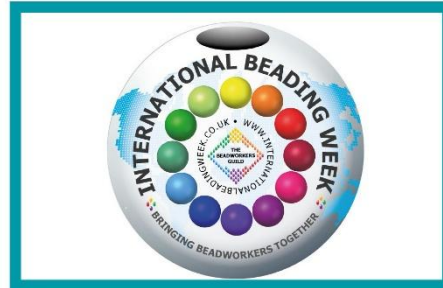


GALAXY PETUNIA



By

Meg Thompson

A Beaded World

DESIGNED FOR

INTERNATIONAL BEADING WEEK 2025: THE NATURAL WORLD


This flower was modelled from the real-life GORGEOUS flower I've been growing in my own garden known as a galaxy petunia. I adore the speckled look of the white splashed over the purple. As this flower grows, I've observed how the white of the flower changes its intensity depending on how happy it is with its environment; too little water (oops) and the petals become more white, water it again and the purple comes back a few days later. I just had to design a beaded version to share with you for International Beading Week, you'll never have to worry about watering this one!

You can purchase a kit here: [Galaxy Petunia IBW2025- KITS ONLY | A Beaded World](#)

Or you can source your own beads as per the re following requirements list

Requirements

Note: I have only made this design using Miyuki beads for the 11o's.

Component	Amount	Pattern Icon
15o seed beads	0.2g	n/a
6mm sequins-white	~40	n/a
11o seed beads-Purple (A)	3.5g	
11o seed beads-Green (B)	4.5g	
6o Seed Bead-Green (brand doesn't matter)	1 bead	
Metallic purple lambskin leather, no thicker than 0.9mm	15x10cm (each petal is approx. 5x5cm)	n/a
Dark purple suede (e.g. ultra suede, butter suede, etc)	15x10cm (each petal is approx. 5x5cm)	n/a
Template plastic (e.g., display book cover)	15x10cm (each petal is approx. 5x5cm)	n/a
Florist stem wire-18g thick	10-11cm long	n/a

You will also need:

- preferred beading needle (I used size 10 in this project)
- thread of choice (fireline or a nylon thread (e.g. OneG) both work well)
- Scissors: sharp pointy scissors or thread zap, plus scissors to cut fabric, and a pair to cut plastic
- E6000 glue
- beading mat/surface
- lighting as required.
- Strong plier cutters to cut the stem wire.

Prior Knowledge

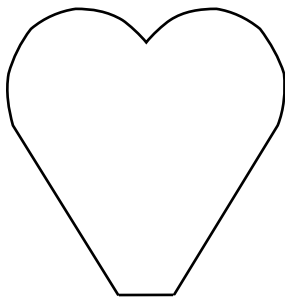
This design uses bead embroidery and bead weaving. Knowledge of bead embroidery, brick stitch and tubular herringbone stitch is advantageous but not essential, we will go through all these techniques in detail in the pattern.

Reading the Diagrams

When reading the diagrams, please note the following:

- Bead symbols are listed in the materials table.
- New beads added in the step are shown in a bolder colour with a red outline.
- Older beads that were added in a previous step are a paler colour with no outline.
- Thread paths are shown as a black line with an arrow at the end showing the direction.

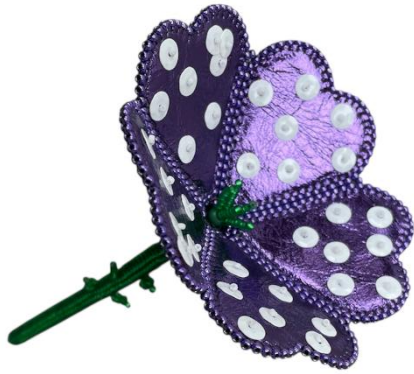
Template



*When you print this page, make sure you select the option 'print to actual size' -> **NOT** 'fit to printable area' <- or your template will be too small, and it may affect how the flower is constructed.*

Cut out this shape; Make sure you cut directly on the line. Trace it on to the **back** of the leather **FIVE** times.

Cut out each of the leather shapes.

