



Spiral rope with Matubo beads

Learn two variations of this popular beadweaving technique



Material:

- Matubo 7/0 beads
- Matubo 8/0 beads
- Japanese 11/0 seed beads (2 colors)
- Matubo Wheel beads 6mm
- Beading needle
- Thread (Nymo, Fireline)

Difficulty: beginners/intermediate

Technique: Spiral stitch

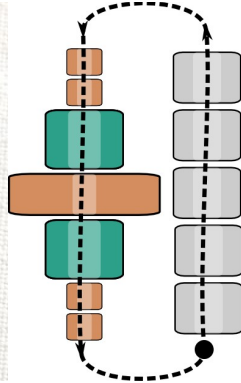
Basic spiral rope

For this variant you will only need one color of 11/0s

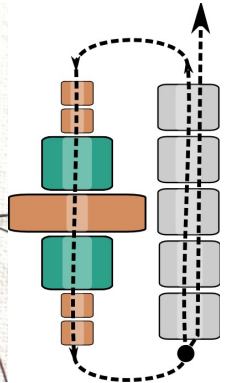


1) String five Matubo 8/0 beads (let's call them "core beads" and then two 11/0s, one 7/0, one Wheel, one 7/0 and two 11/0s (let's call them "loop beads"))

2) Slide all the beads to the end of the thread (leaving about 1 ft of thread) and then tie a few square knots to form a circle.



3) Pass through all five core beads (if you have problems going through all the beads at once, try doing it "by parts").

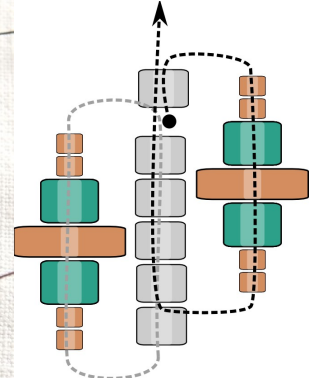


4) Add one core bead (8/0) and all the loop beads (two 11/0s, one 7/0, one Wheel, one 7/0, two 11/0s).



5) Let all the new beads slide down to the basic circle.

6) Count five core beads - start counting at the top - the core bead you added in the previous step is number one. Pass the needle through all the five core beads (four "old", one "new").



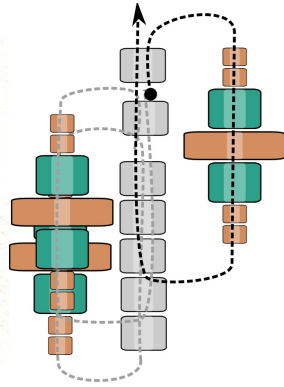
7) Pull snug and push the new loop to the previous one (otherwise the spiral won't form).



8) Let's add another loop. Add one core bead (8/0) and all the loop beads and let them slide down.



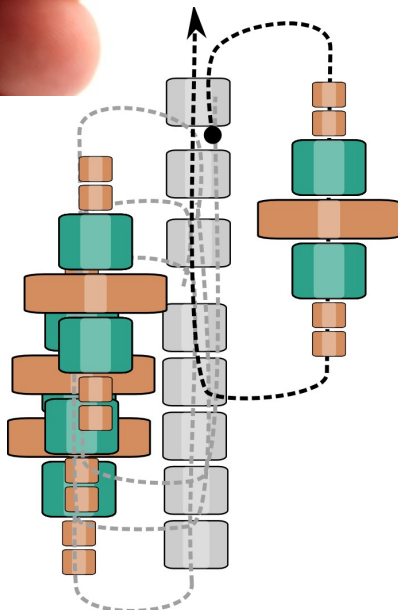
9) Count five core beads, starting from the top, then pass the needle through these five core beads.



10) Pull snug and push the new loop to the previous one.



11) Repeat steps 8, 9 and 10 until you reach the desired length ...



Finishing off

12) The thread should exit from the last core bead of the spiral.



13) Add one 11/0, one 8/0 and one 11/0 and then pass back through the last loop.



