

Apache Leaf Stitch
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Need For Beads, Inc.



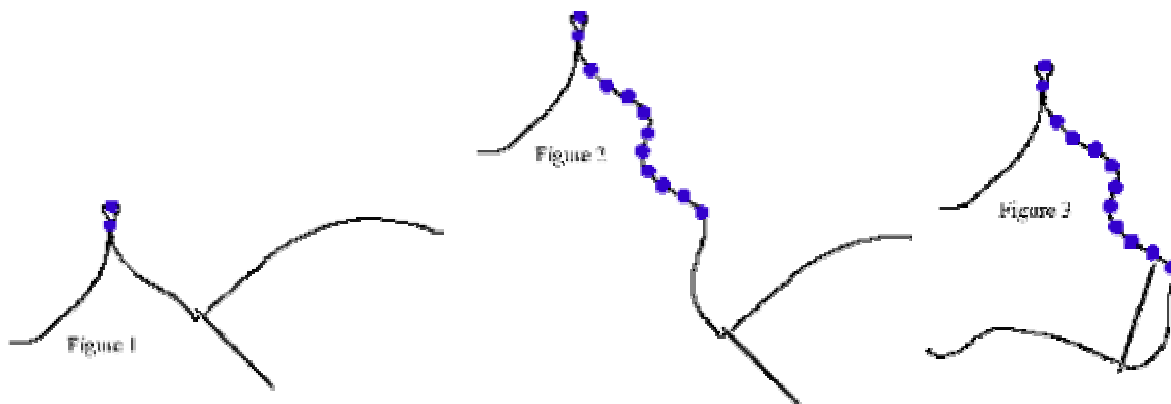
Materials:

You will need two colors of seed beads. You can use Delicas, but the rounder beads make a better curve. This design uses 11/0 Czech seed beads in two shades of blue. The stitch calls for several thread passes through the beads, so use the appropriate thread and needle.

5 grams 11/0 Czech seed beads – light blue
5 grams 11/0 Czech seed beads – dark blue
Fireline 4# test, Nymo, or Sylamide
#12 needle

To start:

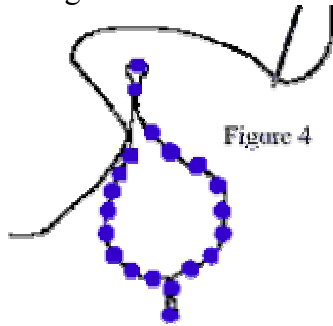
1) String 2 dark blue beads. Pass back through bead #1 (Figure 1).



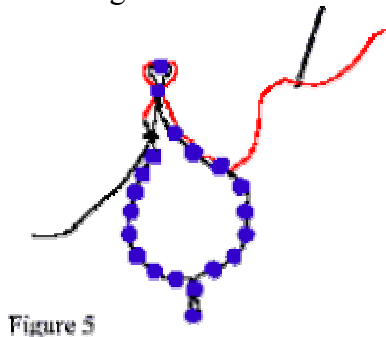
2) String 10 dark blue beads (Figure 2).

3) Pass back through next to last bead (Figure 3).

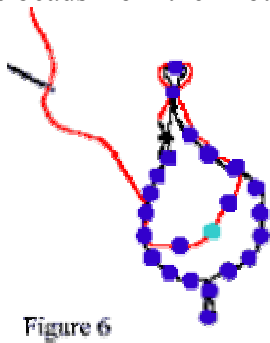
4) String 8 dark blue beads and tie a square or surgeon's knot (Figure 4). You now have twenty beads strung.



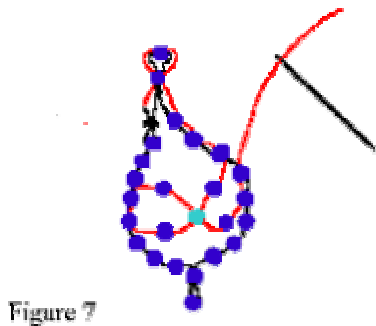
5) Pass through the first 5 beads strung, illustrated here with red thread (Figure 5).



6).String one dark blue bead, one light blue bead, and one dark blue bead. Go back up the two center beads on the opposite side of the leaf, beads #16 and #17 (Figure 6). You can count back five beads from the knot, if that makes it easier for you to find bead #16.



7) String one dark blue bead, go through the light blue bead, and string one dark blue bead. Go up through beads # 7 and #6 (Figure 7).



8) Go back through the top right dark blue bead of the X you created and through the light blue bead (Figure 8). This is shown with green thread in Figure 8.

