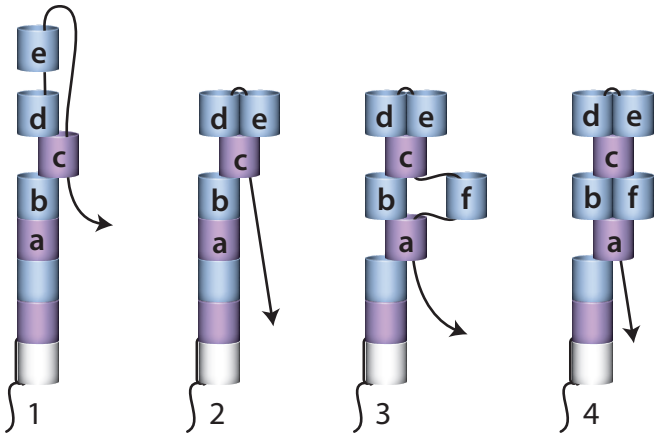
FLAT PEYOTE STITCH

Begin by making a stopper bead -- sew through a bead and pull it along the thread until it is about 6 from the end. Sew through the bead again without splitting the thread. You should be able to slide it up and down the thread but it will stay in place when left alone.

EVEN-COUNT PEYOTE STITCH

String an even number of beads onto your thread (6-12 beads is good for now) and bring them to your stopper bead. It's easiest to see how this works if you alternate beads in contrasting colors.



1. String one more bead (E), the same color as the last bead, and slide it to the other beads. Skip bead D and sew through bead C.

2. Pull the thread snug.

3. Pick up another bead (F), skip bead B and sew through bead A.

4. Pull this bead snug as well. Notice that it pushes the adjacent bead to the side making three staggered rows: (D&B, C&A, E&F).

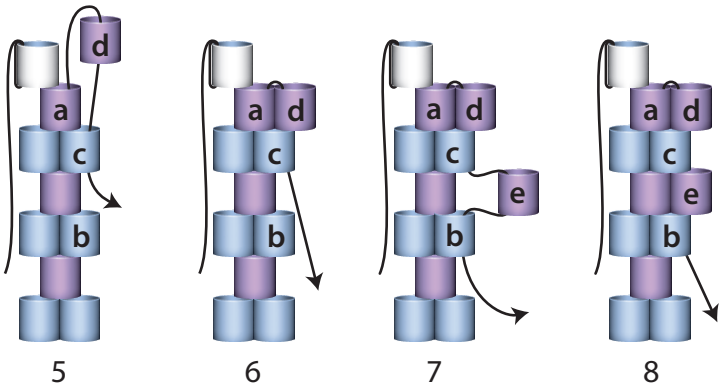
Continue this process, picking up a bead, skipping a bead and sewing into the next, until you have sewn into the last bead in the row. Do not sew into the stopper bead.

5. Turn the beadwork around and pick up a new bead (D) and sew through bead C.

6. Pull the thread snug. This is the beginning of row four.

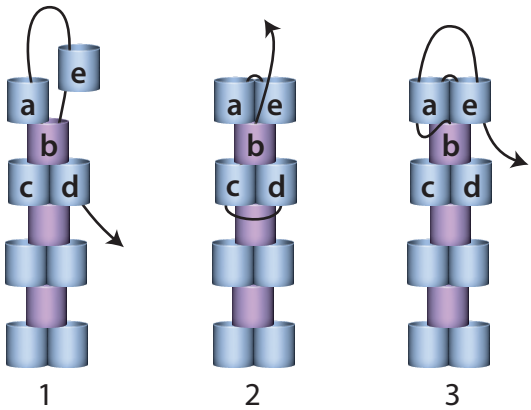
7. Pick up another bead (E) and sew into bead B.

8. Pull snug. Repeat this process for as many rows as desired. The result will be a flat strip of peyote stitch.



ODD-COUNT PEYOTE STITCH

String an odd number of beads onto your thread (7-13 beads is good for now) and bring them to your stopper bead. It's easiest to see how this works if you alternate beads in contrasting colors. Work the first three rows the same as you did for even count. When you reach the odd-turn end, you will notice that there is no last bead into which you can sew. You will need to make an odd turn. There are several ways of doing this...



Traditional Odd Turn

1. Pick up a bead (E) and slide it beside bead A. Sew down through beads A, B and D.

2. Sew back up through beads C and B, pulling the thread snug so it hides between the beads.

3. Sew up through bead A and then down through bead E and proceed as usual on the subsequent row. You will find that this and every other row has an even turn. Continue until your peyote strip is the desired length.

