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Crystal Netted Bulbs

What You'll Need

Make Market DIY Ceramic Ornaments SKU 10726610
This ornament is approx 10" circumference

Preciosa Czech Crystal Round 4mm, Emerald SKU 10686779
Preciosa Czech Crystal Round 4mm, Siam AB, SKU 10719457
Preciosa Czech Crystal Bicones 6mm, SKU 10686738
John Bead Czech Seed Beads Size 8/0 Crystal Silver-Lined, SKU 10549088

Wildfire .006 Frost, SKU 10104818
Size 11 Beading Needle, SKU 10720246
Thread Scissors, SKU 10591717
Beading Mat, SKU 10348546

Intermediate Seed Bead Weaving
1-Hour

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

Introduction
It's easy to create gorgeous ornaments with Czech glass crystal and seed beads! In class we will start by sharing the featured design, then we will share tips and tricks for creating netting sized for any bulb or wine bottle.

You can work in any colors of beads. We are using a combination of Siam AB and Emerald with a Crystal, Silver-Lined Seed Bead.

Abbreviations used in this text include:
R4A - Emerald Green 4mm Czech Round Crystal
R4B - Siam AB 4mm Czech Round Crystal
B6 - Siam AB 6mm Czech Bicone
S8 - Crystal Silver-Lined Czech Seed Bead Size 8/0

Step 1
Cut a rather long length of working thread, approximately 100 to 120 inches. Leaving a long tail, work a ring by stringing (33)S8 and going back through the beads, overlapping the working and tail-side thread through one bead. Pull to tighten, but do not knot.

Test the fit of this ring on your bulb. It is okay to modify the count as needed to make the ring fit to your liking. To determine your spacing counts, divide the number of beads by the desired number of net points. Net points are counted by counting the top, crystal beads along the ring. We will detail this estimating process in class, but one way to figure out how many net points to add is to measure the circumference of your bulb at its equator. You'll want to have one strand for every inch, plus one more to join.

Our bulb is 10 inches. Our net design stretches in each segment to cover .75" to 1". Our sample has 11 net points at the top.

Tip: The more net points you add, the more filled your look will be. Less net points will stretch the net more, showing more of the bulb underneath. You can play with this to achieve different looks.

Tip 2: The math for beads in the ring to net points doesn't always divide out perfectly. It is okay to make it work by having one of the net points fit between the others with a different space count. Alternative is to make the ring count work with the number of net points needed. For example, let's say 30 beads was perfect ring size, but we need 11 net points. Maybe we make the starting ring 33 beads around so it works with even spacing of net points around the ring. You can play with this to get a count that works for your design.

Step 2
With your thread exiting from any bead, string (1)R4A, (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8, (1)R4A, (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8, (1)B6, (3)S8. Skipping the last (3)S8 strung, come back up through the B6. Pull to tighten.

Step 3
String (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8, go back through the adjacent R4A from the previous strand. Tighten. String (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8, and go back through the top R4A. Tighten again. Next, go through the next (3)S8 in the ring.

