

Adding Beads to your Knitting

Taught by Lynda Stonack

Welcome to the wonderful world of beads and knitting! If this is your first foray, know that your knitting will expand in areas you thought were impossible. If you already bead, then you know what's out there and how your knitting will sparkle. Either way, buckle up for an exciting ride.

For this class, you need to know how to cast on, knit, purl, and have some experience in knitting in the round with either double-pointed needles or (my favorite!) Magic Loop, which is just a circular needle with a cord of at least 32 inches. My favorite is Addi Turbo.

In this class, you will learn to incorporate beads in to your knitting a variety of ways—pre-stringing, crochet hook, accompanying yarn, and sewing. The focus will be on the pre-stringing method. This is a two-day class so on Day 1 we'll do our beading and on Day 2, we'll do our knitting.

Supplies:

Beading needle—I LOVE the Beadalon Big Eye Beading needle. These are very long and flexible.

Beads—The selection can be overwhelming, so just know you have to be able to get the yarn doubled **through** the bead. For the display model, I used Jb Selections—glass beads 6/0, multi black.

Yarn—This is really your determiner of the size of the beads. You can't get a small bead on to chunky yarn. Try a sock weight or even a ribbon yarn, which can be difficult to locate. I used the Cascade Heritage Sock Yarn for the class model. It's wool but also has 25% nylon. Stringing beads on yarn can cause the yarn to become weak so you want some additional "help" for the wool.

Crochet hook—I use a metal hook, size 7.

Some people like to use a felt beading mat. I like to use a small glass ashtray to corral my beads.

Also know that a variety of patterns will be available if you don't want to knit a scarf. Knit socks? Try putting beads in the cuff. Fingerless mitts? Yeah, Baby! Beads on the back of the mitt look amazing. How about a little purse for your cell phone? Can do! You can also bring your favorite pattern and we'll work with that. Whatever works for you, works for me.

Come with an open mind and an eager attitude and plan on having fun. Let's get our bling on!

All materials may be purchased at Pacific Fabrics with a 10% discount. Please mention that you are buying supplies for this class at the register to receive this discount.



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