

Materials and Tools

Bicones – 4mm (3 colours)
Size 11 seed beads silver lined (A)
Size 15 seed beads – colour to match bicones (C)
Clasp
Beading thread
Beading Needles - Size 10 x 2
Beading mat
Scissors
Strong glue with fine tip, e.g. GS-Hypo



Before you begin...

The beauty of personalising this design is that you can make the band as wide as you wish. A single band makes a neat little tennis bracelet but several rows will make a gorgeous statement piece. This project makes a bracelet 19.5cm long but you can easily change the length by forming more or fewer squares in step 2.

Step 1

Thread a needle onto either end of an armspan of beading thread. Pick up eight size 11 seed beads in colour A and sew through the first two strung to form a rough square shape. Position it right at the midpoint of the thread.



Step 2

Onto one strand add 4A. Onto the other add 2A then sew through the last two added to the other strand. Pull evenly on both strands. Repeat this step 37 times – the final square will be added in the next step. Try to get the band as straight as you can. The squares will begin to take shape.



Step 3 – turn

Onto one strand add 2A. Onto the other strand add 4A then sew through the two added to the other strand. This will bring you out on the side of the band; all the beads on this side will become shared with the next row.



Step 4 – second row

Onto the strand that is just in from the end (the one that had four beads on it in the previous step) add 2A. Onto the other add 4A then sew through the two on the other strand ...



Step 5

... and keeping with the same strand sew up the next two seed beads on the side of the band. Pull both strands evenly.



Step 6

Onto both strands add 2A. Take the strand that is on the outside of the band and sew through the two beads on the other one ...



Step 7

...and keeping with the same strand sew up the next two seed beads on the side of the band. Pull both strands evenly. Repeat steps 6 & 7 until you've got one more square to add, then go back to step 3 to make the turn and add an additional row. Add more thread as needed.



Step 8 – reinforcing the edges

Take the strand that is just in from the end. Pick up 1B and sew through the next two A beads along the edge. Repeat all the way around, also adding 1A at each corner. Don't pull too tight or the bracelet will become rigid. When you reach the start point, sew through the first corner bead added and the next two A beads then weave the thread into the beadwork, knot in a couple of places and add dabs of glue. Trim the excess.



Step 9 – bicone embellishment.

Onto the remaining strand coming out at the corner add 1C, 1 bicone, 1C. Go diagonally across the square and up the two seed beads parallel to the short end. Take care that the needle doesn't go through the corner beads at the same time.



Step 10

Repeat to add a sequence of bicones. To get to the right place to begin the next row sew around the next 6A of this last square so you come out at the short edge. Sew down into the middle row by going through the next two A beads on the short edge. Turn your work around and add additional bicones.



Step 11

Secure the threads. Add a new piece at either end so that you can attach your clasp then sew up and through the first seed bead between the first two rows. Pick up 4 seed beads, add your clasp and 3 seed beads. Sew through the first seed bead added then through the seed bead on the end of the band going in the same direction as you came out of it. Repeat. Weave the thread in to secure at this end.

Do exactly the same at the other end, making sure to get the other half of the clasp the right way up.