Step 4
String (1)R4A, (7)S8 and go through the adjacent R4B from the previous segment. String (7)S8, (1)R4A, and (7)S8. Go through the adjacent R4B from the previous segment. String (7)S8, (1)B6 and (3)S8. Skip the last (3)S8 and go back through B6. Tighten.
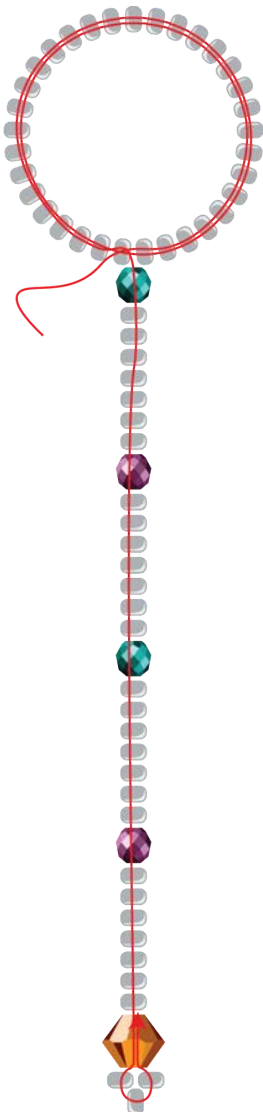
Step 5
String (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8. Go through the adjacent R4A. String (7)S8, (1)R4B, (7)S8. Go through the top R4A. Go through the next (3)S8 in the ring.
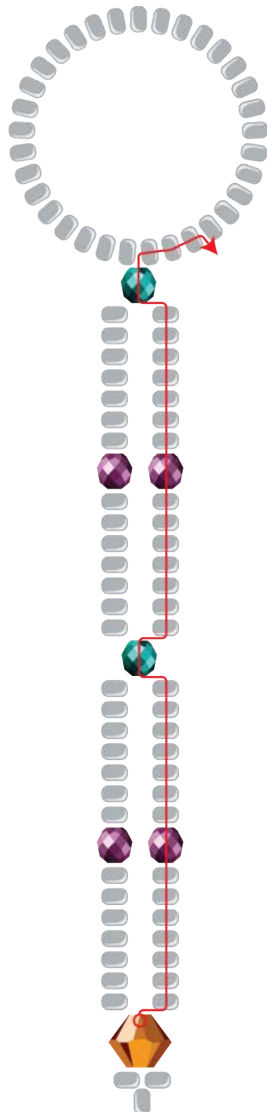
Step 6
Repeat Steps 4 and 5 eight more times. When your thread runs short, weave the tail around the ring to exit from the point you're working and finish using that. For the 11th strand, repeat Step 4, then finish with Step 7 as the join.
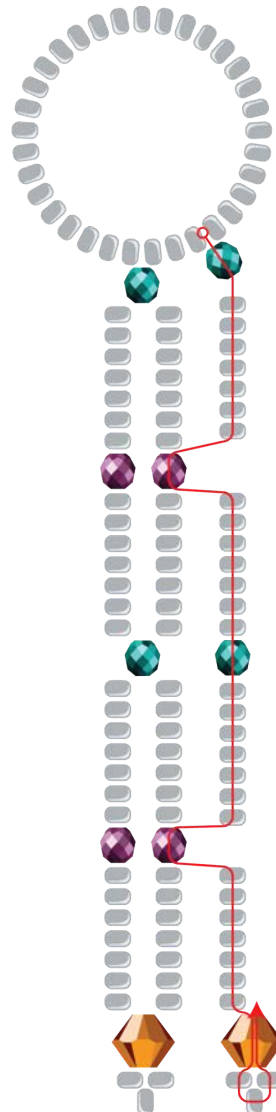
Step 7
Exiting from the B6 of strand 11, string (7)S8. Go through the R4B from the first strand created in Step 2. String (7)S8. Go through the R4A from the 11th strand. String (7)S8. Go through the R4B on the first strand. String (7)S8. Go through the 11th R4A at the top. Go through some S8 in the ring. Weave in using the net and trim.
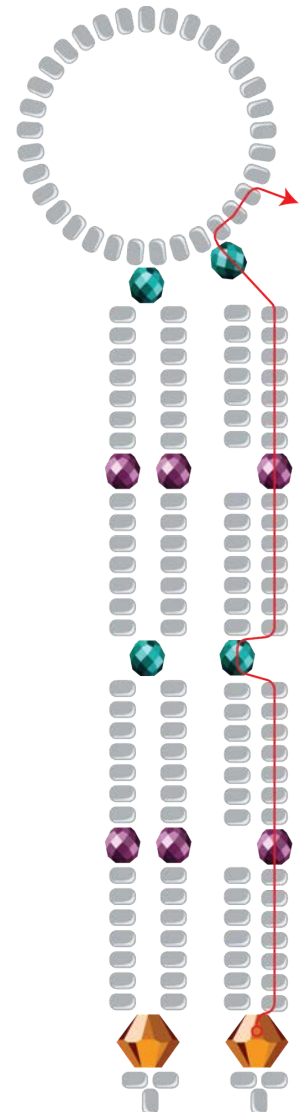
Step 2   Step 3   Step 4   Step 5