

MOROCCAN TILES NECKLACE

Phyllis Dintenfass for The BeadSmith (c)2018 www.phylart.com


BEADS


This seemingly intricate, lacy pattern is actually a compilation of beaded square modules. It's a fun project where you bead one module at a time and connect them

## Materials

## Turquoise and Topaz

96 5x6mm Matubo nib-bit beads, blue Picasso $1403 x 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ fire polish donuts, turquoise/topaz matte 7 g size 11/0 Miyuki seed beads, matte metallic bronze 2 large beads, for closure and front feature such as $16 \times 9 \mathrm{~mm}$ fire-polished rondelle, turquoise/topaz matte or, substitute a button for one of the large beads

$5 \times 6 \mathrm{~mm}$ nib-bit bead

$5 \times 3 \mathrm{~mm}$ faceted donut

- size $11 / 0$ seed bead


## Blue and Lazure

$965 \times 6 \mathrm{~mm}$ Matubo nib-bit beads, Turquoise blue nebula matte $1403 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ fire-polished donuts, Lazure blue matte 7 g size 11/0 Miyuki seed beads, galvanized pewter
2 large beads, for closure and front feature such as $16 \times 9 \mathrm{~mm}$ fire-polished rondelle, Lazure blue matte or, substitute a button for one of the large beads

## Finished Length

Necklace without dangle - approx. 26 inches


Figure 1


Figure 2

Procedure for Individual Modules

1. String one size $11 / 0$ seed bead and one nib-bit (through the wider side), four times. Pass through all of the beads and the first $11 / 0$ again, to form a ring. Adjust so all the narrow tips of the nib-bits face the outside of the circle (Figure 1).
2. String two 11/0s and pass through the empty hole of the next nib-bit (the narrow side). String two 11/0s and pass through the next 11/0, from the first round (Figure 2, a-b, blue).
Repeat a-b three more times around the ring. End this round by passing through the first two 11/0s, nib-bit itself and one 11/0 after the nib-bit (Figure 2, b-c, green).
3. String one $11 / 0$, one $3 \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ donut and one 11/0. Pass through the $11 / 0$ in front of the nib-bit, the nib-bit through its narrow hole and the 11/0 after the nib-bit (Figure 3, a-b, purple). Repeat a-b all the way around. Finish by stepping up through the first 11/0 and donut added in this round (Figure 3, $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{c}$, orange).

4. If necessary, repeat the thread path of the last round to close any gaps. Finish off the working and tail ends of the thread by sewing through the beadwork for several inches, following only existing thread paths. Tie a few overhand knots along the way. Trim the thread. This completes one module.

Make 24 modules - 11 for each side, one for the center and one for the dangle at the center.

If you want to connect all eleven after stitching them individually, use a long length of thread for two of the modules and do not end the thread. Use this thread to connect the modules together by following Steps 5 and 6. Skip Steps 7 and 8.

If you want to connect the modules together after stitching each one, go to Step 7 from here.

## Connect eleven modules for each side of the necklace

5. Attach a needle to one of the long tail threads and ensure that it is exiting a donut bead. String two $11 / 0$ s, one donut bead and two $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$. Pass through any donut bead on another module. String two 11/0s, one donut bead and two 11/0s. Pass through the donut bead that the thread was leaving on the first module from the other side, to complete the circle (Figure 4, a-b, orange). Snug up the thread. Pass through the first five beads just added as well as the donut in the second module. Pass through the beads along the last round of this second module, exiting the donut at the opposite end of the module (Figure 4, b-c, purple).
6. Repeat Step 5 until you have attached 11 modules together. Make a second of these 11-module sections.

## Connect modules to each other, one at a time

7. When making the second module, repeat Steps 1 to 3 . With the thread that remains, string two $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$, one donut bead and two $11 / 0$ s. Pass through any donut bead on the first module. String two $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$, one donut bead and two $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$. Pass through the donut bead that the thread was leaving on the first module from the other side, to complete the circle (Figure 4, a-b, orange). Snug up the thread. Pass through all of the joining beads again, and end the thread.
8. Stitch a third module and join it to the second, using Step 7. Be sure to attach the modules so they form a straight row. Repeat until eleven modules are connected. Make a second 11-module section.


## Adding the front module

9. Attach a moderately long thread to one of the remaining two modules. Pass through the beadwork until the thread is leaving a donut along the outer edge. Repeat Step 5 to attach this module to one strand of 11 modules (Figure 5, a-b, orange).
Pass through all of these beads again, as well as the donut on this 12th module (second pass not shown in diagram). Pass through the outer round to exit the next donut (Figure 5, b-c, purple).
Repeat Step 5 to attach this module to the remaining strand of 11 modules (Figure 5, c-d, orange).
Pass through all of these beads for a second time (not shown in diagram). Pass through the outer round and exit the second nib-bit sewn through (Figure 5, d-e, blue).

## Adding the front dangle

10. String four $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$, one $6 \times 9 \mathrm{~mm}$ faceted bead and three $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$. Pass through a donut on the remaining module. String three 11/0s and pass back through the faceted bead. String four 11/0s and pass through the nib-bit from the other side, ending where this step began (Figure 5, e-f, red). Repeat this thread path once or twice to reinforce and to be sure you have closed any thread gaps. End the thread.

## Closure

Use a new thread to stitch the ends because the most pressure occurs at the opening and closing point. It will make any future repairs much easier.
11. With your thread exiting the end donut bead of one side of the necklace, string four $11 / 0 \mathrm{~s}$, one $6 \times 9 \mathrm{~mm}$ fire-polished bead, and one 11/0. Pass back through the large bead. String four 11/0s and pass through the same donut from the same side, forming a tear-drop shape.
Repeat the thread path several times and tie off the thread (Figure 6).

NOTE: Substitute a pretty button for the fire-polished bead.
12. With your thread exiting the end donut bead of the other side of the necklace, string enough 11/0s to fit over the closure bead or button. If using the $6 \times 9$ bead listed, twenty size 11/0 beads work well. Sew through the donut bead, in the same direction (Figure 7). Check the fit before sewing through all of the beads for a second and third time.

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Figure 6


Figure 7