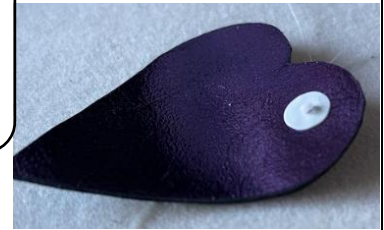
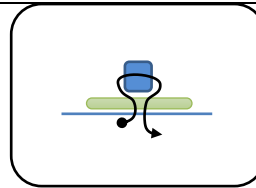


Step By Step

PETALS

Step 1

On a comfortable length of *white* thread (you won't need much!), tie a knot. Stitch through the leather from back to front in a desired spot. Pick up a sequin and 1x15o, pass back through the sequin and into the leather (refer to diagram shown; this is known as Stop Sitch!). Repeat this thread path to ensure a firm stitch.



Step 2

Continue stop-stitching sequins with 15o until you're happy with the effect. I recommend 6-8 per petal. Knot off your thread after the last sequin.



Step 3

Repeat steps 1-2 for all 5 petals.



Some tips for sequin placement:

- Nature is not perfect! Make each petal a little different. I've included some real ones from my own garden for inspiration
- As you can see from the real flower, some petals have a larger white patch; you can create this effect by slightly overlapping a few sequins (see mine in the top right-hand corner)
- If you'd like to add some smaller spots, stitch a few 15os amongst the sequins.



Step 4

Trace a petal onto the plastic sheet. Draw the shape again 2mm smaller than the original (inner outline). Cut out the smaller shape.

Trace the plastic shape another 4 times onto the plastic sheet and cut them all out.



Step 5

Glue the plastic shapes onto the **back** of each petal (this will give a smoother feel to the petals). Then glue each petal down onto the **back** of the suede. Allow to dry, then carefully cut around each one.

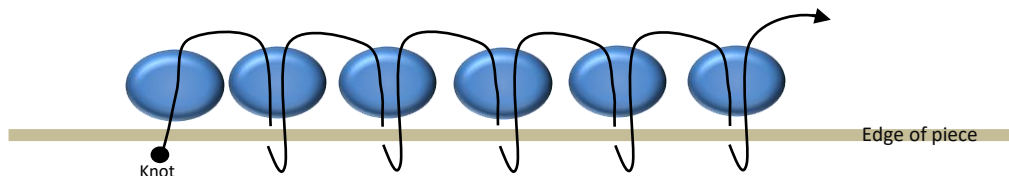
**Step 6****Time to edge!**

Edge each petal with A (11o) beads.

VERY IMPORTANT: the first two beads **MUST** begin on the flat point at the bottom of the petal. This is **essential** to build the sepal from.

Need a refresher on how to edge? Here you go:

Tie a knot in the end of a comfortable piece of thread and pass up into the leather beneath the backing at the bottom of the petal. Pick up 2 beads and sew up through the leather into the backing (see **Very Important** note above). Go back through the 2nd bead in the opposite thread direction so the bead sits upright with its hole facing out. Pick up another bead, sew up through the backing and foundation, then back through this bead just as before. Continue in this manner all the way around the piece. When you reach the beginning again, go through the first bead added (instead of picking up a new bead) and complete the stitch like normal so it stands upright like the rest. If you turn your piece on its side, you should see the thread along the tops of the bead holes.

**Step 7**

Your thread should be exiting one of those bottom two edge beads at the bottom of the petal. Pick up 2xA and pass through the **second** bottom edge bead. This creates a *stack*. They will sit angled toward each other slightly (like herringbone!).

Pass into the first edge bead, the two beads picked up this step, and the second edge bead to secure the new beads.

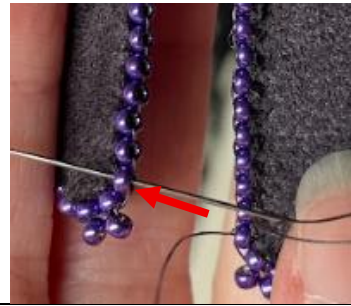
- If this is your first petal: **end your thread.**
- If this is subsequent petals: **DO NOT end your thread. Pass into the nearest edge bead on the side of the petal.**



Step 8

Pass into the corresponding edge bead on the last petal; this will always be an edge bead directly next to the two bottom edge beads.

Ensure the petals are mirror images: i.e. if you are exiting to the right of the current petal, you need to be entering the next petal from the left.

