

PEYOTE STITCH

A star is born

Witness the birth of a star as
it emerges from diamonds

designed by **Jane Reichhold**



Simple diamond shapes
come together to create
dimensional stars.

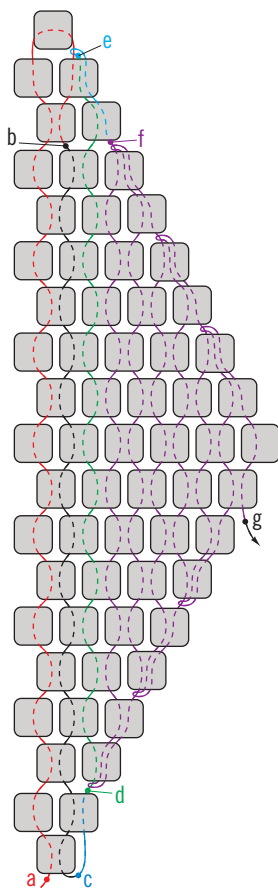


FIGURE 1

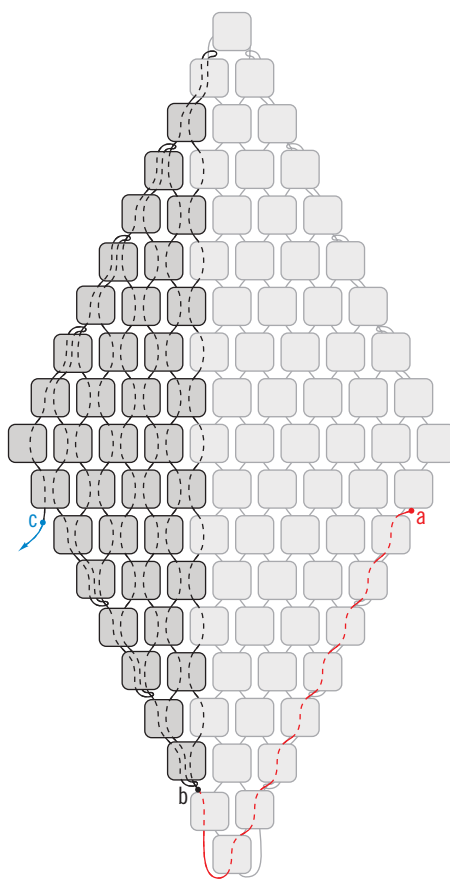


FIGURE 2

You'll find yourself reaching for this star every holiday as you decorate your home with your favorite baubles. Share the joy by making several and giving them as mementos.

stepbystep

- [1]** On 2 ft. (61 cm) of thread, attach a stop bead (Online Beading Basics), leaving a 6-in. (15 cm) tail. Pick up 20 11° seed beads.
- [2]** Skip the last three 11°s, and sew back through the next bead (figure 1, a–b). Work in flat peyote stitch (Online Basics) for eight stitches (b–c). Your working thread should be exiting the first bead picked up in step 1, going in the same direction as the tail.
- [3]** Skip over the bead your thread is exiting, and sew back through the last bead added in the previous row (c–d).
- [4]** Work eight peyote stitches (d–e), sew under the thread bridge between the two nearest beads, and sew back through the last two beads your thread exited (e–f).

- [5]** Repeat step 4 seven times, decreasing each row by one stitch until you work the last row with one stitch (f–g).
- [6]** Sew through the next eight beads along the edge, turn, and sew through the following bead on the other edge (figure 2, a–b). Repeat steps 4 and 5 to complete the diamond (b–c). Remove the stop bead, and end the tail (Online Basics). Note that one end of the diamond has a single bead that is perpendicular to the rest. This will be the outer tip of the diamond.
- [7]** Repeat steps 1–6 to make a total of 10 diamonds, but end both the tail and the working thread on five of them.
- [8]** With the thread remaining from one of the diamonds, sew through the edge beads to exit at the widest point of the diamond with the needle pointing toward the outer tip. Align this diamond

materials

star ornament 2¼ in. (5.7 cm)

- 10 3 mm bicone crystals (Swarovski, crystal AB)
- 8 g 11° seed beads (Miyuki 1001, silver-lined AB)
- Fireline or WildFire, 6 lb. test, or nylon beading thread, size D
- beading needles, #12
- polyester fiberfill or other stuffing

DESIGNER'S NOTE: Change the size of your star by using different size beads, such as 15° seed beads or 11° cylinder beads. Or, begin with 30 or 40 beads in step 1 to make a larger star.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you don't like decreasing in peyote stitch, work the diamonds in brick stitch (Online Basics) instead, beginning with a ladder (Online Basics) at the widest part of each diamond and working out toward one point. To complete the diamond, sew back to the ladder, and continue in brick stitch to create the other tip. – Julia

Jane Reichhold is an artist and poet who has been beading for eight years. She prefers beading non-jewelry items and recently began embellishing Beanie Babies (the ones from McDonald's Happy Meals) with beads. To learn more about Jane, visit her poetry website, ahapoetry.com. To see more of her beadwork, visit etsy.com/shop/beadsnjane. Contact Jane at jane@ahapoetry.com.