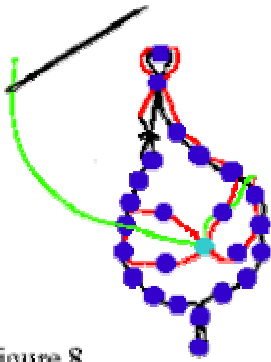


Figure 8

9) Be sure your thread stays in front of your work, and string 11 light blue beads (Figure 9).

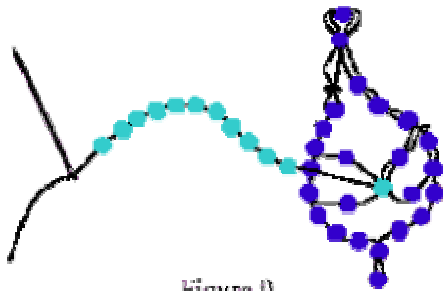


Figure 9

10) Pass back through the next to last bead strung (Figure 10).

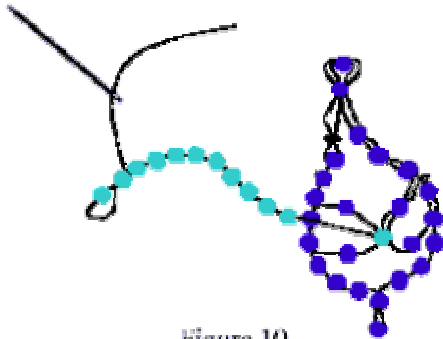


Figure 10

11) String 8 light blue beads (Figure 11).

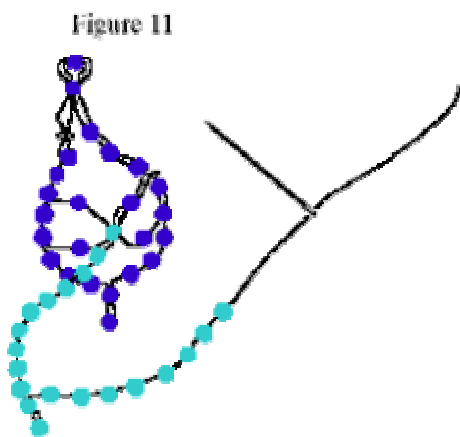
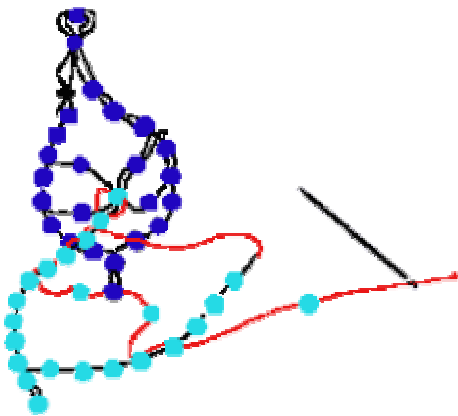


Figure 11

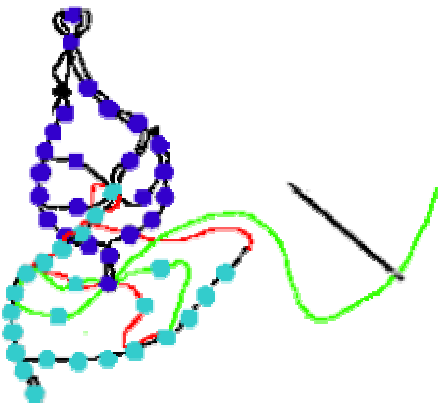
12) Pass back through the second light blue bead, and then through the first light blue bead which was strung in the previous leaf. Go back through the second light blue bead, and continue down the left side through the next three light blue beads. String one light blue bead, go through the bottom dark blue bead in the previous leaf, and string one light blue bead. Go back up the center two light blue beads on the right side (Figure 12). This is shown in red thread in Figure 12. String a light blue bead to get ready for the next step.

Figure 12



13) Go through the dark blue bead at the base of the first leaf and string another light blue bead. Go back up the center two beads on the left side, through the top left light blue bead of the X, and back through the dark blue bead at the base of the first leaf. This is shown with green thread in Figure 13. You have created an X in the middle of the second leaf.

Figure 13



14) Repeat from step 9 switching colors. For the dark blue beads, you will start on the right; for the light blue beads, you will start on the left. Be sure to keep your thread in front of your work when you start each leaf. Work the strand for whatever length you want. Because the leaves are intertwined, and several beads have multiple threads through them, this stitch makes a relatively strong strap.