead, you are forming a right angle with the previous bead. You will never pass through two beads in the same direction. (A right angle is like an L shape and can also be upside down or a mirror image.) You will often see the stitch abbreviated as RAW. This is an extremely useful stitch to know as it is the basis for many other designs. This pattern uses 6mm round beads or 4mm bicones, but you can use pretty much any size or shape to make right angle weave.*



# Right Angle Weave Bracelet



*The diagram above is just a quick guide to give you an idea of how the stitch is done. Each loop of beads is made alternately clockwise then anti-clockwise.*

I would recommend you try the pattern with 6mm round beads at first, then try different types once you're comfortable with the stitch. But if you're feeling brave and want to start with crystals then please go right ahead.

Right angle weave is a wonderful stitch, it works with lots of different types of beads to give very different looks. You will notice how different the bracelets look in the photos yet they are all made in exactly the same way.

The seed bead size for the end loops is not crucial, you could use anything you have available from size 8 to size 15.

## Beads



*6mm round bead*



*4mm crystal bicone*



*size 11 seed bead*

I used 6mm round beads for the grey bracelet and 4mm crystal bicones for the gold bracelet, and you can use faceted or oval beads or other sizes just as effectively.

The amount you will need will vary according to the size of the beads and the length of bracelet you want, but as a guide you will probably need somewhere around 46 to 54 6mm beads.

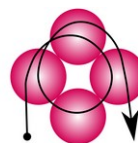
You will also need a lobster clasp and chain, or a toggle clasp, a very small amount of size 11 seed beads to make the end loops that you will attach the clasp to, and two jump rings and two pairs of pliers to attach them with.

## Instructions

Begin by threading your needle with about two metres of thread. Don't cut the thread, leave the reel attached. When (or if) you eventually run out of thread you can just unwind more from the reel and carry on working from the opposite end.

Unless your thread is really thin, work with single thread, not doubled. It's much easier to get the tension right and you get a lot fewer tangles.

*Figure 1*



(1) Pick up four beads and push them down to the far end of the working thread.

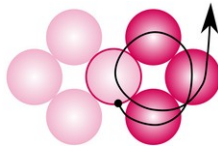
(2) Leave a bit of space between the beads and the thread reel so the reel isn't getting in your way.

(3) Go through all four beads again so that the beads snug up to make a circle.

(4) Work your way round through the next two beads so the thread is exiting from the bead opposite the one that the tail thread is exiting.

(5) Now pass through all four beads again, one at a time, so that the thread ends up exiting from this same place again. This is to keep the tension firm so they stay in position. For clarity this is not shown in the diagram.

Figure 2



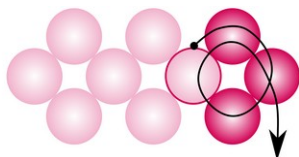
(6) Pick up three beads and pass down in the same direction through the last bead of the first circle.

(7) Pull the thread through so the beads snug up to form a second circle that shares a bead with the first circle.

(8) Go forwards through the next two beads so the thread is now exiting from the end bead.

(9) Go through all four beads again, one at a time, so that the thread ends up exiting from this same place again.

Figure 3



(10) Pick up three beads and pass up in the same direction through the last bead of the second circle.

(11) Pull the thread through so the beads snug up to form a circle.

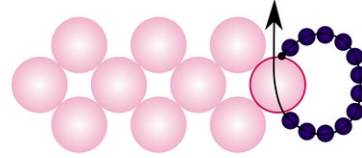
(12) Go forwards through the next two beads so the thread is now exiting from the end bead.

(13) Go through all four beads again, one at a time, so that the thread ends up exiting from this same place again.

(14) Now repeat from step 6 to step 13 until your bracelet is the length that you require, or you are running out of thread.

## Adding the end loop

Figure 4



(15) Ensure you are exiting from the end bead.

(16) Add enough seed beads to make a loop. I've drawn twelve here but you may need slightly more or less, because different beads are very slightly different sizes or have thicker coatings even though they're labelled as the same size, and you'll need more if you've used larger beads for the bracelet or are using a smaller seeds. Don't make the loop too small or the seed beads will not lie nicely side by side, and you won't have room to attach the clasp.

(17) Pass the needle through the end bead in the same direction, and pull the thread through so that the seed beads snug up together to make a loop.

(18) Reinforce the loop by sewing through the seeds and the end bead as many times as you can, keeping the thread tight so the loop goes quite stiff. Don't force the needle through or you might break a bead.

(19) Weave back through some of the main beadwork to finish off, then back to the seeds. If you want to, before the last bit of thread goes through the last beads, put a tiny amount of glue or clear nail varnish on the thread so it goes inside the bead. Try and end somewhere inside the seeds and cut the thread end off now, but if they're already so full of thread that you can't, wait until later before gluing and fastening off, so that you don't block a bead hole that you'll need to use again.