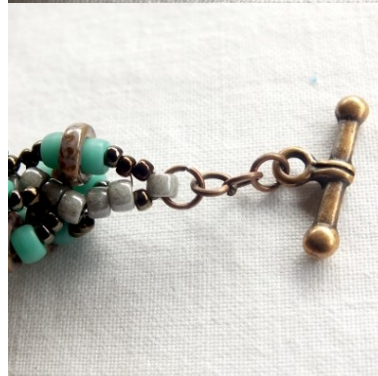
14) Then pass through last five core beads to get to the end of the spiral again.



15) Weave through the three new beads and then through the loop beads (like in step 13) and then back through last five core beads (like in step 14) few more times. Then tie a few half-hitch knots and cut off the remaining thread.



16) Open a jump ring and pass it through the 8/0 bead. Add a clasp and close the jump ring. Repeat steps 12, 13, 14 and 15 on the other end of the spiral.



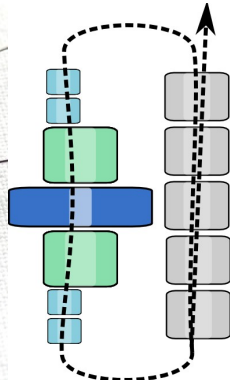
Braided spiral rope (advanced)

I call this spiral rope variation "Braided spiral", because the "double" loops look like they have been braided together. This variation is a bit slower and more difficult than the basic one, but it's definitely worth trying. You will need two color of 11/0 seed beads.



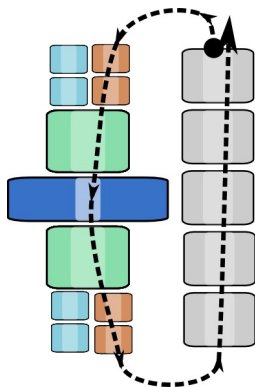
1) String five Matubo 8/0 beads ("core beads") and then two 11/0s (color A), one 7/0, one Wheel, one 7/0 and two 11/0s (color A) ("loop beads").

2) Slide all the beads to the end of the thread (leaving about 1 ft of thread) and then tie a few square knots to form a circle. Then pass through all the five core beads.



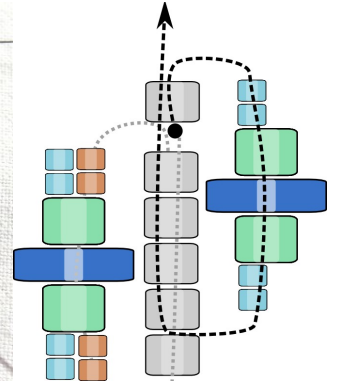
3) Add two 11/0s (color B) skip the next two 11/0s (color A) and then pass through the 7/0, Wheel and another 7/0.

4) Add two 11/0s (color B) and then pass through all the five core beads



5) Add one core bead (8/0) and all the loop beads (two 11/0s (color A), one 7/0, one Wheel, one 7/0 and two 11/0s (color A))

6) Count five core beads, starting from the top. Then pass the needle through these five core beads.

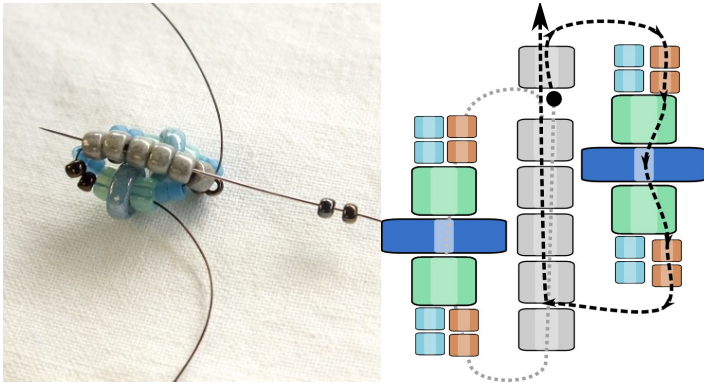


7) Pull snug and push the new loop to the previous one.