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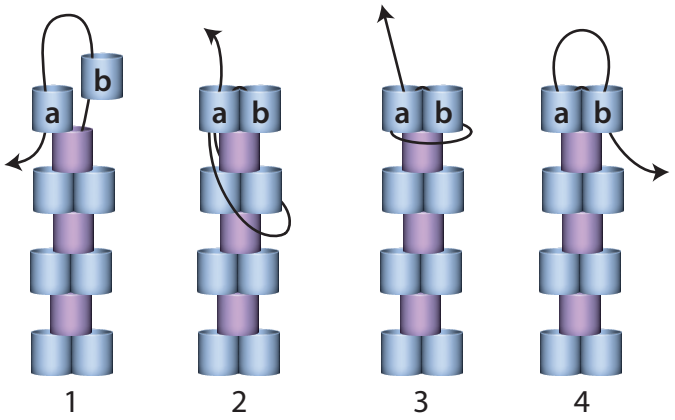
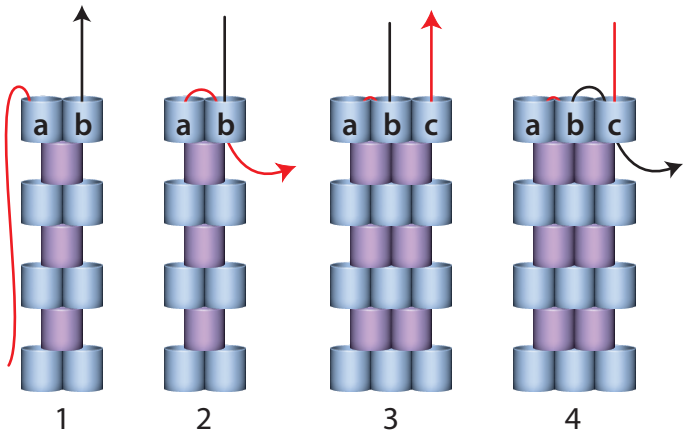


Catch Odd Turn

1. Pick up a bead (C) and slide it beside bead B. Sew beneath the thread that runs between the tops of beads A and B.

2. Pull the thread snug leaving a little bit of slack so that the beads will not buckle then sew back through bead C.

3. Proceed as usual on the subsequent row. You will find that this and every other row has an even turn. Continue until your peyote strip is the desired length.



Warp Odd Turn

Note: Leave about a foot of thread after the stopper bead.

1. Pick up a bead (B) and slide it beside bead A. Remove the stopper bead and place the short end of the thread across bead B and sew through bead B, trapping the tail thread

2. Pull snug so that the tail thread dips into bead B and bead the next row. Repeat this process each time you get to the odd-turn end.

3. If you run out of either thread end, weave both ends into the beadwork. Place a stopper bead on a new length of thread and sew through the last bead added. Continue until your peyote strip is the desired length

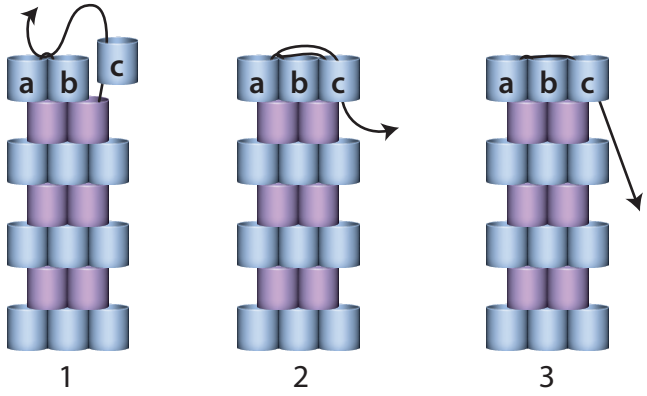
Abbreviated Odd Turn

1. Pick up a bead (B) and slide it beside bead A. Sew down through bead A.

2. Bring the needle around to the back of the beadwork and sew back up through bead A.

3. Pull the thread snug so that it loops around the thread and hides between the beads.

4. Sew back down through bead B and proceed as usual on the subsequent row. You will find that this and every other row has an even turn. Continue until your peyote strip is the desired length.



