



A six-pointed subtle star pendant honouring all 12 colours of International Beading Week.



About this design

Starglass began as a 12-pointed star concept — and became something better. During construction, a six-pointed subtle star emerged naturally, with the 12 IBW colours distributed in pairs around the outer edge, each pair separated by main colour points.

The result is a piece that honours every colour without competition. At the centre sits a 25mm magnifying glass dome cabochon — catching light, creating depth, and giving the piece its name. The CRAW rope cycles continuously through all 12 IBW colours, and the main colour toggle ring and bar carries just one bead of each colour.

Skill Level

Intermediate - Advanced

Techniques Covered

- Flat peyote stitch (strip method, joined in the round)
- Peyote in the round
- Stitch in the ditch
- Odd count peyote (toggle bar)
- Cubic Right Angle Weave — CRAW rope
- Cabochon bezelling

To make this project you will need:

- 25mm Glass Clear Domed Cabochon
- Miyuki - Size 15 seed beads Colour (A) - 4g
- Miyuki - Size 11 seed beads Colour (A) - 2g
- Miyuki - Size 11 beads - 12 IBW Colours (1g each)
- Miyuki - Size 11 Delica Beads Colour (A) - 4g

Standard Beading Tools

- Beading mat/tray
- Sharp Scissors or Thread burner.
- Fireline 6lb, OR One G thread (personal preference)
- Size 10/12 Needle
- Lighting/magnification

About the designer

On A String is Paula's Melbourne-based beading and jewellery education business — built from a genuine love of the craft and a desire to share it. Paula teaches across Australia and online through On A String workshops and events.

Happy beading!

Paula

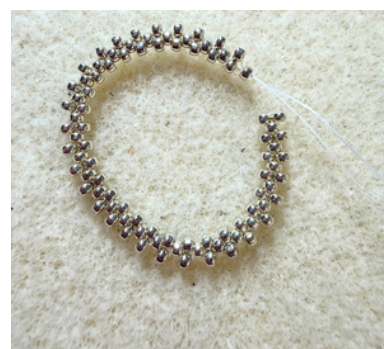


Cabochon Bezel**Step 1 - Start your Peyote Strip**

Using main colour 15° seed beads, pick up 60 beads. Work one row of peyote stitch across all 60 beads, then join in the ring. Working flat first before joining creates a more even, consistent foundation than joining immediately in the round.

**Step 2 - Join in the Round**

Join the two ends of your strip together to form a ring. The bezel is not designed to wrap around the cab — it sits on the edge to capture the cabochon in place and allow the glass dome to peek through the front. Step up and continue working in the round.

**Step 3 - Build the sides**

Switch to main colour Delica 11° beads. Work 5 rows of peyote in the round, building up the sides of the bezel. Delicas sit beautifully flush and create a neat, even structure. Keep tension firm.

**Step 4 - Secure the Glass Cab**

Place your 25mm glass dome cabochon into the bezel, dome side up. Work 2 rows of 15° main colour seed beads on the inside front edge to capture and secure the cab. For the picot row: go through every second 15° pair and add a picot bead to create the decorative inner edge that holds the dome firmly in place. Go through all again to secure.



Outer Edge & Colour Points

Step 5 - Stitch in the Ditch

Using main colour Delica beads, work a stitch-in-the-ditch row around the outer base of the bezel. This creates a clean foundation for the colour work and adds structural stability. This row is placed on the centre row of the delica beads added in step 3. Bring your thread out of the first bead added in this round.

**Step 6 - Place the Colour Pairs**

Arrange your 12 IBW colours in the order you want to place them around the bezel. I started at yellow and moved through the warm colours, then transitioned to the cool colours, ending in lime green. Work peyote around the outer edge: 2 beads in your first colour, 2 beads in your second colour, 1 main colour bead. Repeat this sequence for all 12 colours around the full ring.

**Step 7 - Second Colour Row**

Work another row of peyote as before, adding the correct colour beads above each bead from the previous row. This builds up the colour blocks and adds depth to each colour section.

**Step 8 - Fold Colour Blocks to the front**

Using main colour 11° seed beads as anchors: pick up 3 beads in the matching IBW colour and go through the next main colour 11° bead. These colour beads will fold forward in front of the existing peyote colour beads, creating the raised, dimensional colour blocks.

In addition - add 15°/11°/15° in front of each set of main colour beads.

**Step 9 - Add star points on each main colour set**

Position your needle to come out of a main colour 11° bead, and pick up 3 main colour 11° beads. Go through next main colour 11° bead and move your needle to come out at the next set of main colour beads. Repeat until you make 6 points around the edge.



Rope & Toggle

Step 9 - CRAW rope

Each side of the rope is beaded independently. Work 8 repeats of the 12-colour sequence per rope side (8 sets of 12 colours = 96 colour repeats per side). Cycle through the IBW colours continuously, creating a spiralling rainbow along the rope. Complete both sides separately before attaching. You may choose to make longer or shorter.

**Step 10 - Toggle Ring**

Start the ring the same way you started the peyote bezel for the dome: pick up 24 main colour 15° seed beads and work one row of peyote, then join in the round. Work 2 rows of Delicas on each side of the ring. On one side only, stitch a single bead of each IBW colour into the gaps to add 12 colour beads in total. Zip the two sides together to close the toggle ring. Use the working thread to join the ring to one end of a rope section.

