



MadDesigns Marcia DeCoster - The Love Letters
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Previously on lovebeadlove.blogspot.com I released the letters LOVE and HOPE. To spell out PEACE we need to also have an A and a C. You can find directions for the E and P [here](#).

The letters are about 2 1/5cm high and I've used size 11° seed beads for the construction.

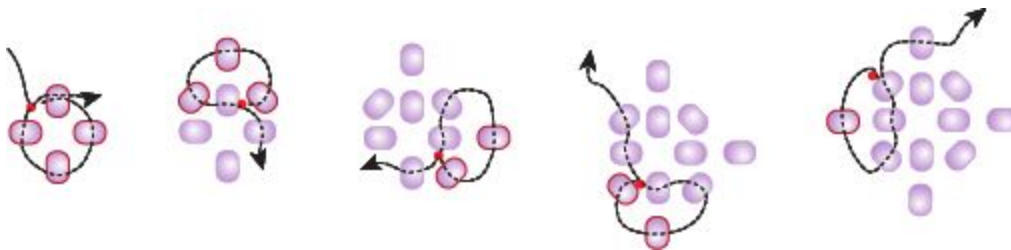
Thread: If you know me, you may know what I'm about to say about thread! I use double, waxed, 6lb Fireline to make the letters nice and firm. When weaving CRAW, I do not make a pass around the top four beads. Feel free to experiment with other threads or use single and make more passes. If you want to know more about my double thread choice, you can read that [here](#).

Supplies: You'll need small amounts of a main color and an even smaller amount for the serif. Some size 15°s will come in handy for adding the embellishments. Make a nice collection of some O beads, 3 and 4mm crystals, pearls, or Fire Polish, a few crystal sequins if you have them and whatever strikes your fancy.

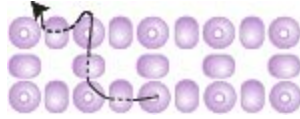
To be successful with the letters you should have a pretty good grasp of CRAW. In this project you will be weaving not only a cube on top of a cube, but cubes next to cubes to make a 2-cube wide column.

Starting with the A.....

CRAW: Pick up 4 size 11° beads and tie in a circle. These are the floor beads. Pick up 3 beads (side, ceiling and side beads) and pass through the floor bead you are exiting from the opposite side (this forms the first wall) and the next floor bead. Pick up 2 11°s and pass through the side bead from the first wall, the floor bead and the next floor bead (this forms the second wall). Repeat for the third wall, adding 2 beads. Pass through the last floor bead and the side bead from the first wall. Pick up 1 bead and pass through the side bead of the third wall, the floor bead, the side bead of the first wall and the ceiling bead of the first wall.

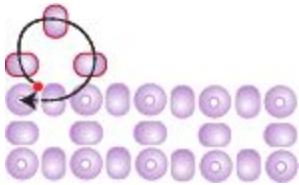


Repeat all steps above four more times, for a total of 5 cubes. Turn the five cubes horizontally and weave to exit a ceiling bead on the left of the 5 cubes, as shown.

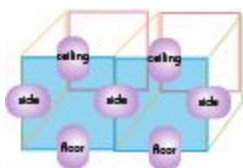


You will now begin to weave the right hand side of the A which is two cubes wide and 14 cubes total. Note: You will only weave 13 rows and the 5 cubes you just wove provide row 1.

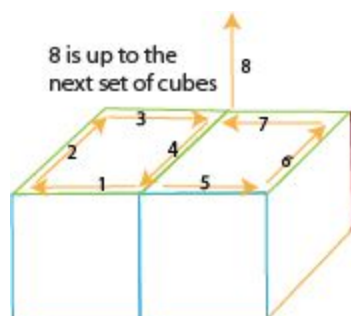
When weaving cubes side by side, you will be weaving 7 walls (the interior wall between the two cubes is a shared wall). Begin by picking up 3 seed beads and passing through the ceiling from which you are exiting.



This illustration shows how the face of the cube has side beads as well as a floor and ceiling.



Use the arrows to see in what order to build the walls.



See below for how many beads each wall should have.

Wall 1: 3 beads.

Wall 2: 2 beads (side bead is shared with Wall 1).

Wall 3: 2 beads (side bead is shared with Wall 2).

Wall 4: 1 bead (pass through the shared floor bead and up through the first bead of wall one. Pick up the one ceiling bead and pass through the side bead of Wall 3, the shared floor bead again, and then through the floor bead for Wall 5).