Two-Needle Odd Turn

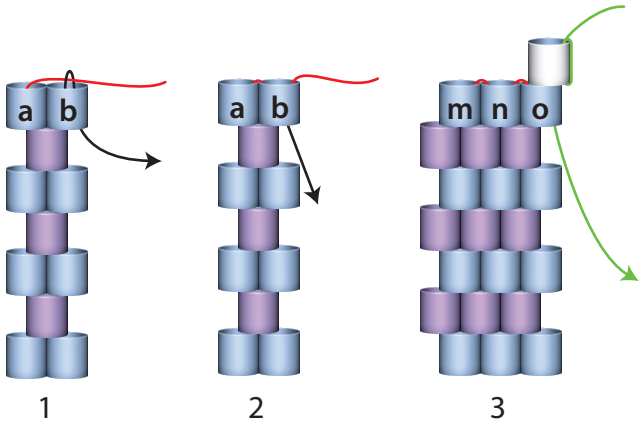
Note: Before beginning, place your stopper bead at the center of the thread rather than near the end.

1. Pick up a bead (B) and slide it beside bead A.

2. Remove the stopper bead and put a needle on the tail thread. With that needle sew through bead B.

3. Pull snug and bead the next two rows with the tail thread.

4. Once you reach the odd end of the beadwork again, slide the last bead (C) beside bead B and then continue with your original needle. Alternate needles until your peyote strip reaches the desired length.



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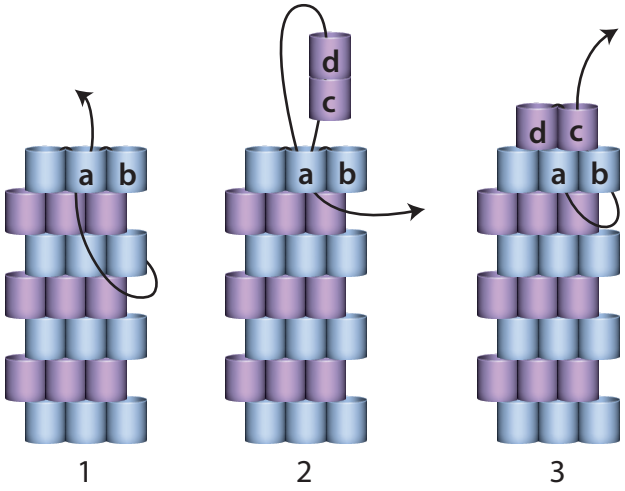
EDGE INCREASES

Even-Turn End ~ One Column Increase

1. When you finish your last even row, do not turn to begin the next row. Pick up two beads (C and D) and sew back into bead B.

2. Sew up through beads A and D.

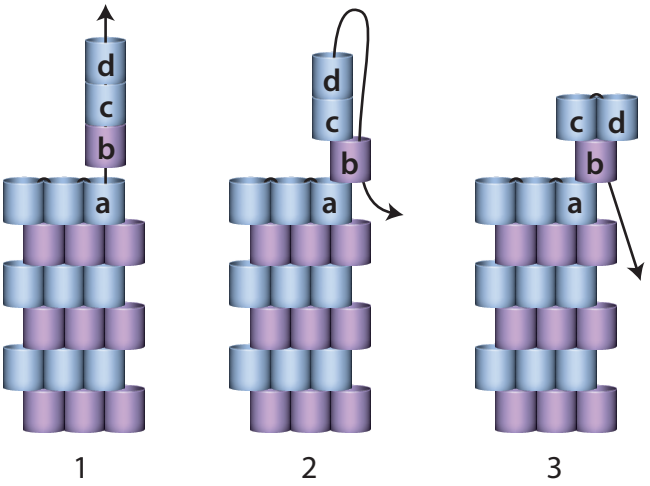
3. Sew back through bead C and proceed as usual. This is now an odd-turn end.

