

One heart, 3 ways – Part 1

Mini Heart Earrings

by Karen Gibson-Brown

Shopping list...

1g x size 11 cylinder beads in two colours - white and a colour of choice
Size 10 needle
White KO thread or thread of choice
Ear wires or studs

These mini heart shaped earrings are based on a Brick stitched diamond as used by Sylvia Fairhurst for her Diddy Diamonds Earrings, pg. 16 of the Beadworkers Guild 'Introduction to Beadwork - Earrings' book.

Using a Ladder stitched base and decreasing Brick stitch, this simple project is fun to do, taking no time at all to make, which means you can whip up a few pairs to wear during IBW 2023 in a couple of evenings.

Ladder stitch and Brick stitch instructions can be found on the Guild website at:

<https://beadworkersguild.com/basic-stitch-instructions/>

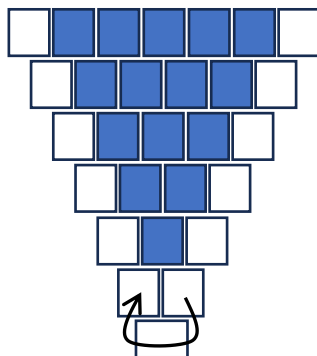
Diamond - bottom half

Step 1. Using an arm's length of stretched thread, pick up 1x white bead and 1x coloured bead, and slide them down to the centre of the thread. Pass through both beads again to exit the coloured bead, then follow the instructions for Ladder stitch to create a base row of seven beads – **top row of diagram below.**

N.B. You will use the tail thread later to create the top half of the heart.

Step 2. Following the chart on the right, use the Brick stitch shaping instructions on how to decrease to create the bottom half of your diamond.

Step 3. With your thread exiting one of the bottom



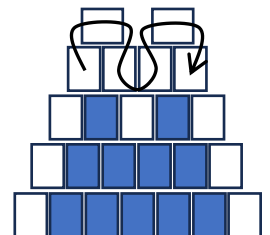
beads, pick up 1x white bead, and pass through the next bead along, then weave in, secure, and trim the thread.

Diamond - top half

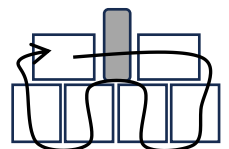
You will now use the tail thread to Brick stitch off the opposite side of the Ladder stitched base, which is now the central row, to create the top half of the heart.

Step 4. Follow the chart below to work the top half of the diamond, finishing at the four-bead row.

Step 5. With your thread exiting the first bead, pick up 1x white bead, pass down through the second bead along and up through the third, then pick up 1x white bead and pass down through the fourth bead – **see diagram above.**



Step 6. Weave back along the four-bead row to exit the first cylinder bead added in Step 3. Place the earring loop between the top two beads, then pass through the loop and the second bead.



Step 7. Weave through the row below and repeat the thread path taken in Step 5 once more to reinforce, then weave in, secure, and trim the thread.

Step 8. Repeat Steps 1 to 7 to create your second earring, pop them on and enjoy!