

# Beaded Object Class

## Unit 2

### Designing and Back Stitch

Designing <https://youtu.be/E-7TaZygSME>  
Bead embroidery 1 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkXZq4I\\_HBo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkXZq4I_HBo)

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### Laying out your design

Once you have the sections of your skin made you can use double sided tape and attach it to your object to hold it in place. This is a good time to make any adjustments and make sure it fits like a glove to your object.

Once you have your object covered with the skin you can start to layout your design. Use double sided tape or masking tape folded over to tape different components in place, for designing. This isn't needed when working on a flat piece as the components won't fall off. But when you are working on a tea pot or something curved it is hard to place a component without it falling off.

If your object is curved and your component is flat you may need to accommodate for this. If it is a piece of metal you can easily bend it. If it is a stone that can't be bent you might need to use a poxie sculpt and give it a curved back as shown in the video.

Use E6000 or two part Epoxy for gluing the components down. You can glue the components directly onto your skin foundation while it is in place or take the skin off to glue, but this can sometimes be challenging if there is a curved foundation.

If your object has a seam where two sections will be joined up later you can place components over the seam. In this way you will not be able to see the seam, see top photo with silver lizard. This is optional of course.



## Designing with Balance

Using guidelines can really help with placement of your components. If you are designing a collar necklace such as the one pictured top right. Having a center line both vertically and horizontally will help with the placement of cabochons.

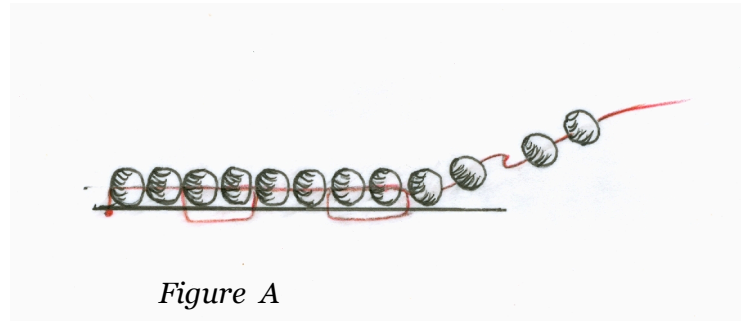
Even if your piece isn't going to be symmetrical you still want it to be balanced. The bottom photo shows this balance. One side of the collar is completely different than the other as far as components. Yet by balancing the placement of the components the collar flows nicely.

The teapot pictured on right, is balanced and symmetrical as far as the placement of the owl and the lid. Yet the spout and handle are not. By using leather on both the handle and the spout and also purple beads, hanging feathers, they balance one another. Leather was also used on the bottom of the main body of the teapot, in this way it pulls the design of the teapot together. You can see the original white of the teapot showing through on the handle, spout and also the lid. Not everything needs to be covered with beads, but again it balances the design and gives you different textures.

Think about what other components or elements you can add to your design that will pull the piece together. Perhaps add textured suede, fur, velvet, or metal lace into your design. This brings excitement to your piece, rather than everything being covered in beads. By placing these elements in different locations throughout your design helps pull the piece together yet gives it a nice balance and flow.



## Back Stitch

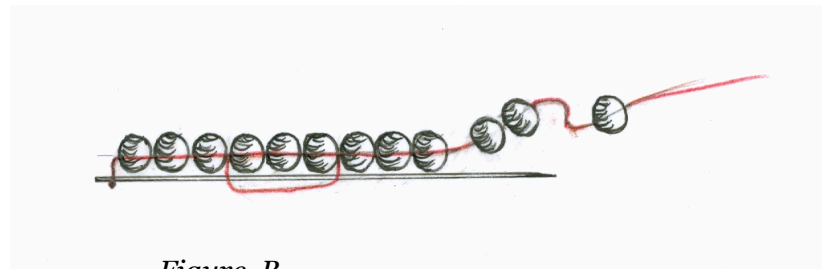


### **Back Stitch 4** *Figure A*

This is a simple stitch you can use for all kinds of applications. It's great for going around small cabochons or doing small detail work. Thread a #12 sharp beading needle with 2-ft, length of thread and knot one end. Sew up through the foundation next to a stone or wherever you want to start. Pick up four beads and pull them down to the suede laying them in the direction you want them to go, this could be next to a stone, following a straight line, wherever your path leads you. Now push your needle down through the suede next to where the fourth bead rests pulling all the thread and beads down tight to the suede. With your needle go back up between the second and third bead and push your needle and thread through the last two beads, now you can add another four beads and repeat the process as far as you need to go. After you have gone around your cabochon or finished your row make sure and go back through the whole row of beads, this pulls the row of beads nicely together and straightens it as well. You can add as many rows as you wish, when adding other rows make sure not to start them too close to the first row or this will cause them to bunch and not lay flat.

### **Back Stitch 6** *Figure B*

The back stitch six is the same as the back stitch 4, but you will be starting with 6 beads. Pick up six beads and going back up through the third and fourth bead, and out the last three beads. Repeat as above with the back stitch 4. This is great for beading around large cabochons or long stretches.



### **Back Stitch 2**

This stitch is great for tight corners where more control is needed. Start by picking up two beads, and back up through the middle and out the last bead. Add two more beads and repeat as above with back stitch 4.