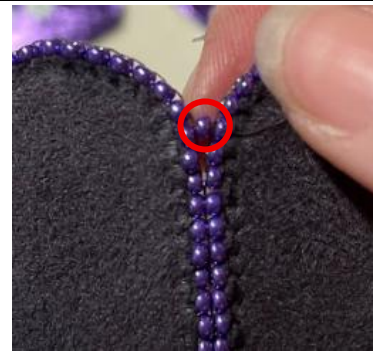
**Step 9**

Pass into the next edge bead along the petal edge, and into the corresponding edge bead on the other petal. Pull snug so the petals hug each other.

**Step 10**

Repeat steps 8 and 9 to zip the petals together for a total of **16 pairs of edge beads**.

Zip the 17th pair together but **this time, pick up 1xA before entering the edge bead on the other petal (red circle)**. Reinforce this last stitch by passing through the edge beads below then back into the last zipped pair with the A bead added.

**Step 11**

Reinforce the zipping by weaving back down the zipped edge beads until you reach the bottom again. The petals should be **firmly** attached to each other with no thread showing between the zipped edge beads. They should not sit flat on the table. If it is loose, reinforce the zipped edge beads again.

End your thread (unless this is your last petal).

**Step 12**

Repeat steps 6-11 to attach all the petals together. Each petal added will add to the overall 'cupping' of the flower head.

On the last petal, weave over to the other side of the bottom beads and repeat steps 8-11 to join the first and last petals together.

If you still have a comfortable amount left, proceed to the next step. If your thread is short, end it and start a new length of thread at the bottom of a petal.



SEPAL-the part beneath the flower head before the stem

Step 13

Let's do some tubular herringbone!

Position your working thread so it is exiting one of the stacks at the bottom of the current petal. Pick up 2xA and pass down into the top bead of the next stack on the same petal (*note: **not** into the edge bead below*).

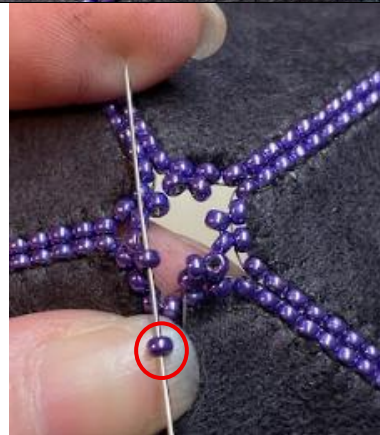


Step 14

Pick up 1xA (red circle shown) and pass up into the next stack on the next petal.

Pick up 2xA and pass down into the top bead of the next stack on the same petal (*note: **not** into the edge bead below*).

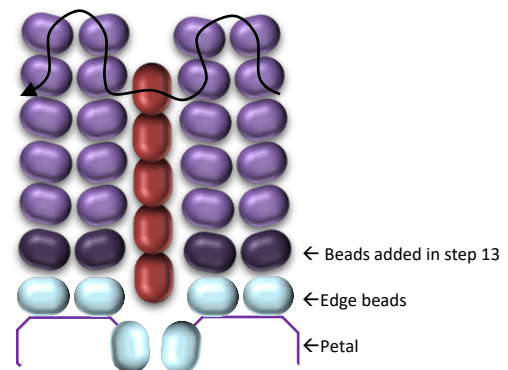
Repeat this step for the remainder of the round/all petals. *Step up* into the first stack on the first petal.



Step 15

It is easier to show the next part as a diagram!

Repeat step 14 another 4 times; if you look along the spines of the stacks, there should be 5 single beads between the stacks (shown here in red). These single beads may bulge out in places; this is **okay!** Nature isn't perfect, remember?



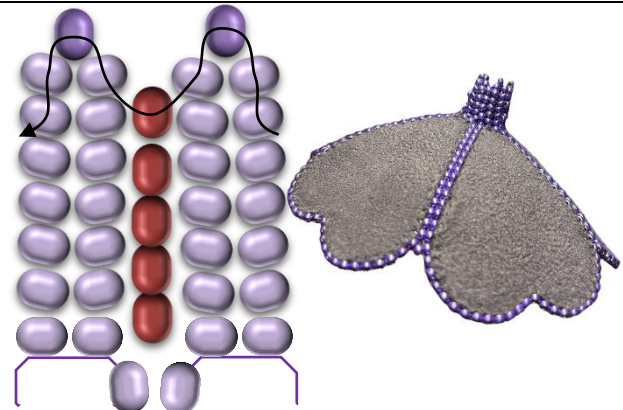
Step 16

Add a picot to each stack:

Pick up 1xA and pass down into the top bead of the next stack. Pass into the single A bead between the spines and up into the top bead of the next stack.

