

PEYOTE STITCH

# River of light

Link crystal stones to make a bracelet that flows gracefully around your wrist

*designed by* **Karen Joelson**





I love the look of crystal stones in beaded bezels, but I wanted to make mine with a tailored look rather than with a lot of crystal fringe. The repeating circular theme that is echoed in the metal links creates a calming effect.

## stepbystep

**[1]** On 1 yd. (.9 m) of thread, pick up 24 11° cylinder beads, and tie them into a ring with a square knot (Online Basics), leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail. Sew through the first few beads, and pull the knot into the beadwork.

**[2]** Working in tubular peyote stitch (Online Basics), work one round using one cylinder per stitch, and step up through the first cylinder in the new round (figure 1, a–b).

**[3]** Work one round using one 15° seed bead per stitch (b–c). Work with firm tension so the edge of the beadwork begins to pull in (photo a). Work one round using one 15° Charlotte per stitch (c–d). Snug up the beadwork so it is cup-shaped (photo b).

**[4]** Sew through the beadwork to exit a cylinder on the opposite edge. Place a CRYSTALLIZED™ - Swarovski stone into the beadwork, then repeat step 3 to enclose the stone.

**[5]** Sew through the beadwork to exit a cylinder in the middle round of cylinders. Pick up a cylinder, and sew through the next cylinder in the round (photo c). Using one cylinder per stitch, work a round of peyote, sewing through the cylinders in the middle round (photo d). Step up through the first cylinder added in the new round.

**[6]** Work one round using two 15° seed beads per stitch (figure 2, a–b), work one round using one cylinder per stitch (b–c), and then work a round using one 2.5 mm metal bead per stitch (c–d).

**[7]** Look at the back surface of the bezel. Every other column of beads has a stack of three cylinders. Sew through the beadwork to exit the middle cylinder in a stack (photo e).

**[8]** Pick up a 15° seed bead, and sew through the cylinder and the 15° again (photo f). Working in ladder stitch (Online Basics), work five more stitches to make a ladder that is six 15° seed beads long. Zigzag back through

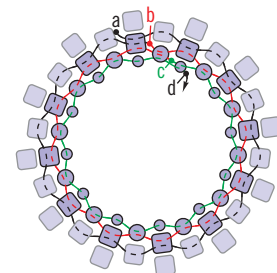


FIGURE 1

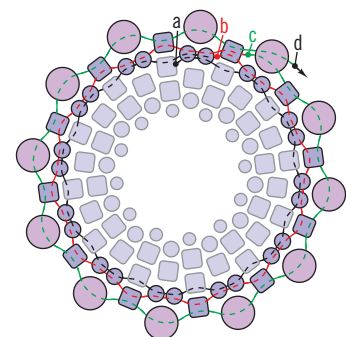


FIGURE 2

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

It may seem unlikely, but square stones work fine in this project. Just be sure to use the ones with rounded corners instead of sharp corners. – Julia



the ladder to stabilize it, then sew through the next cylinder in the stack, the one nearer the middle of the stone (photo g).

**[9]** Slide the ladder through a link or jump ring, and sew through the end bead in the ladder and the bead in the bezel (photo h). Retrace the thread path a few times to secure the connection.

**[10]** Repeat steps 1–9, connecting the ladder of the new bezel to the link or jump ring attached to the previous bezel.

**[11]** Sew through the beadwork of

the new bezel to exit the middle cylinder in the stack opposite the ladder. Repeat steps 8 and 9 to connect a second link or jump ring to the bezel. End the working thread and tail (Online Basics).

**[12]** Make a bezel around and connect the remaining stones as in steps 10 and 11, but on the last stone, end with step 10 and do not add the second link or jump ring. Instead, pick up seven 15° seed beads and one half of the clasp. Sew through the next cylinder in the bezel, as you did to connect the ladder (photo i). Retrace the thread path several times to reinforce the connection, and end the thread. Repeat on the other end of the bracelet. ●

## materials

bracelet 7½ in. (19.1 cm)

- 6–7 8 mm or SS39 round or square CRYSTALLIZED™ stones (#1028, 4461, or 4471) (dreamtimecreations.com or crystallized.com)
- 72–84 2.5 mm sterling silver or gold-filled round beads (12 per crystal stone)
- 4 g 11° Japanese cylinder beads
- 1 g 15° Japanese seed beads
- 1 g 15° Charlottes
- 5–7 9–12 mm outside-diameter links or soldered jump rings
- clasp
- nylon beading thread, size B
- beading needles #13



## DESIGNER'S NOTE:

To make a matching pair of earrings, create a bezel around a stone. Connect a link or jump ring and an earring finding. Repeat to make the other earring.



*Karen Joelson of Sands Point, N.Y., in the U.S., has been beading for seven years. She is a speech pathologist, and when she's not beading she enjoys knitting and playing tennis. Contact Karen at [auntteek1@aol.com](mailto:auntteek1@aol.com).*

www Videos showing various peyote stitch techniques are available at [BeadAndButton.com/videos](http://BeadAndButton.com/videos).

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