



LOVE LOCKET



Learn how to add dimension to your bead embroidery Love Locket. In this tutorial you will learn how to transfer a design onto foundation, basic bead embroidery stitches and some ways to add depth and colour shading into your beadwork. Also covered are back stitch, square stitch, couching stitch and edging your work with a brick stitch edging. Then you have the choice of making your love locket into either a brooch or pendant. Basic instructions for a spiral rope to hang your Love Locket from are also included.

Throughout this PDF tutorial, you can click on the video icons to be linked to the video and watch Catriona explaining in detail how to do the next step. Simply hold the control button on your keyboard and click on the video title image to be taken to the YouTube video. Try it now! Click on the video image below to watch my design showcase.





Materials for Love Locket

Letter code for kits	Item	Code	Colour 1	Amount required
a	Lacys Stiff Stuff White		White small sheet	10cm x 10cm
b	Iron on Heart Template		Provided in PDF	1
c	Black Stiffened Felt		Black	10cm x 10cm
d	Metal D ring or O Ring		Any colour 38mm OD	1
e	2-hole Kheops bead	KH-2398	Jet Black	1
f	2-hole Cabochon	2HCB-2398	Jet Black	1
g	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-PF557	Gold	10 grams
h	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-2449	Transparent Tea Berry	1 gram
i	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-401	Black	1grams
j	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-402	White	1 gram
k	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-1340	Silverlined Fuchsia	1 gram
l	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-140FR	Matte Light Red AB	1 gram
m	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-1943	Opaque Red Lustre	1 gram
n	Size 15 Seed Bead	15-141F	Matte Transparent Red	1 gram
o	Size 11 Seed Bead	11-401F	Matte Black	2 grams
p	Size 11 Delica Cylinder Bead	DB310	Matte Black	2.5 grams
q	Ink Jet T-Shirt Transfer Paper		Suitable for Light T-Shirts	1 x A4 Sheet
r	Thin Template Plastic, display folder cover or recycled packaging			10cm x 10cm

Tools and other Materials Required

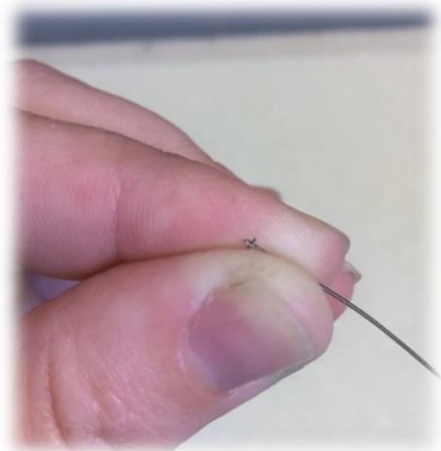
These are what I use in my bead kit.

- **E6000 Glue**
- **Beading Thread**, Fireline, One G, KO, or Hana
- **Beading Needles**, size 11 or 12 or Straw size 11. I prefer shorter beading needles.
- **Lighter**
- **Thread Burner** for cutting and burning ends of thread off.
- **Sharp scissors** for trimming thread, foundation and Ultrasuede.
- **Beading Mat/tray**, I like the soft fuzzy foam ones.
- **Good Beading Light and Magnification if required.**

Hint for threading your needle.

Many beaders have trouble threading their needle. Follow these simple steps to make it easy every time.

1. Cut a manageable length of thread to work with. You want to always use your thread in the same direction that it comes off the spool.
2. Ensure the cut has no thread rough bits that make it hard to thread.
3. Pinch the thread between your pointer finger and thumb with only a tiny end showing.
4. Bring the needle eye down over the tiny end of thread.
5. The thread has nowhere to go except through the eye of the needle.



How to create a knot with your lighter

1. Burn a small knot at the end of your thread using a lighter. Be ready to blow it out fast as it may catch alight. You want to burn a small ball so that it knots into the felt and does not pull through.

Note:

If you do not have a lighter, you can tie a small knot at the end of the thread.

You can also use your Thread Zap to melt a blob on the end of your thread.

