



LARK JEWELRY  
& BEADING



# I CAN

# herringbone

Melissa Grakowsky



From Basic Stitch to  
Advanced Techniques,  
**A COMPREHENSIVE  
WORKBOOK FOR BEADERS**



26 JEWELRY PROJECTS  
WITH 360 ILLUSTRATIONS

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# braided bracelet

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This bracelet is a simple introduction to tubular herringbone that will give you a timeless piece of jewelry in a beautiful mixed-metal palette.

## YOU'LL NEED

Size 11° round seed beads:

A, silk copper, 6 g

B, 24-karat gold-plated, 6 g

C, stable galvanized silver, 6 g

Three-strand gold-plated slide clasp

Size 12 beading needles

Gray, yellow, and pink beading threads

Scissors

Work surface

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## TECHNIQUES

Ladder Stitch

Two-Ladder Tubular Herringbone  
Stitch

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## DIMENSIONS

8 inches (20.3 cm) long

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## DIFFICULTY LEVEL

Experienced beginner

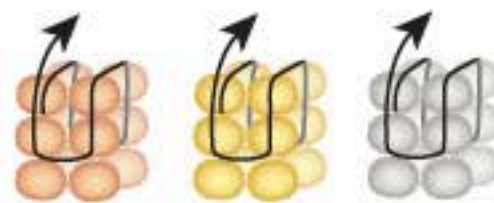


## OVERVIEW

You'll create three tubes, each with a different color bead, then weave the tubes together into a braid and secure each end to the clasp.

## START

**1** Needle up a wingspan of thread. Start a two-ladder herringbone tube with As using either method described in chapter 2. Start two identical tubes using B and C. Leave just enough of a tail thread to weave into the beadwork later on two of the tubes, and leave an 18-inch (45.7 cm) tail on the third tube.



Use the gray thread when you work with the silver beads, yellow thread with the gold beads, and pink thread for the silk copper beads.



**2** Stitch each tube using only the one bead color per tube to the desired length. Sixteen rows will give you about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of length in the finished, braided bracelet, and the clasp will add about ½ inch (1.3 cm) to the overall length.

### BRAIDING AND CLOSURE

**3** When each tube is the desired length, weave the thread from two of the three tubes into the beadwork, secure, and trim them. Place the ends of the three tubes next to each other. Using the remaining thread from the third tube, ladder together the end two rows of each tube on one side.

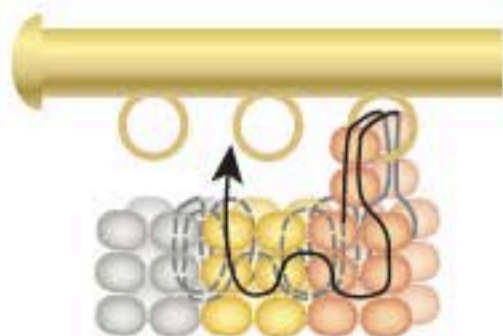


**4** Weave to the other side, and ladder together the two end rows of each tube. Bring your thread out of the end bead on one side of the end tube.

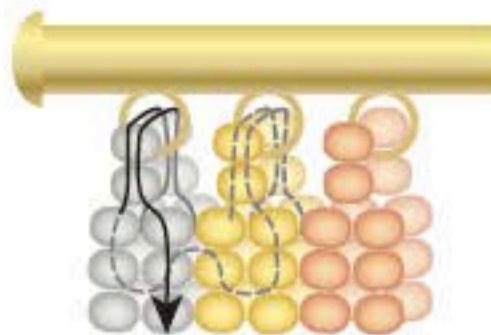


**5** Pick up two 11°s that match the tube your thread is emerging from, then stitch through one end loop of one half of the clasp and pick up two more of the same 11°s. Stitch through the first bead in the end row of the opposite ladder, then out through the first bead in the next row.

Reverse direction and stitch through the second bead in the second to last row and the second bead in the last row. Stitch back through the two 11°s last added, the clasp loop, and the two 11°s added at the beginning of this step, then into the second bead in the first ladder and the second bead in the next row. Weave through the beadwork and bring your thread out of the first bead in the first ladder of the middle tube.



**6** Repeat to attach the second and third clasp loops. Weave your thread into the beadwork, secure it, and trim it.

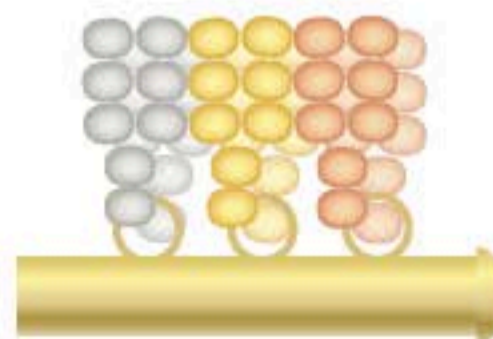


**7** Weave the short tail threads of the first and second tubes into the beadwork, secure, and trim.

**8** Braid the three tubes.



**9** Needle up the long hanging tail thread. Stitch together the ends of the three tubes as you did on the first side of the bracelet in steps 3 and 4, then attach the other half of the slide clasp as in steps 5 and 6, being sure to orient it correctly.





## HERRINGBONE

is an ideal beading stitch for a variety of beautiful jewelry designs. Now you can learn it with this I CAN book that tells—and shows—you how.

Melissa Grakowsky breaks down everything you need to know into simple steps accompanied by illustrations with easy-to-follow thread paths. Each chapter covers the basics of a single skill—such as increases and decreases, embellishing, and making curves—followed by several pretty and wearable jewelry projects that put the new technique into practice. Especially in the beginner projects, Grakowsky provides diagrams for almost every step. As the topics become more advanced, so do the projects, making this book perfect for beginners, as well as for experienced beaders seeking to increase their proficiency with the stitch.

**MELISSA GRAKOWSKY** has won numerous prizes for her jewelry designs and elaborate beaded masks, including Grand Prize in the Fire Mountain Gems and Beads 2010 Polymer Clay Contest, *Bead Star's* 2010 top prize in glass beads, and third place in the 2009 Bead Dreams objects and accessories category. Melissa regularly teaches workshops nationally and internationally and loves sharing with students as well as learning from them.



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