



# How-to Bead Embroider for Clothing and Accessories!



*John Bead*  
ESTABLISHED 1954

## What You'll Need

Size 3 Czech Bugles, Green Silver-Lined, SKU 10736801  
Size 3 Czech Bugles, Gold Silver-Lined, SKU 10478836  
Size 3 Czech Bugles, Blue Silver-Lined, SKU 10736806  
Size 3 Czech Bugles, Red Silver-Lined, SKU 10627334  
Size 8/0 Czech Seed Beads, Retro Blue Mix, SKU 10737286  
Size 8/0 Czech Seed Beads, Gold, Silver-Lined, SKU 10549094  
Size 8/0 Czech Seed Beads, Sea Mix, SKU 10549081  
Size 8/0 Czech Seed Beads, Light Red, SKU 10549085

Upholstery Fabric, Upstate Fabrics Daelyn Fiesta Outdoor Home Décor Fabric, 1/4 yard,  
depending on pattern element desired, SKU 10688976  
Fusible Interfacing, SKU 10176265  
Embroidery Hoop, 10-inch size, SKU 10665209  
Embroidery Needles, SKU 10691437  
Embroidery Floss, 6-Strand, Green, SKU 10031332  
Embroidery Floss, 6-Strand, Yellow, SKU 10031475  
Embroidery Floss, 6-Strand, Blue, SKU 10031544  
Embroidery Floss, 6-Strand, Red, SKU 10031578  
Fabric Scissors, SKU 10404020

Jean Jacket, Canvas Bag, or any desired embellishment item  
Iron and ironing board

You may also need:

A sewing machine with an all-purpose, or garment sewing presser foot, as well as sewing machine thread appropriate for your project.

## Beginner Bead Embroidery 1-Hour

John Bead has a Facebook Group!  
Share your creations with us!  
Tag #MakeItWithMichaels and #JohnBead

## Introduction

In today's class, we will demo two, easy bead embroidery techniques that you can use to turn any clothing or accessory item into personalized, wearable art. In this document, we are also sharing the steps used to add this embroidery element to a jean jacket.

### Step 1 - Plan Your Project

For this project, the plan was made to cover the back panel of a jean jacket with a decorative, patterned upholstery fabric. There are many in-store to choose from. We chose a floral print that would be fun to trace and highlight with beads. Select the part of the fabric's pattern you want to embellish, making sure it has enough fabric margin to fit into the panel location on the jacket in an artistic as well as wearable location.

### Step 2 - Prepare the Surface to Embellish

Begin by ironing on fusible interfacing to the reverse side of the fabric. Next, secure the fabric into an embroidery hoop to hold flat the surface you'll embellish with beads.

### Step 3 - Bead Embroidery

Cut a comfortable working length of embroidery floss. Separate your embroidery floss into 3 strands. Thread an embroidery needle with all three strands, folding over one inch. On the other end of the thread, tie a double, overhand knot, leaving a short tail. Bring the needle through the fabric from the back side.

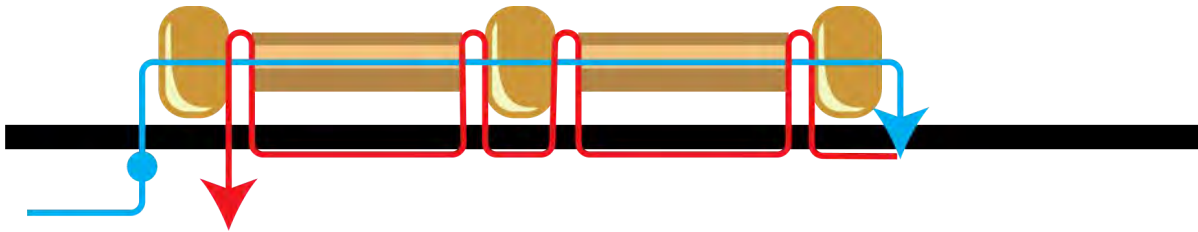
Two, easy techniques were used to embroider the floral pattern on our fabric. Both methods can be worked interchangeably as you go.

We added single beads to desired locations on the fabric using this method:



You can also add a string of beads using this modified, two-needle method (only one needle required):

String any number of beads, shown as blue path below, then stitch down through the fabric. Stitch up through the fabric behind the last bead (path now shown in red for clarity). Stitch back down through the fabric capturing the blue thread as you go.



The two, aforementioned methods were used to complete this design on the fabric using color-matched bugles and size 8/0 Czech seed beads. We followed the pattern of the fabric to inspire each bead's location. Floss colors were also matched to the beads as we added elements. When thread ran short, half hitch knots were tied to the nearest thread on the backside of the fabric.





#### **Step 4 - Preparing the Fabric for Assembly onto our Garment**

Remove the finished design from the embroidery hoop. Iron out the indentations created by the hoop suspension.

Examine and center the design onto its desired place on your garment or accessory. Trim fabric excesses and fold the edges of the fabric under and press. If you have corners, bring the tip of each corner in at an angle and press, then fold the edges together and press. Arrange and pin your fabric to its desired location.



#### **Step 5 - Sewing the Fabric In Place**

Using a sewing machine, back stitch to secure your start, then stitch along the edge. When you reach corners, stop the machine with needle down and turn the piece to position in the new direction, then carry on sewing. Back stitch to finish.

Tip: An edgestitch presser foot, or a zipper foot, can help with getting your machine's stitches to align with the thick, hem edge of a surface such as our jean jacket's back panel edges.