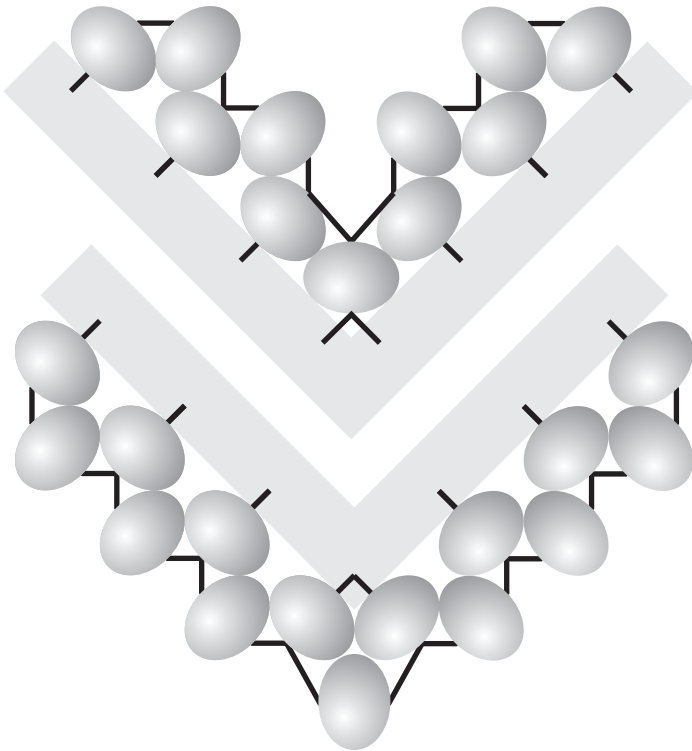
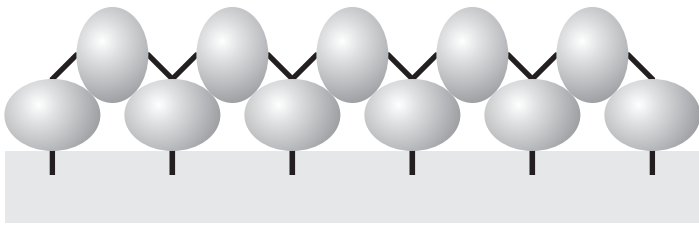
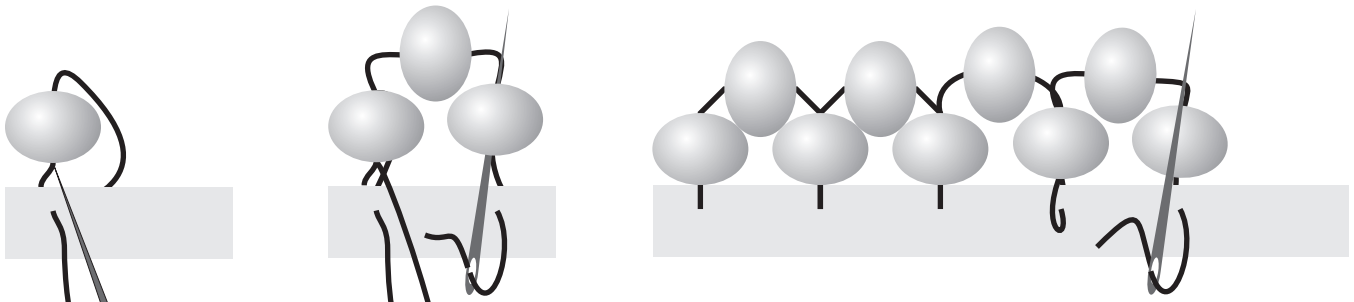


Three Bead Picot Edge



This three-bead edge is a classic beading technique. It is included in many beading books with several variations. Use Czech, not Japanese beads, for this technique. The Japanese beads are generally square, not round, and will not sit well on the edge.

To begin, take a tack stitch on the wrong side of the case to secure your thread and to keep the knot from pulling through the fabric. Pick up one bead with your needle. Bring the needle through the fabric from the wrong side about 1/8" in from the edge. The thread is coming out of the right side of your fabric now.

Bring your needle up through first bead to make it lay flat on the edge. Pick up two more beads with your needle. Pierce the fabric from the wrong side about 1/8" to the right and about 1/8" in from the edge. Pull the needle through. If you're using beads larger than size 9, 10 or 11, adjust the spacing accordingly.

With your left thumb and forefinger, push the beads up onto the edge of the fabric. Insert the needle through the second bead ONLY and pull it through. As you pull, squeeze the fabric between your thumb and finger to compress it a little. As you tighten the thread, it pops the beaded picot up onto the edge of the fabric.

Pick up two beads with your needle and continue. Remember, you are basically sewing a whipstitch over the edge of the fabric through beads. You should always insert the needle into the fabric from the back or wrong side and insert the needle through the bead from the front or right side.

Knot off the thread securely when you're finished.

At the inside of outside of an angle, work through the beads to turn the edge. Make a flat one-bead edge through the center V at the top of a heart or an inside corner. At the bottom of a heart or outside corner, work through the stitch at the point a couple of times to turn the edge. Depending on your project, it may or may not look good with a bead at the exact point.

Enjoy your beaded edge...

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