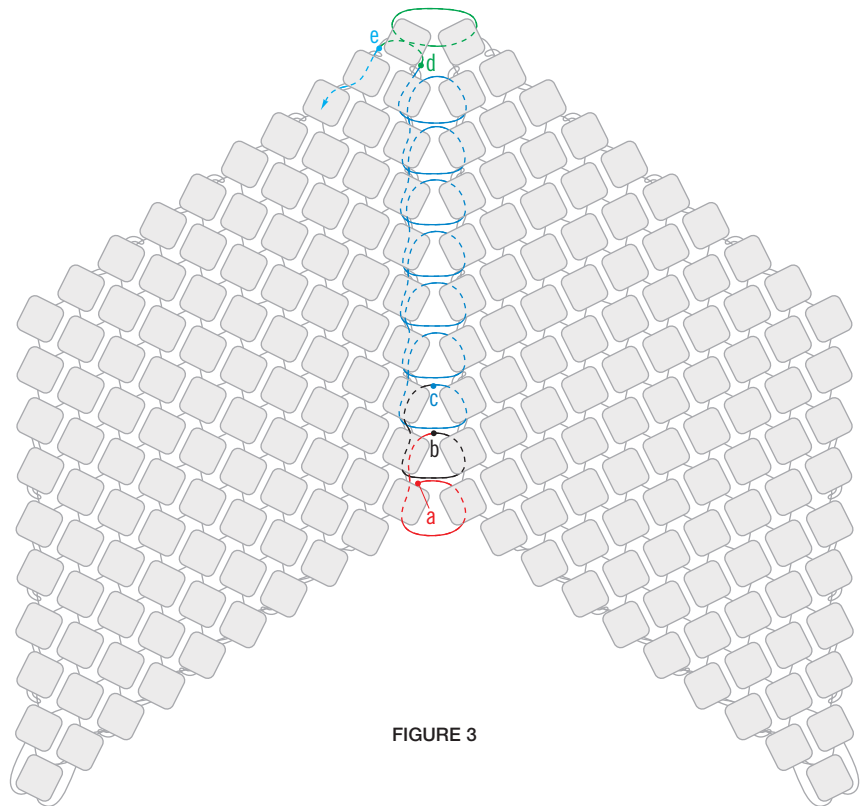


FIGURE 3

with a diamond without a remaining thread, making sure the outer tips match up. Sew through the corresponding edge bead on the second diamond, the edge bead on the first diamond, and the next edge bead in the direction of the outer tip (**figure 3, a–b**). *Note: To show the thread path, the figure shows the diamonds next to each other, but this works best when the diamonds are stacked one on top of the other.* Sew through the corresponding edge bead on the second diamond, the edge bead on the first diamond, and the next bead (**b–c**). Continue sewing through the edge beads to connect the diamonds (**c–d**). At the end, sew through the outer tip beads (**d–e**), and then continue connecting the nine beads on the other edge. Set this double diamond aside.

[9] Repeat step 8 with the remaining diamonds.

[10] Place two double diamonds side by side, and connect the corresponding edge beads on one surface as in step 8.

This time, the double diamonds will be next to each other instead of stacked, and you will stitch from the widest part of the diamonds in toward the center of the star. Repeat to connect the remaining diamonds on one surface, ending threads as they get short. The work should cup slightly.

[11] Flip the work over, and work as in step 10 to close four edge seams on the other side. Stuff the star with fiberfill, and close the final seam. Sew through the beadwork to exit a bead at the center of one side.

[12] Pick up an 11°, a 3 mm crystal, and an 11°. Sew back through the 3 mm and the first 11° picked up in this stitch, and continue through the center of the star. Repeat to add a total of five 3 mms on each side of the star.

[13] Sew through the beadwork to exit an outer tip bead on one point. Pick up 13 11°s, and sew through the tip bead again. Work in peyote stitch around the loop just made, and end all remaining threads.

