

Everything revolves around...

... and with these techniques you can achieve impressive results

Spiral Rope

The spiral rope technique is one of the most popular and probably the most applied spiral technique. We already introduced this technique to you in volume 1. Basically there is a core and many loops one by one. Using different kinds of beads the most beautiful and different effects are possible.

1
Thread a needle on a thread of about 3m (3.3 yards). Pick up 4 Roc8-A and 1 Roc11, 1 Roc8-B, 1 magatama, 1 Roc8-B and 1 Roc11 and slide them to the center of the thread. Close into a circle by sewing through the 4 Roc8-A again.

*Push the newly formed loop to the left and hold it with your left hand. Pick up 1 Roc8-A, 1 Roc11, 1 Roc8-B, and 1 Roc11. Pass through the upper 3 Roc8-A of step 1 and the newly added Roc8-A. Repeat from * until the rope reaches the desired length. If you need to add a new thread: Secure the thread and start working with the new thread. It is an advantage that you don't need to anchor the new thread.

Double Spiral Rope

1
Pick up 4 Roc6 and 2 Roc11-A, 1 Roc8, 1 magatama, 1 Roc8 and 2 Roc11-A and slide them down the thread leaving a 15cm (6") tail. Close into a circle by sewing through the 4 Roc6 again.

Turn the work piece so that the loop is on the left. Pick up 2 Roc11-B, 1 Roc8, 1 magatama, 1 Roc8, and 2 Roc11-B and sew again through the 4 Roc6.

Turn the work piece again so that the newly formed loop is on the left. Pick up 1 Roc6, 2 Roc11-A, 1 Roc8, 1 magatama, 1 Roc8, and 2 Roc11-A. Sew through the upper 3 Roc6 of step 1 and 2 and the newly added Roc6. Repeat steps 2 and 3 as often as needed

Spiral Herringbone

1
Stitch two base rows in double ladder stitch. Therefore pick up 4 Roc11-A and close into a circle sewing through all the beads again. Push the beads so that two stacks lie side by side.

2
Thread two more stacks of each of the following seed beads: Roc11-B, Roc11-C, and Roc11-D.

3
Join the first and the last stack together to form a rope out of the flat stripe.

4
To make reading the graph easier it is shown in a flat form. You work rounds. Pick up 2 Roc11-A then continue with herringbone stitches. Pick up 2 Roc11 of the next colour and add them with herringbone stitches. Continue up to the end of

the round. Don't forget the step up at the end of the round. Stitch another herringbone round.

5
Pick up 2 Roc11. From here you do not stitch one bead down like you are used to but down into 3 beads then you stitch upwards through the uppermost bead of the next herringbone pair. Repeat continuously. Step up at the end of each round.

Tip: You will get a more even transition from tubular herringbone to twisted herringbone if you stitch down into 2 beads only in the first round (see point 5) and stitch down into 3 beads in all following rounds. The same applies to point 6.

6
To get a twist in the opposite direction you work as follows: Pick up 2 Roc11, stitch down into 1 bead like in regular herringbone stitch and then stitch upwards through 3 beads of the next herringbone pair.

Spiral Herringbone (Variation 1)

You will get a most beautiful spiral when you stitch a herringbone rope with 4 beads using beads of different sizes (see *Perlen Poesie* 7, p. 46). If you do not form a circle with your beads but work continuously you will get a waving band. We used beads of the following sizes: size 11° and 8° as well as 3mm faceted glass beads.