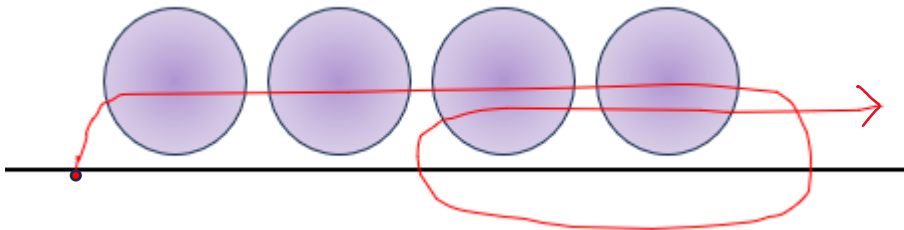




Main Stitches Used in this Tutorial.

Four Bead Back Stitching

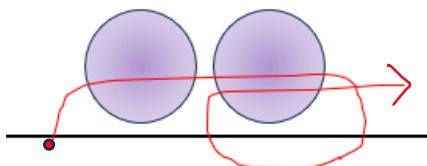
1. Follow the red thread path in the image below, from left to right. Tie a knot in your thread and come up out of the foundation from back to front. Pick up four size 11 seed beads. Pull the beads right down the thread and lay them into position on the foundation. Come back down the foundation from front to back right next to the last size 11.
2. Pass back up through the foundation from the back to the front between the middle of the four beads. Pass back through the last two seed beads added again. Repeat as many times as desired.



Optional Two Bead Back Stitching

This is a good option for when you are beading in tighter spaces like in corners.

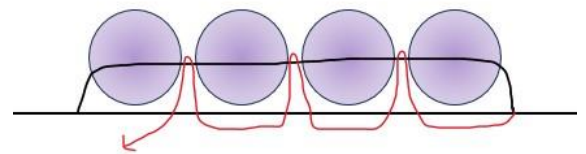
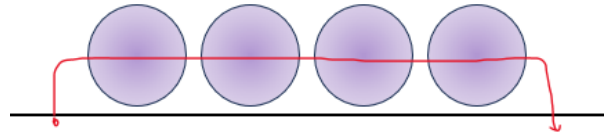
3. Two bead back stitching is just the same as four but with less beads. Follow the red thread path in the image below, from left to right. Tie a knot in your thread and come up out of the foundation from back to front. Pick up two size 11 seed beads. Pull the beads right down the thread and lay them into position on the foundation. Come back down the foundation from front to back right next to the last size 11.
4. Pass back up through the foundation from the back to the front between the middle of the two beads. Pass back through the last seed bead again. Repeat as many times as desired.



Couching Stitch

Couching stitch is a method of embroidery in which the thread is caught down at intervals by another thread passed through the material from beneath. It can be useful to pull rogue beads back into position and in areas that require reinforcement.

5. Burn a knot in your thread. Bring your needle up through the foundation from the back to front. Pick up a length of beads, lay them down and stitch back down to the back of the foundation.
6. Now bring your needle back up through the foundation between the last couple of beads added. Pass over the thread and stitch straight back down the foundation again. You have completed your first couching stitch.
7. Repeat step couching between any beads that require a stitch to hold them into position.



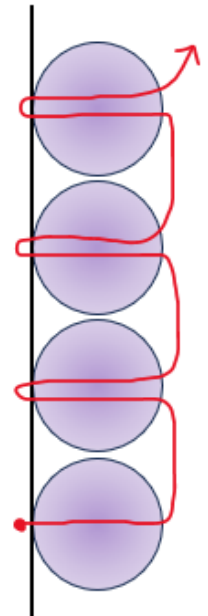
Brick Stitch Edging

I always hold my work, looking at the backing. I find it easier to get a perfect finish this way.

Start by picking up two size 11 seed beads (o). Stitch through from the front side, exiting the back about a bead width away from where we started. Pull the beads up to the edge of the work. Pass through the second bead added but in the opposite direction to the way you just passed through it previously. Pull up to the edge of the work.

Note: The first bead added will be a little wobbly and quite often misbehaves until we get all the way around the edge.