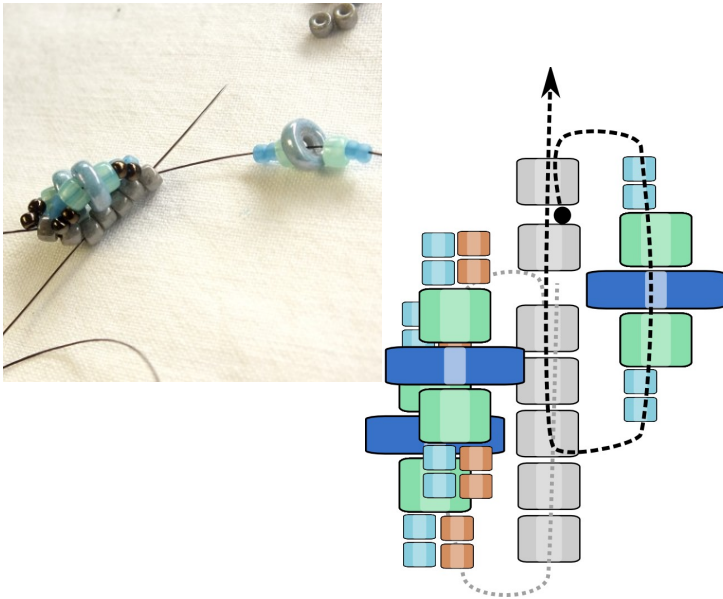


8) Add two 11/0s (color B) and then pass through the 7/0, Wheel and another 7/0.

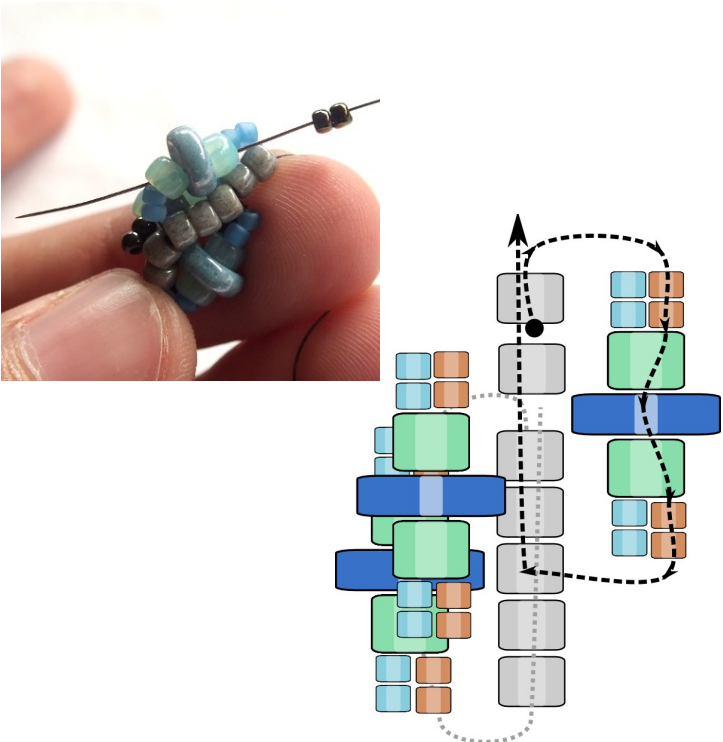
9) Add two 11/0s (color B) and then pass through the same five core beads you passed through in step 6.



10) Add one core bead and one set of loop beads and then pass through the five core beads (like in steps 5 and 6).

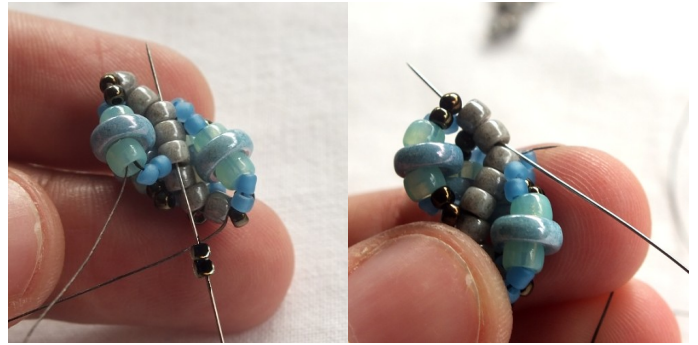


11) Pull snug, then add two 11/0s (color B), pass through one 7/0, one Wheel and one 7/0 (like in steps 7 and 8).



12) ... then add two more 11/0s in color B and pass through the same five core beads as in step 10.

You might find it difficult to pass through all the five core beads at once, so it's best to do it "by parts".



13) Repeat steps 10, 11 and 12 until you reach the desired length. To finish off, see page 3 of this tutorial.



For this spiral I used only one color of 11/0s