**Step 11 - Toggle Bar**

Work a flat odd-count peyote strip using main colour Delica beads: 23 beads wide, 10 rows total. Fold the strip into a tube and zip the edges together to form the bar. Stitch a single colour bead into each gap along the outer edge to add 12 colour beads in total. Use the working thread to join the toggle bar to one end of a rope section.

**Step 12 - Assemble**

Attach each rope end at two main colour points on the bezel, using size 15° main colour beads to join to the main colour centre bead on the star points.



Even Count Peyote - Flat (Strip Method)**Used in Starglass for: the dome bezel base and the Toggle Ring**

Even count peyote is worked flat in rows, with beads sitting in an offset brick-like pattern.

Row 1 & 2 (combined):

Pick up all 60 beads. These form your first two rows at once.

Row 3 onwards:

Pick up 1 bead. Skip 1 bead from the previous row. Go through the next bead. Repeat across the row. Each new bead sits in the gap between two beads below, creating the offset peyote pattern.

To join in the round:

Once your first three rows are done, bring the two ends together and join them, be careful not to twist by passing through alternating beads on each end to close the ring seamlessly. Step up to begin working in the round.

Peyote Stitch - In the Round**Used in Starglass for: bezel rows, outer edge colour work, Toggle ring.**

Once joined in the round, peyote works as a continuous rows, with a step up at the end of each row, to move through the piece, rather than back-and-forth rows.

Pick up 1 bead. Skip 1 bead. Go through the next raised bead. Repeat around the ring. At the end of each round, step up by passing through the first bead added in that round — this keeps your work even and sets you up to begin the next round.

Odd Count Peyote Stitch - Flat**Used in Starglass for: the toggle bar (23 beads wide)**

Odd count peyote works the same as even count across most of the row — the difference is at one end. Because the bead count is odd, one end of each row doesn't have a bead to anchor into using the standard method.

The odd-count turn:

At the problem end, pick up your last bead of the row. Instead of going straight into the next bead, weave back through the existing beadwork — through the bead below, across, and back up — to anchor the last bead in place. This figure-8 turn becomes automatic with practice.

For the toggle bar:

Work your 23-bead strip to 10 rows, then fold and zip the long edges together to form a tube. The odd-count turn will only appear at one end of every row.

CRAW - 3 Bead Cubic Right Angle Weave

CRAW is a three-dimensional stitch that builds a structured rope. Starglass uses 3-bead CRAW, which creates a finer, more flexible rope than the more commonly taught 4-bead version. The 11° colour beads form the roof and base of each unit — which is why the colour sits so visibly on the surface of the rope. The 15° main colour beads form the sides/faces between each unit, acting as the structural connectors.

TIP - 3-bead vs 4-bead CRAW:

If you've worked 4-bead CRAW before, the 3-bead version feels tighter and the geometry is triangular rather than square. Persist past the first few repeats — it will click.

Understanding the structure

11° colour beads = roof and base of each unit (what you see on the surface of the rope)

15° main colour beads = the faces/sides between units (the structural connectors)

**Used in Starglass for: the necklace rope****Starting ring:**

Pick up 3 x 11° beads in your first colour. Pass through all three beads again to form a ring. Leave a reasonable tail thread — you'll hold this for tension as you begin. Snug up.

First round:

Pick up: 15° / next colour 11° / 15°. Go back through the first bead of your starting ring.

Go through the next colour bead in the starting ring.

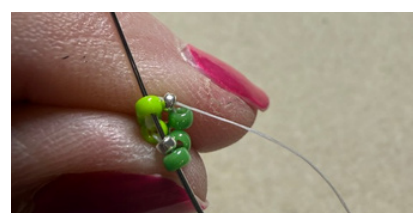
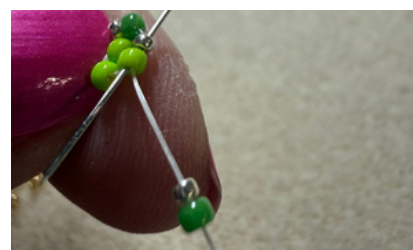
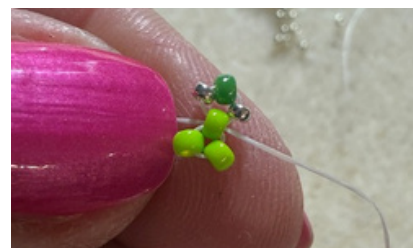
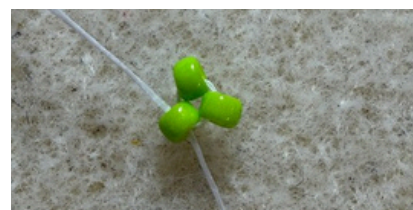
Pick up: 15° / colour 11°. Go through the 15°, the colour bead in the previous row, and the first 15° added in this round.

Add 1 more colour 11° bead to close the ring. Move your needle through 15° / colour / 15°, coming out of one of the colour beads just added. This positions you to begin the next round.

Continuing:

Repeat the round sequence, changing to the next IBW colour with each new set of 11° beads. The 12 colours cycle continuously — the colour sits on the roof and base of each unit and spirals naturally along the rope as you work. Continue for 8 complete colour cycles per rope side.

Tip: Hold your tail thread firmly for the first few rounds — tension is everything with CRAW. Once the structure establishes itself (usually after 3–4 repeats) the rope will begin to feel solid and the pattern clicks into place.



Thank You

Thank you so much for beading with me. Whether you're joining me in person or working through this at your own pace at home, I hope you enjoy every stitch. If you make this design, I'd love to see it — tag me on Instagram @on.a.string or share it in the community.



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