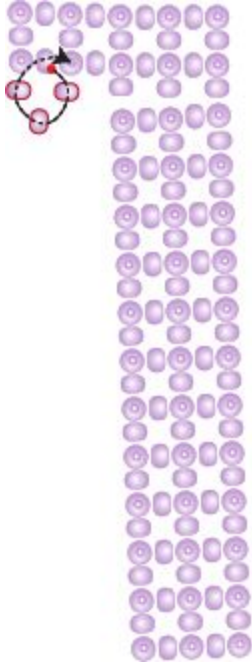
Wall 5: 2 beads (side is shared with Wall 1).

Wall 6: 2 beads (side is shared with Wall 5).

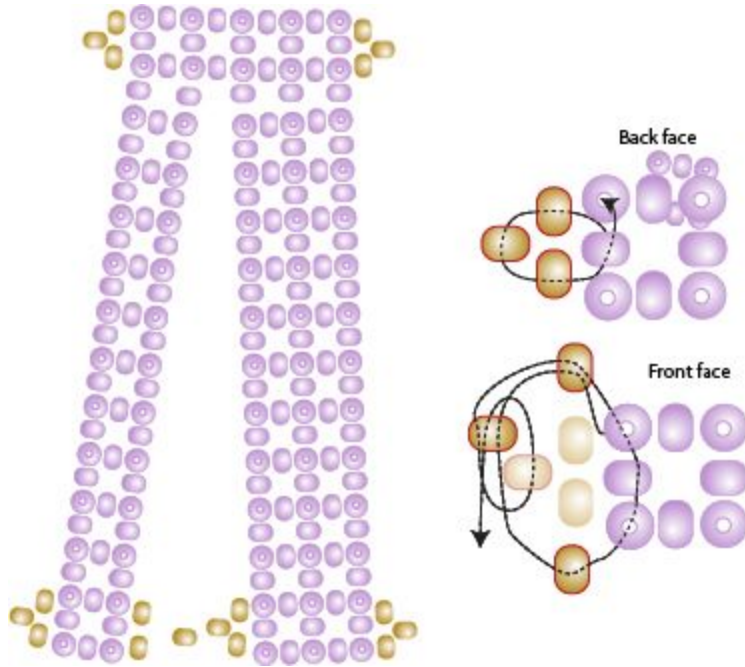
Wall 7: 1 bead (pass through the floor bead of 7 and the shared side bead from Wall 3. Pick up the one ceiling bead and pass through the shared side bead from Wall 6, the floor bead from Wall 7 and up through shared side bead from Walls 3 and 7, shown as arrow 8 in the illustration).

With the work turned so that Walls 3 and 7 are facing you, pass through the ceiling bead on the left. Repeat these steps an additional 12 times for a total of 14 rows of 2 cubes each.

Weave off and begin a new thread on the far end of the original 5 cubes. Weave a single row of 13 cubes for a total of 14 cubes.



Serifs: To add the serifs, in a contrasting size 11° weave to exit an edge bead. Pick up 3 size 11°s and pass through the edge bead from the opposite side. Weave through a ceiling bead in that cube and pass through the corresponding edge bead on the back of the L. Repeat the 3 bead picot. Pass up through the first and second beads to exit the middle bead of the picot. Pass the thread through the middle picot bead on the front picot and back through the middle picot bead on the back. Weave to the edge bead for the next picot. If I have a lot of thread left, I pass the thread through the middle of the cubes up to the where the next picot needs to be placed.



Weave (or attach a new thread) to exit the fifth interior edge bead on the wide side of the A. Weave two cubes and join to the adjacent cube on the single side of the A. (note: only 1 wall of the join is shown, you need to weave to the back face of the A and repeat the join.)

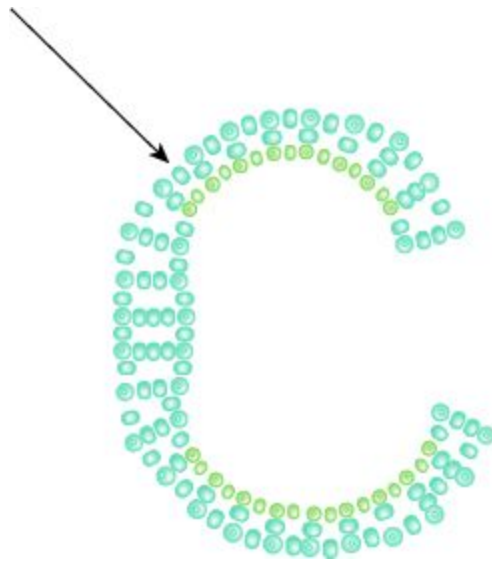


In the letter C things get just a little bit trickier. In order to create the curve at the top and bottom of the C, the interior wall of those cubes are woven with size 15 beads. To create width on the spine of the C and on