Repeat this step for the remainder of the round.

Exit from one of the picot beads. Leave your thread attached for now.

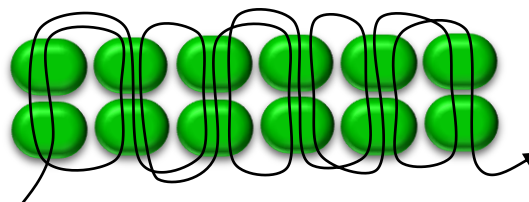


STEM-Herringbone stitch

Step 17

On a comfortable length of thread, leaving a tail ~15cm long, make a strip of ladder stitch 2 beads high and 6 beads long, using bead B (110-green). Join the first and last stacks to form a tubular shape.

Unsure how to do ladder stitch? Pick up 4xB, pass through all four again. Pick up 2xB, pass through the last two B. Repeat this until you have the required length. Join the first and last stacks.

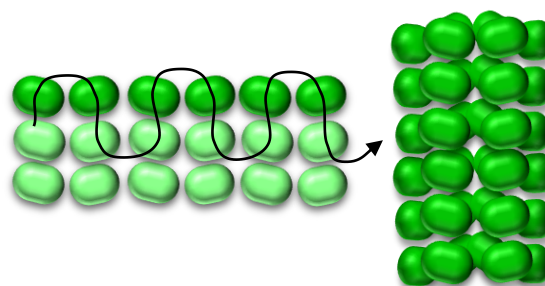


A pair of stacks are referred to as a 'spine.'

Step 18

Exiting the first stack, pick up 2xB and pass **down** into the top bead of the next stack. Pass **up** into the top bead of the next stack. Repeat this step twice more. **Step up** by passing into the first bead added this step.

Repeat this step until you have a tube approximately 10-11cm long (the length of your stem wire).

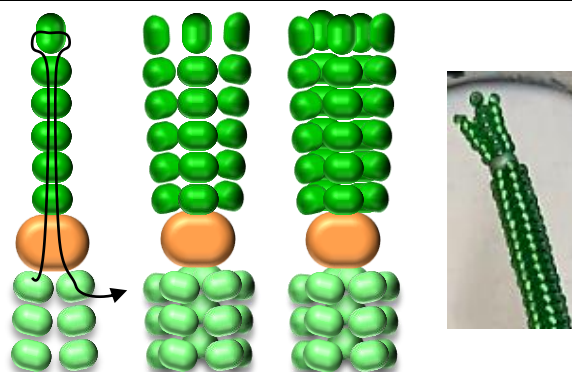


Step 19

STAMEN

Pick up the 6o and 6xB. Skipping the last B, pass back through the first 5xB and the 6o to create a little fringe. Pass down into the top bead of the next stack and **up** into the top bead of the next stack like regular tubular herringbone. Pass into the 6o, then pick up 6xB, skip the last B and pass down through the other five B, the 6o and the spine of the herringbone. Repeat this for the third spine.

Use the first two spines to add **two more** fringes for a total of five fringes. End your thread.



It will get a bit crowded so you may have to manipulate the fringes to stand up straight on top of the 6o.

Step 20

Insert the stem wire into the tubular herringbone.

- If it's a bit long, either trim it or use the tail thread to add some more rows to the bottom
- If it's too short, undo the starting ladder stitch rows and take off as many rows as needed until the tube is the correct length



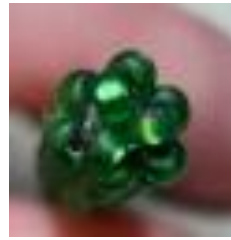
Step 21

Add a picot to each stack:

Thread your needle onto the tail thread. Pick up 1xB, pass down into the top bead of the next stack and up into the top bead of the next stack. Repeat twice more.

Pass through all three picots several times to keep snug together, then weave off your thread.

If you're not a fan of seeing the ladder stitched rows at the bottom of the stem, you can undo them via the tail thread. Then add these two rows back like normal tubular herringbone stitch using the tail thread, before adding the picots in this step.