(20) Don't add your clasp just yet, wait until you've finished the whole thing, otherwise all you are doing is giving yourself a nice little hook to repeatedly get your thread tangled around while you're working.



(21) Now you can go back to your reel of thread (which you left attached to the work when you started) and unwind some more thread to work with, cut it, thread the needle and carry on stitching from the opposite end. Just turn your work around so you are working in the same direction as before. Don't cut the thread too short as you will need to have enough to reinforce your work once you've finished and it's better to avoid joins if possible.

(22) If needed, continue working until your bracelet is the length you require.

(23) Make another seed bead loop in the same way as you made the first at the opposite end. This time do not end your thread once you have finished.

(24) And now for the worst part. Sew through the entire thing all over again to reinforce it. Be careful here as it's really easy to get the thread snagged around a bead somewhere and not notice until it's too late.

(25) Depending on your choice of thread and the size of your beads you may want to do this more than once, but be careful you don't crack any beads by trying to get too many passes through them. You don't necessarily need to follow the exact same path, but make sure each stitch is always at a right angle to the previous stitch. I like to go all the way along the bracelet here in an S pattern, which reinforces alternate beads on each side, then back again to reinforce the ones missed the first time, and I often repeat this more than once depending on the size of the bead holes.

(26) Fasten off all thread ends securely.

(27) Use a jump ring to attach a lobster clasp to one end of the bracelet, and a short length of chain to the other end.

(28) You could also use a toggle clasp here instead. They look much more interesting than lobster clasps but make it into one size only, which is great if it's for yourself as it means you get a perfect fit but less good if you're trying to sell the bracelet as it won't fit as many potential customers.



*Bracelets made with 4mm bicones and a toggle clasp (above) and 6mm round beads and a lobster clasp (below).*



# Right Angle Weave Earrings

## Instructions



*The earrings are made in the same way as the bracelet, by using a short length of beadwork and making a seed bead loop at just one end to attach the clasp to.*

## Beads

You will need twenty 4mm crystal bicones, a few size 11 seeds, a pair of earring hooks, two jump rings, and two pairs of chain nose pliers or flat nose pliers to attach the jump rings. The pattern will also work with round or oval beads.

The earrings in the photos are made with three loops of beads and you could make them longer or shorter as desired. I have used 4mm bicones here but you could use other sizes and shapes. If using larger beads such as 6mm pearls then be aware of the weight if making them longer so that they don't become too heavy to wear comfortably.

Figure 1



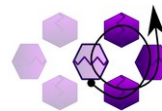
(1) Thread your needle with about half a metre of thread and pick up four beads.

(2) Pass through the first bead again in the same direction and pull the thread through so that the beads snug up to form a circle

(3) Go through all four beads again

(4) Go forwards through the next two beads so that your thread is exiting from the bead opposite the one that your tail thread is exiting from.

Figure 2



(5) Pick up three beads.

(6) Go in the same direction through the bead that your thread was exiting in the first circle and pull the thread through so that the beads snug up to form a second circle that shares a bead with the first circle.

(7) Go through all four beads again.

(8) Go forwards through the next two beads so that the thread is exiting from the end bead.

Figure 3



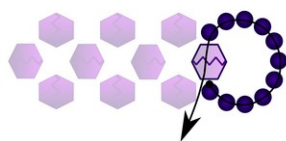
(9) Pick up three beads.

(10) Go in the same direction through the end bead again and pull the thread through so that the beads snug up to form a third circle.

(11) Go through all four beads again.

(12) Go forwards through the next two beads so that your thread is exiting from the end bead.

Figure 4



(13) Pick up enough seed beads to form a loop around the end bead. I've used twelve here but you may need slightly more or less, because different beads are very slightly different sizes or have thicker coatings even though they're labelled as the same size. Do not make the loop too small or the beads will not lie nicely side by side.

(14) Go through the end end bead again in the same direction and pull the thread through so that the beads snug up to form a loop.

(15) Stitch around this loop as many times as you can to strengthen it. Don't force the needle through or you may break a bead.

(16) Secure both thread ends in your work and fasten off.

(17) Use a jump ring to attach the top edge loop to an earring hook. Depending on the direction of the loop on the earring hook you may need to link two jump rings together here so that the earring still faces forwards, as shown in the gold and purple earrings in the photos.

(18) Make a second earring in the same way.



*Earrings made using 4mm crystal bicones (above and below). You can use round beads or other shapes and sizes and make them longer or shorter by making more or fewer circles. The photo on the next page shows a bracelet and earrings made using 6mm pearls, and the earrings have just one circle of beads.*







Pattern 3 new version

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*Sparkle a little bit every day*