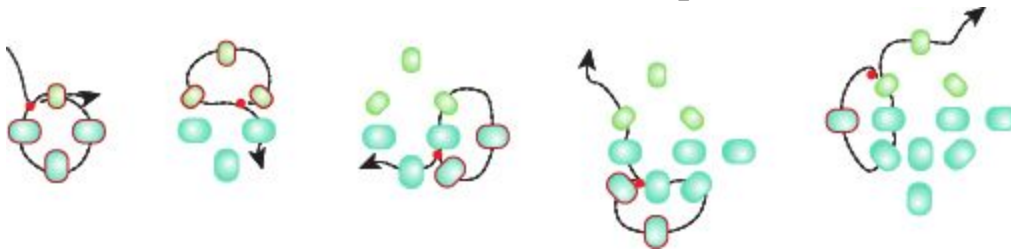
the two ends, a different count of ceiling beads for both the front and back face of the C is used.

To make things a little easier I like to start the C on the top at the first cube which has size 15 interiors and size 11's for the rest.

Start here



These cubes are built as follows: Pick up 1 size 15 and 3 size 11 beads.



Complete the cube with the first wall of all size 15's and the remaining walls of all size 11's.

Build 6 cubes total.

Cube 7 and 8 build as follows -

Wall 1 with all size 15's

Wall 2 with 1 size 11 side and 2 size 11 ceiling beads.

Wall 3 with 1 size 11 side and 1 size 11 ceiling bead (note this is the outside edge of the C)

Wall 4 complete the cube with 2 size 11 ceiling beads.

Cube 9

Wall 1 with all size 15's

Wall 2 with 1 size 11 side and 3 size 11 ceiling beads.

Wall 3 with 1 size 11 side and 1 size 11 ceiling bead (note this is the outside edge of the C)

Wall 4 complete the cube with 3 size 11 ceiling beads.

Weave back to cube 1 and begin working the cubes of the spine of the C as follows:

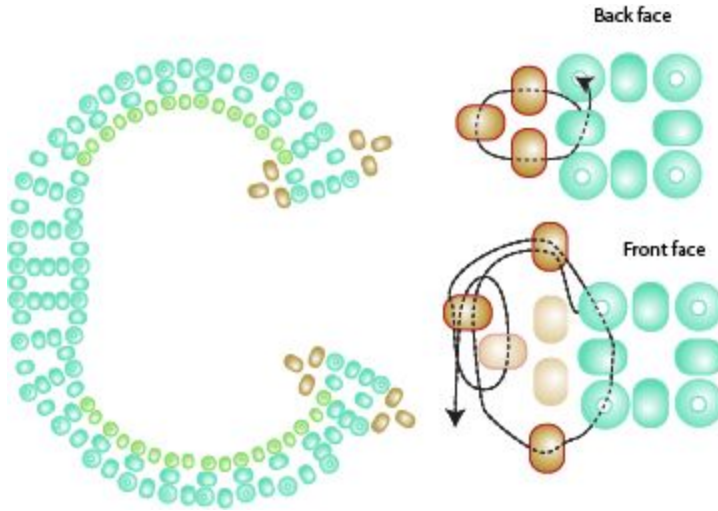
Using all size 11 beads

Build 2 cubes with 2 size 11 ceiling beads on the front and back face of the C.

Build 3 cubes with 3 size 11 ceiling beads on the front and back face of the C.

Build 2 cubes with 2 size 11 ceiling beads on the front and back face of the C.

Change to size 15 interior beads for the first wall and build the next 9 cubes the same as cubes 1 through 9 above.



Use a contrasting size 11 seed bead to add serif beads as shown.

Embellishments: Make yourself a pretty little pile of coordinated accent beads and choose a location on your letter to apply them. Use the working thread or weave in a new thread if necessary. Exiting a seed bead on the base of the letter, pick up an accent bead and a size 11° or 15° turning bead, and pass back through the accent bead and an adjacent bead on the base. Repeat until you have a pleasing assortment of beads arranged on your letter.