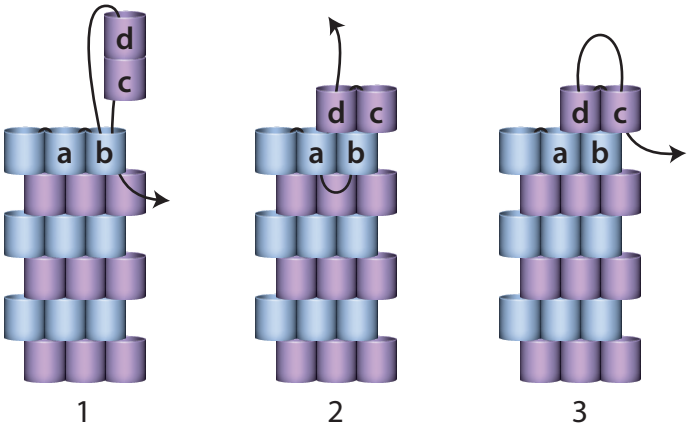


1. Pick up two more beads (E and F) and sew back down through beads C and B.

2. Sew up through beads A, D and E.

3. Sew down through bead F and pull snug. You are now in position to begin the next row.



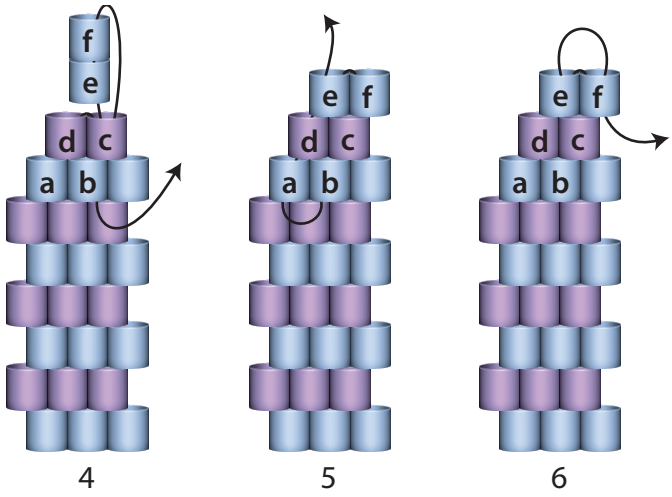


Odd-Turn End ~ One column Increase

1. Complete an odd-turn row using the traditional or abbreviated turn (the diagram shows the latter) but do not sew through bead B.

2. Pick up two beads (C and D) and sew back through bead A.

3. Sew up through beads B and C. You are now in position to begin an even-turn row. Go to the next section to begin the next row with another increase



Even-Turn End ~ Two Column Increase

1. When you finish your last even row, do not turn to begin the next row. Pick up three beads (B, C and D) and slide them to the beadwork.

2. Sew down through bead B.

3. Pull snug and continue beading as usual.

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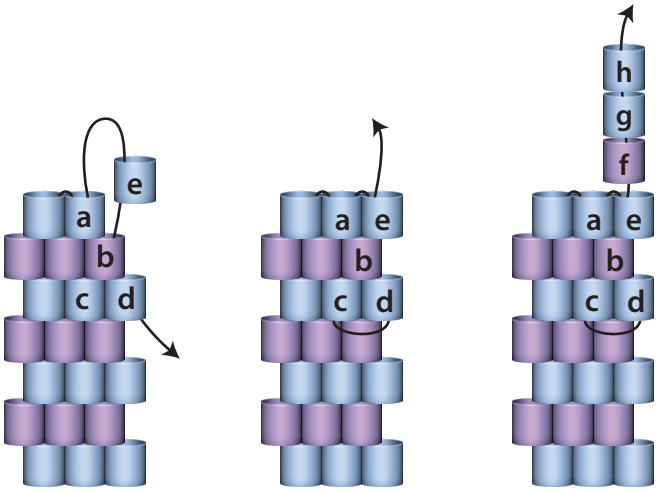
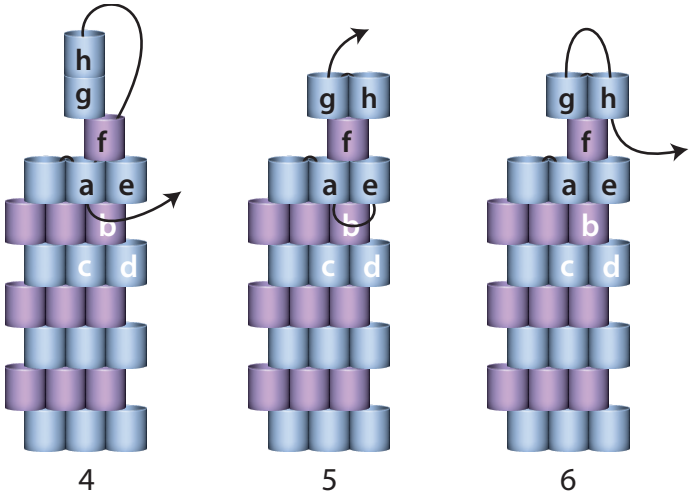