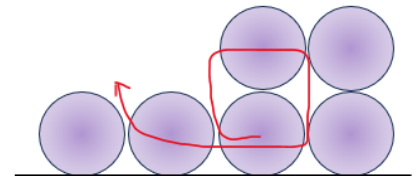
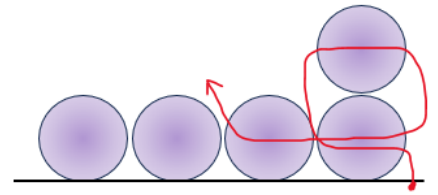
For the rest of the brick stitch edge, you now only need to pick up one size 11 seed bead each time. Pick up one size 11 seed bead (o) then stitch through from the front side, exiting the back about a bead width away from the last bead added. Pull the beads up to the edge of the work. Pass through the bead just added but in the opposite direction to the way you just passed through it previously. Pull up to the edge of the work.





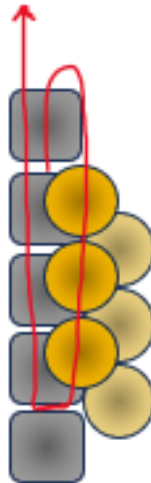
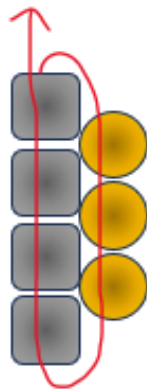
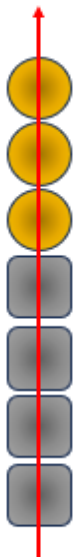
Square Stitch with Beads

1. Exiting a size 15 seed bead, pick up another size 15 seed bead and pass through the hole of the bead you just exited, in the same direction as before. Pass through the next size 15 seed bead in the base row.
2. Pick up another size 15 seed bead and pass through the hole of the bead you just exited, in the same direction as before. Pass through the next size 15 seed bead in the base row.



Spiral Stitch Rope

1. Pick up four size 11 Delica Cylinder beads (p) and three Size 15 seed beads (g).
2. Pass back through the four (p) again.
3. Pick up one Cylinder bead (p) and three Size 15 seed beads (g) and pass through the top four size 11 Delica Cylinder beads (p) again. This includes sewing through the Cylinder bead (p) that you picked up in this step.
4. Repeat steps three and four as many times as required to make the length rope you like. As you add each new spiral of beads, push them to the side next to the previous spiral.



Video One Materials and Template

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the first video tutorial.



1. Prepare your D ring by using a small amount of E6000 glue to tack it into position on your foundation. Leave aside to dry. We will come back to this later.

Note: A metal D-Ring or O-Ring works for this as either can be hidden inside the padding of the heart. My D-Ring measures 38mm OD (Outer Diameter). It would work with a slightly smaller or slightly larger size. Use the template on page 20 to check if what you have in your stash might work. If you purchased a Kit, you may have been provided with either an O ring or D-Ring depending on availability.



Optional ways to transfer your design onto the Foundation.

2. I prefer to print out my designs onto T-shirt transfer paper. If you have purchased a kit, the template is already heat pressed onto the foundation for you. Template is on page 20 of this tutorial. Alternatively, draw a heart and swirls with a gel pen or led pencil directly onto the foundation. If drawing is too hard, trace the template by holding the design up to the window, place a light-coloured foundation over the top and trace the design onto the foundation. A light box is good for tracing onto foundation too.



3. I use a Cricut mini heat press to heat the T-shirt transfer onto the foundation. I like it because it is small and hot but has no steam. It also has good heat control with three heat settings. I used it on setting two. I have also placed a protective Teflon sheet between the heat press and the transfer just in case anything gets too hot and melts. You could use an iron for this step but turn off the steam first, so the transfer does not bubble. For heat recommendations it is best to follow the instructions on the T-Shirt transfer packet. On my pack it suggests: 185°C for around 30 seconds.





4. Once cooled down, gently peel back the paper backing to reveal the transferred design.



Video Two

- Making the keyhole
- Four Bead Back Stitch
- Square Stitch

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the second video tutorial.



5. Optional Step: Glue down the 2-hole cabochon (f) over the top of the keyhole and the 2-hole Kheops bead over the bottom of the keyhole. Check that the beads are sitting correctly as pictured right before leaving to dry.
If you do not like to use glue, skip to step 6.

