

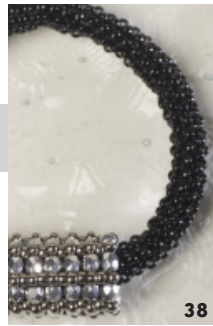


Jill Wiseman's
**BEAUTIFUL
BEADED
ROPES**

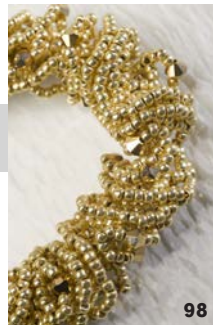
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Wearable Jewelry
Projects in
Multiple Stitches

**"This book should definitely be
on every beader's bookshelf."
— Sabine Lippert**

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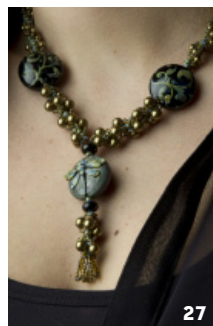
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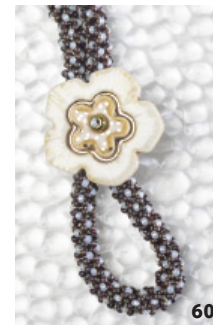
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INTRODUCTION

When I was young, I wanted to grow up to be an author. Of course, at that time the vision included moving to a lovely cottage in the English countryside to write romance novels, and a brooding, handsome man named Drake. Instead I got stuck with the super-heated summers of Texas and a dog named Winston. But I think I got the better deal anyway, since writing this book allows me to share my beaded rope jewelry for you to create, wear, and enjoy.

You'd think defining a beaded rope would be fairly straightforward. But when I polled fellow beaders, I discovered it isn't. Should a rope be round with a hollow center? Some think a rope must have a solid core. Can something square or triangular be considered a rope? Can earrings be long enough to be considered ropes? How thick can something become before it's no longer a rope?

Playing with all these questions, I created my own interpretations of the many suggested incarnations of beaded ropes. I use a single bead core in the Butterfly Kisses Necklace, for example, and make a triangular rope in the Reflections Bracelet. For Josephine's Fortune Necklace and the Forever Tango Bracelet, I manipulate the rope into different shapes—a knot, and a sort of lasso. The beadwork in the Abundance Necklace goes thin to really thick and back again. And while the Bohemian Earrings may be short, they look graceful thanks to the addition of delicate chains, and they definitely count as ropes! As you'll find in the last chapter, sometimes a rope can hold an element of surprise. The Finding Balance Bracelet looks like it's made of peyote stitch, but it's actually brick stitch with the peyote beads added directly on the band. In all these designs I stay true to my personal design creed, creating pieces you won't find intimidating to make and will wear in your daily life.

Each chapter in this book explores a different stitch. Starting with the versatile spiral rope stitch, I include a variety of looks to show how the choice of material and minor adjustments—like how many beads you include in a loop—

can produce dramatically different results. Peyote ropes are common, but why settle for plain when you can embellish them so easily and in so many ways, leading to a richer design? The incredible flexibility of netted ropes leads to a myriad of ways to direct and arrange them into patterns and knots. Likewise, herringbone ropes are shown in ways you may not have imagined before, as in the Ziggurat Ring. Right angle weave ropes offer a structure that begs to be elaborated upon with color and pearls and sparkly beads.



So come discover the possibilities of beaded ropes. Drake, Winston, and I wish you lots of fun!

Jill Wisman



BOHEMIAN EARRINGS

An architecturally shaped tube of sparkling fire-polished beads is finished off with lengths of dancing chain. The motion and sway of these earrings are captivating.

SUPPLIES

72 teal Apollo Czech fire-polished round beads, 3 mm

26 inches (66 cm) of small brass rollo chain

2 brass ear wires

Size 10 or 12 beading needles

Beading thread

Beading mat

Scissors

Wire cutters

Needle-nose pliers

FINISHED SIZE

3 inches (7.6 cm) long, excluding ear wire

TECHNIQUE

RAW

► Bead the Rope

1 Create a flat piece of RAW with one fire-polished bead per side that is four units wide by three units tall.

2 With the thread exiting one of the fire-polished beads on the long edge, join the two long edges to form a tube by completing a fourth RAW unit between the two (figure 1). Do not end the working thread (you may end off the tail thread) and set the tube aside.