Odd-Turn End ~ Two Column Increase

1. Slide the last bead of the row (E) beside bead A and sew through beads A, B, and D.

2. Sew up through beads C, B, and E and pull snug so that the thread hides between the beads.

3. Pick up three beads (F, G, and H) and slide them to the beadwork. *continue to the next section* --

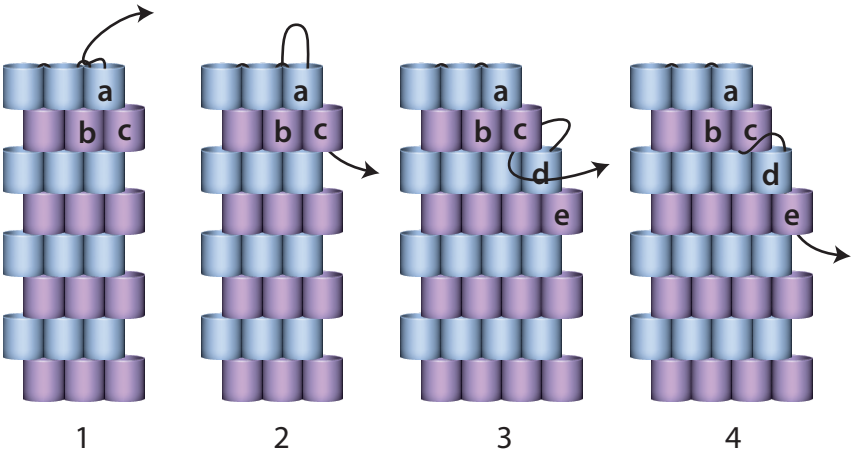


4. Sew down through beads F and A.

5. Sew through beads E, F, and G and pull snug so that the thread hides between the beads.

6. Sew through bead H. You are now in position to begin the next row.

EDGE DECREASES



Even-Turn End ~ One Column Decrease

1. When you finish your last even row, sew into the thread between the tops of the last two edge beads.

2. Pull snug and sew back down through beads A and C. This is now an odd-turn end. Continue to bead as usual.

3. If you wish to decrease further -- The next time you reach the decrease edge, exit bead D and then sew below bead C catching the thread.

4. Pull snug and then sew back down through beads D and E. This is once again an even-turn end. Continue to bead as usual.

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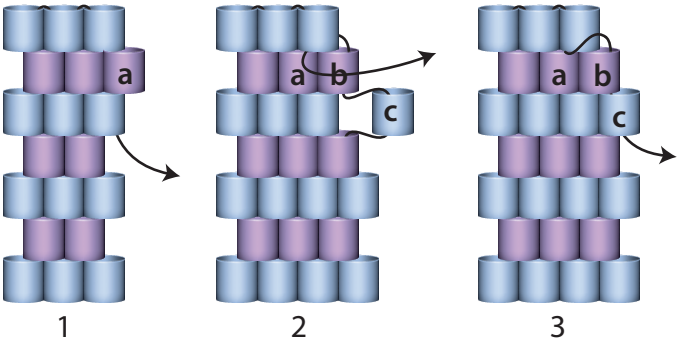
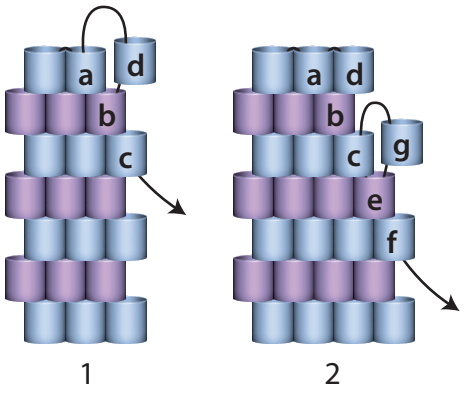


Even-Turn End ~ Two Column Decrease

1. Do not complete your last even row. The last bead you should exit shoud be bead A. Pick up a bead (C) and sew back through bead B.

2. Continue to bead as usual.

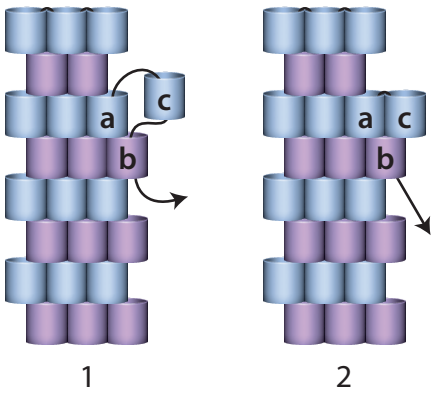


Odd-Turn End ~ One Column Decrease

1. Complete the row by making an odd turn and then begin a new row. The first bead of this new row (A) naturally makes a decrease. This can now be treated as an even count end.

2. If you wish to decrease further -- The next time you reach the decrease edge, exit bead B and then sew above beads A and B, catching the thread.

3. Pull snug and then sew back down through beads B and C. This is once again an odd-turn end.



Odd-Turn End ~ Two Column Decrease

1. Slide the last bead of the row (D) beside bead A and sew through beads A, B, and C. Continue to bead as usual.

2. If you wish to decrease further, the next time you reach the decrease edge, slide the last bead of the row (G) beside bead C and sew through beads C, E, and F. Continue to bead as usual.

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