6. Sew through each of the holes securing the beads into position. I sew through each of the holes at least twice.



7. Back stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) around the edge of the Kheops and Cabochon making the keyhole shape stand out.

Details on how to do beaded back stitches are on page 4 of this tutorial.



8. Square stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) over the top of the base row, all the way around the 2-hole cabochon.

Details of square stitch with beads are on page six of this tutorial.



9. Pass back through all the size 15 seed beads you have just added to cinch them in around the 2-hole cabochon.



10. Square stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) around the 2-hole Kheops bead.



11. Pass back through all the size 15 seed beads you have just added to cinch them in around the 2-hole Kheops.
12. Pass through to the under side of the foundation and knot of your thread.





Video Three

- **More Four Bead Back Stitch**

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the third video tutorial.



13. Back stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) around the outer edge of the heart.

Details on how to do beaded back stitches are on page four of this tutorial.



Video Four

- **Adding the back stitched scrolls**

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the fourth video tutorial.



14. Back stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) and (h) for the scroll shape at the bottom of the heart. I used the gold (g) at the ends and the tea berry (h) in the middle.





15. Back stitch a row of size 15 seed beads (g) and (h) for the scroll shapes at the sides and top of the heart. I used a combination of the gold (g) and the tea berry (h).

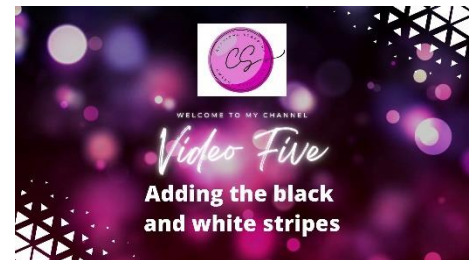
Look at the photo right for reference to colours used and positioning.



Video Five

- Adding the black and white stripes

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the fifth video tutorial.



16. Using either couching stitches or back stitches fill in the small thin section between the edge of the heart and the bottom scroll with stripes alternating size 15 seed beads (i) and (j). Two to three beads should fit in the gap.

Details on how to do beaded back stitches are on page four of this tutorial.

Details on how to do couching stitches are on page five of this tutorial.



Left Side of Heart

17. Using either couching stitches or back stitches fill in the rounded section top left of the heart, between the edge and the scrolls with stripes alternating size 15 seed beads (i) and (j).



Right Side of Heart

18. Using either couching stitches or back stitches fill in the rounded section top right of the heart, between the edge and the scrolls with stripes alternating size 15 seed beads (i) and (j).



19. You are now ready to watch the next video about adding colour to the middle of the heart.



Video Six

- Adding the pink and red shading to the heart

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the sixth video tutorial.



20. Use a Sharpie or similar type of permanent marker to colour the foundation to guide you where to put the pink beads. You can colour other sections in red too if you like. This step is optional.

Be careful not to colour the sides of your seed beads during this step.



21. Start adding colour to the middle of the heart using either back stitches (outlined on page four) or couching stitches (outlines on page five).

I have shaded from the middle starting with pink tones then outwards through the shades of red.

I have used four colours of size 15 seed bead for this section of shading:

- (k) Silverlined Fuchsia
- (l) Matte Light Red AB
- (m) Opaque Red Lustre
- (n) Matte Transparent Red



22. Make sure as you are colouring in, the beads are always pointing toward the centre and fanning towards the outer edge like the markings on a clock face.

As you add more beads and fill more gaps, you may notice that the beadwork starts to curve and distort the shape of the foundation. We want this to happen as we want the heart to start to look full and a bit puffy.

If you come across sections with not enough gaps to fit a bead, but the backing is standing out as a white spot, then you can carefully colour these in with a Sharpie or similar type of permanent marker to camouflage the foundation.



Video Seven

- **Super Speedy, Sped up beading of colouring in the remainder of the heart.**

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the seventh video tutorial.



23. Once you have finished colouring in the heart with beads you should have something like this.



24. Cut around the edge of the bead work being careful not to cut the threads that are holding on the beads. If you do accidentally cut any threads, do not panic! You can sew those beads back on and reinforce any loose beads.