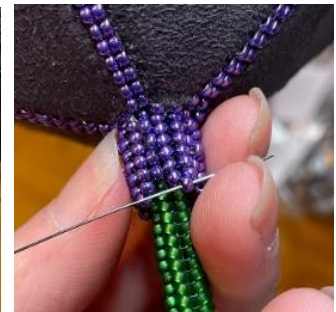
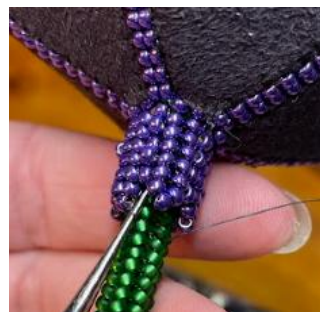
**ATTACHMENT****Step 22**

Insert the stem into the flower head until just the stamen are showing.

**Step 22**

Using the thread still attached to the sepal (the purple bit under the flower head), attach the flower head to the stem. You can do this in two ways, I recommend doing both:

- With the thread exiting from a picot of the sepal, stitch down into the nearest herringbone spine. Step up into the next spine, through the next sepal-picot, and down into the next bead of that spine. Repeat until all the picots are attached. *Note: there are 5 sepal-picots but only 3 stem-spines, so two of the sepal-picots won't line up perfectly with the stem-spines. Just attach these to the nearest stem beads anyway.*
- Weave a little further back up the sepal, then pass **straight through the middle** of it, the stem, and out the other side of the sepal. Pass through the nearest single A bead between the sepal-spines. Repeat this several times (4-5 times is plenty), angling your needle as you pass through to exit at a different point each time.



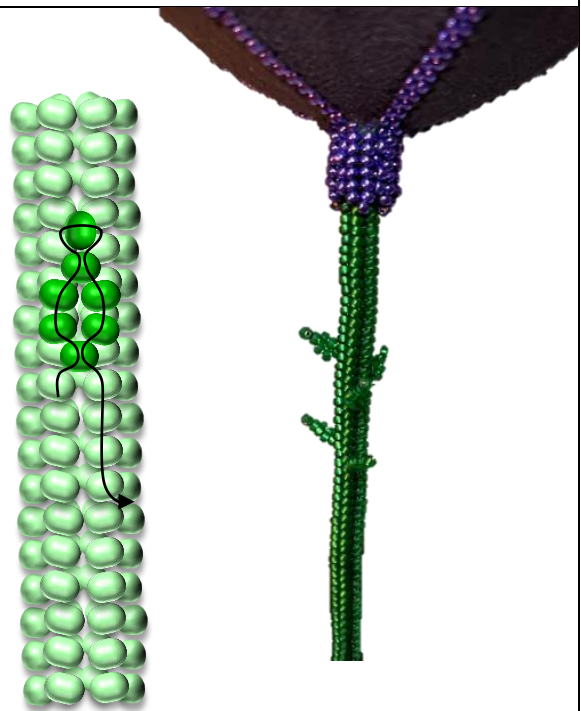
Once you're happy that the flower head is securely attached to the stem, end your thread.

MINI LEAVES-these are optional but give a nice touch!

Step 23

- Weave in a new length of thread (half a wingspan is plenty) into the stem approximately 2cm below the sepal. Exit from one of the beads in a spine.
- Pick up 5xB. Skip the last B and pass back through the 4th B. Pick up 2xB and pass through the 1st B.
- Pass into the next bead of the stem-spine.
- Travel down this stack of beads until you reach a spot several beads below the first leaf. Pass up into the next spine into the stem.
- Repeat steps b-d to add another leaf.

Continue adding leaves in this manner. I made 5 in total; you can make more or less. Try to space them around the stem at varying intervals so they look natural. E.g. not all on one side of the stem, not at equal heights. Weave off your thread.



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial!

If you have any questions about anything about this project or would simply like to share a photo of your finished piece don't hesitate to contact me at abeadedworld@gmail.com

You can find me on social media at **A Beaded World-Designs by Meg** on Facebook, and **@abeadedworld** on Instagram. Check out my shop at www.abeadedworld.com.au for tutorials, kits, cabochons, and upcoming classes.



Happy Beading!

**HAPPY INTERNATIONAL
BEADING WEEK 2025**