3 Repeat to make a second RAW tube.

► Prepare the Chain

1 Cut 12 pieces of chain that are 1 inch (2.5 cm) long for each earring, 24 pieces total. Your chain may vary from the sample, but that worked out to be 20 links per inch (2.5 cm).

2 Cut two pieces of chain that are $\frac{5}{8}$ inch (1.6 cm) long (seven links in the sample) for each earring, four pieces total.

Tip: Here's an easy way to cut chain the same length without having to count links each time. Count the links on the first piece of chain and cut it—no way around that one! Hang that piece of chain from the last link on a piece of wire or an awl. Now hang the last link of the bulk length of chain next to it. Hold it up and you'll see where the short length of chain hangs next to the long length, and you'll be able to cut the correct link.

► Attach the Chains

1 With the thread exiting a fire-polished bead on one end of the tube, pick up the end link on a 1-inch (2.5 cm) piece of chain and pass through the next fire-polished bead straight ahead (figure 2). Work your way around the bottom layer of fire-polished beads, adding a length of chain at each intersection (four lengths total). Reinforce the entire layer one more time.

2 Repeat on the next two layers of fire-polished beads. If you hold the chains in

your nondominant hand while you stitch, it will help keep them from tangling with the thread.

3 Work your way to the top layer of fire-polished beads. Pick up one of the smaller pieces of chain and pass through the next fire-polished bead. Work your way over to the intersection that is diagonally opposite from where you added the chain and add the second small piece of chain.

4 Attach the ends of two chains on the top to the ear wire.

5 Repeat the steps to make a second earring.

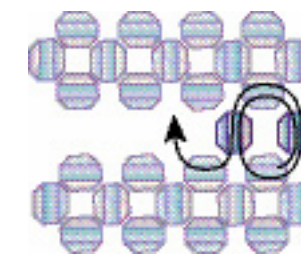


figure 1



figure 2





GET ROPED IN WITH JILL WISEMAN!

Popular teacher and designer Jill Wiseman presents beaded rope jewelry that's incredibly fun to make. In this book, Jill teaches 24 gorgeous jewelry projects using such classic stitches as spiral rope, peyote, netting, herringbone, and right angle weave. From Flirtation, a bracelet with a cleverly hidden clasp and sparkly fringe, to Abundance, a U-shaped necklace that compels you to focus on the details, all of Jill's designs are wearable and stylish. She will expand your design and technique toolbox, even as she redefines what a jewelry "rope" means to you!

Praise for *Jill Wiseman's Beautiful Beaded Ropes*

"Jill's new book is a unique study in the infinite possibilities, variations, and applications of beaded ropes. Beautifully illustrated and clearly narrated step-by-step instructions guide the reader through the 24 projects. Topped off with an inspiring gallery of rope-based jewelry, this book is a must-have for every beader." — **Laura McCabe**

"What I love most in Jill Wiseman's work is the plain elegance of her jewelry—clear structures and a passion for the little details that make a piece so special and timeless. This book shows a multitude of techniques to create the classiest ropes, embellish them, and transform them into dimensional pieces. This is not only a collection of beautiful jewelry but also a brilliant overview of all the techniques." — **Sabine Lippert**

"Finally! A beadwork book that shows beaders how to stitch gorgeous ropes, strands, and bands! Jill's stellar stitching instructions and covetous color combinations will have every beader who reads this book feeling like they have just enjoyed a full-on class with Jill. Her book gives beaders excellent advice and includes a gallery section that will have you inspired and scrambling for the beading tray." — **Maggie Roschyk**

"If you tend to think of ropes as items that go around your neck and, perhaps, your wrist, Jill will surprise you. After seeing the enchanting Bohemian Earrings and the mesmerizing Ziggurat Ring—which has found its way to the top of my absolutely-must-bead bucket list—you will open to new and exciting possibilities in your own beadwork. What I may love most about this book is it has jewelry for real women, not for runway models or high society gals. You don't need to find an excuse to wear these pieces; they will not languish in your jewelry box after you've had the fun of beading them. Promise!" — **Carol Dean Sharpe**



Jill Wiseman stumbled across the world of beads in 2001. She has taught at the Bead&Button Show, various Bead Fest shows, and bead stores and bead societies from coast to coast. Her easygoing, vibrant personality creates a stress-free and entertaining environment in which to learn new skills.