25. Use a Sharpie or similar type of permanent marker to colour the edge of the foundation. This helps the beads to stand out and the foundation to disappear into the background.

Be careful not to colour the sides of your seed beads during this step.



Video Eight

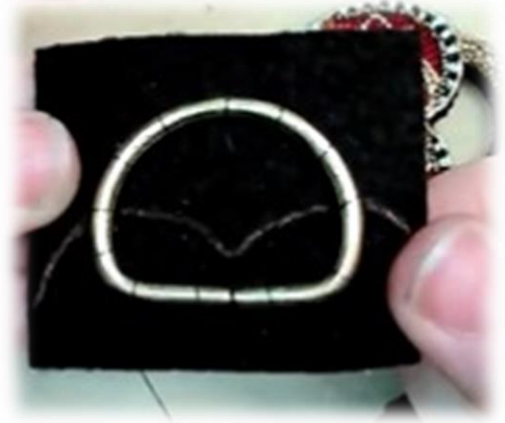
- Covering the D-Ring
- Using Sharpie to black out the edge of the heart

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the eighth video tutorial.



26. Tack the D-Ring down onto the foundation to ensure it is secure.

27. Line up your heart over the D-ring. Make a mark with your gel pen where the beads will need to cover the D-Ring.



28. Using size 15 Seed Beads (g) cover over the D-Ring. I used 7 seed beads for each loop over the D-Ring. As the shape we are covering is rounded and smaller on the inside of the D-Ring, you will need to fan the beads out a little on the outside edge to accommodate this.



Video Nine





- Finishing your love locket.
- Glue the padding.
- Glue the backing.

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the ninth video tutorial.



29. Stitch the heart over the D-Ring through all the layers.



<p>30. You may need to fill in the small gaps at the sides of the D-Ring with a few more Size 15 Seed Beads (g).</p>	
<p>31. Use some felt to cover in the areas around the D-Ring behind the heart.</p> <p>32. Sew or glue the felt into position. Keep in mind you do not want too much glue near the edge as you do not want to sew through it. Sewing through glue can be hard on your hands.</p>	
<p>33. Trace your heart onto some template plastic (or thin packaging or a display folder cover) using a gel pen, Sharpie, or grey led pencil.</p> <p>34. Cut out the plastic about 2mm inside the line you have drawn. This is so you do not have to sew through the plastic.</p>	
<p>35. Using a thin even coating of E6000 Glue, stick the template plastic onto the back of the heart.</p>	

36. Using a thin even coating of E6000 Glue, stick the heart down onto the Ultrasuede.

Place the heart under a couple of magazines or heavy books and allow to dry. I usually leave for at least 30 minutes, but if your peachy keen and cannot stop, leave it for five minutes. This allows enough time for the glue to at least start to stick. Ultimate drying time is to leave it overnight to dry completely.



Video Ten

- Trim out your heart.
- Back stitch edging.

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the tenth video tutorial.



37. Trim around the outside of the heart being careful to cut the Ultrasuede to the same size as the foundation.



38. Trim out the Ultrasuede from the hole in the D-Ring.

You can use your thread burner to slice the initial hole to get your scissors into the area.





39. Using Size 11 Seed Beads (o), Stitch a brick stitch edge around the outside of the heart and around the cutout hole in the D-Ring.

Details for how to do a brick stitch edge are on page five of this tutorial.

Watching Video Ten will also help for this step.



40. Admire your completed Love Locket!



Video Eleven

- **Making the Spiral Rope**

Click on the image to the right to be taken to the eleventh video tutorial.



41. If you wish to wear your Love Locket around your neck as a pendant, follow instructions on page 6 of this tutorial to make the spiral rope as pictured.





42. Sew on your clasp and knot off your threads.



Thank you for taking the time to make your very own Love Locket pendant.

If you get stuck on any section and need a helping hand along the way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Happy Beading! 😊

Catriona Starpins

Ph: 0401 076 599

Web: catrionastarpins.com

Email: catrionastarpins@gmail.com

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Heart Template for Love Locket

Print to size on A4 Paper

Heart template should measure 5.5cm wide.

