



Herringbone Stitch Instructions

Herringbone stitch produces a very characteristic 'V' shaped alignment of beads. A pair of beads is added with each stitch, each pair sitting in a 'V' shape. The 'V's pile up on top of each other, creating columns of beads all lined up at the same angle as each other. We refer to each of these columns as a 'stack'. There will always be an even number of stacks.

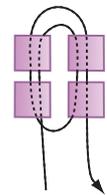
Herringbone stitch needs to be started from a foundation of beads with holes arranged 'North-South', so a foundation of ladder stitch is ideal.

Herringbone is a one-way stitch because of the 'V' shaped pattern. For example, if you return to the foundation and work more Herringbone on the other side of it, the 'V's will be pointing in the opposite direction from the first side.

Foundation

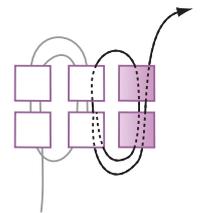
Using 2 beads per stack, make a row of Ladder stitch an even number of stacks wide, as follows. (There are occasions with this stitch when you might prefer to use a single bead per stack, but it is more fiddly)

1. Pick up 4 beads and join them together by going through the first 2 beads again (from the tail of thread) and then through the next 2 beads. (Diag 1)



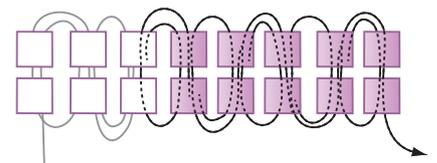
Diag 1

2. * Pick up 2 beads and go through the stack of beads the thread is coming out of, from the opposite side of it, and then through the 2 beads just picked up. (Diag 2)



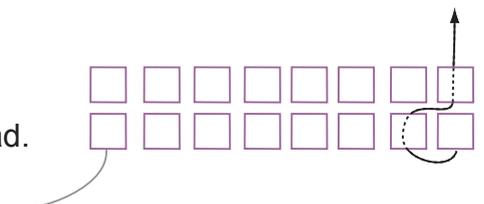
Diag 2

3. Repeat from * until the row is as long as required and has an even number of stacks. The diagram here shows a row of eight stacks. (Diag 3)



Diag 3

4. Weave the thread through the beadwork so that it exits the end stack from the opposite side of the row from the tail of thread. (Diag 4)



Diag 4



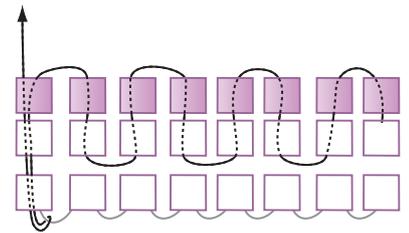
Herringbone Stitch Instructions

1st row of Herringbone Stitch

Pick up 2 beads and go down through the next bead along.

* Go up through the next bead, pick up 2 beads and go down through the following bead. Repeat from * to the end of the row and pass through both beads of the final stack of the foundation.

Finally, put the needle through the loop of thread connecting the last two pairs of Ladder stitched beads (this anchors the thread in place) and go back up through all 3 edge beads. (Diag 5)



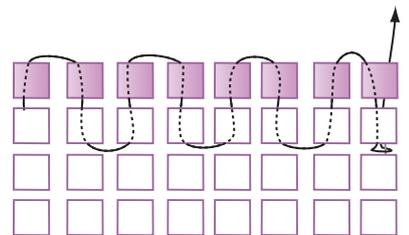
Diag 5

2nd row of Herringbone Stitch

Pick up 2 beads and go down through the next bead along.

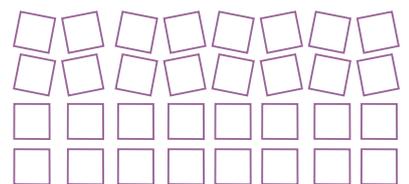
* Go up through the next bead along, pick up 2 beads and go down through the following bead. Repeat from * to the end of the row

Finally, take the needle behind the thread underneath the last bead and then round to the front again before going up through the top 2 edge beads. (Diag 6)



Diag 6

Repeat the 2nd row until you have the required length, working alternately right to left and left to right. Or, if you prefer, you may turn the work over after each row to continue working in the same direction.



Diag 7

The distinctive V-shape pattern of Herringbone stitch will be evident after the first few rows. (Diag 7)