

Small bead handbag

Make a beaded handbag stitch marker or embellish a mobile phone, zipper or bracelet with this charming trinket.

Size

From the top of the handle to the base of the bag approximately 20mm.

Materials

Beads

Debbie Abrahams size 8 beads:

- Gold (031) 28 beads
- Metallic Pink (564) 10 beads
- Amethyst (041) 9 beads



Wire and findings

- Fine beading wire 1 metre
- Split ring
- Closed jump ring
- Lobster Claw Clasp (optional)

Materials used in the samples

Wire used is from The Scientific Wire Company 0.2mm 36swg. The split ring and closed jump ring are both 6mm and silver plated.

Equipment

- Wire cutters
- Dressmaking pin (optional)

Preparation

Some metallic-coloured beads lose their colour as you handle them. To reduce the colour loss, thread any metallic-coloured beads onto a length of thread and spray lightly with a clear acrylic varnish.

Slide the closed jump ring onto the split ring.

Note

The length of wire is generous so that the ends may be trimmed as required.

Beading instructions

The instructions for the left and right wire ends refers to the wire ends emerging from the beads at the beginning of the sequence.

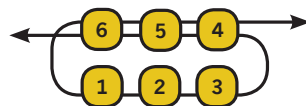
Using wire cutters, cut a 1 metre length of wire. Working from the bottom of the bag upwards.

ROWS 1-2: Thread 6 gold beads (1→6) onto the wire and slide to the centre of the wire.



Fold the right end of the wire and 3 beads to the left.

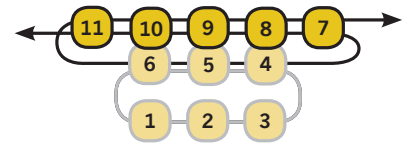
Thread the left end of the wire through the nearest 3 beads (6→4).



TIP: Loop a length of thread over the wire between beads 1 and 2 to mark the first row and the back of the project.

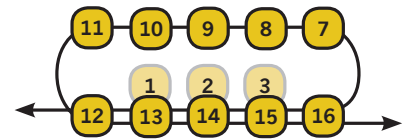
ROW 3: Onto the right end of the wire, thread 5 gold beads (7→11) and fold to the left.

Thread the left end of the wire through the last 5 beads (11→7).



ROW 4: Onto the left end of the wire, thread 5 gold beads (12→16) and fold to the right.

Thread the right end of the wire through the last 5 beads (16→12).



Then, to link the beads to the beads below, thread the left end of the wire through the 3 beads below (1→3) and then back through the 5 upper beads (16→12).

Luise Roberts

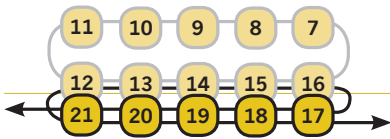
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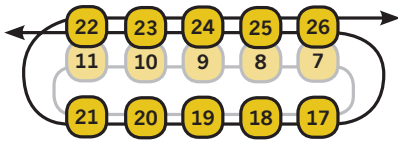
WEBSITE: www.luise roberts.com

Then, thread the right end of the wire through the 3 beads below (3→1) and then back through the 5 upper beads (12→16).

ROW 5: Onto the right end of the wire, thread 5 gold beads (17→21) and fold to the left. Thread the left end of the wire through the last 5 beads (21→17).

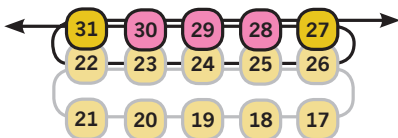


ROW 6: Onto the left end of the wire, thread 5 gold beads (22→26) and fold to the right. Thread the right end of the wire through the last 5 beads (26→22).

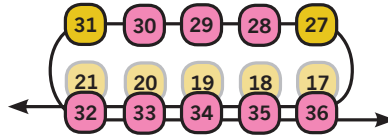


Then, thread the left end of the wire through the 5 beads below (11→7) and then back through the 5 upper beads (26→22). Then, thread the right end of the wire through the 5 beads below (7→11) and then back through the 5 upper beads (22→26).

ROW 7: Onto the right end of the wire, thread 1 gold, 3 metallic pink, 1 gold bead (27→31) and fold to the left. Thread the left end of the wire through the last 5 beads (31→27).



ROW 8: Onto the left end of the wire, thread 5 metallic pink beads, (32→36) and fold to the right. Thread the right end of the wire through the last 5 beads (36→32).



Then, thread the left end of the wire through the 5 beads below (21→17) and then back through the 5 upper beads (36→32). Then, thread the right end of the wire through the 5 beads below (17→21) and then back through the 5 upper beads (32→36).

To create the handle

Wrap the left end of the wire once around the side wire between beads 31 and 32. Wrap the right end of the wire once around the corresponding wire on the other side.

Onto the left end of the wire, thread 1 metallic pink, 8 amethyst, 1 metallic pink bead (37→46) and fold to the right.

Thread the right end of the wire through the last 10 beads (46→37).

Complete the bag handle with the right wire. Thread it through the last 5 beads (46→42), the split ring, the next 5 beads (41→37), wrap the wire once around the side wire. Thread the wire end back and forth through the beads and split ring, around the sides wires, twice more. Thread the wire end through 3 beads on row 8 (32→34), wrap around the wire between beads (34→35). Cut the wire as close as possible to the beads.

Use a pin to align the beads



If you find it difficult to thread the wire through the beads, thread the wire through a few beads at a time and use a pin to gently align the beads in a straight line.

To create the bag catch

Thread the remaining wire end through beads on row 7 and 2 beads on row 6 (26→25), onto the wire thread 1 amethyst bead, skip 1 bead (24) and thread the wire through the remaining 2 beads on the row (23→22).

Thread the wire end through the beads on row 5 (21→17) and then through the beads on row 6 (26→22). Thread the wire through 3 beads on row 5 (21→19), wrap around the wire between beads (19→18) and cut the wire as close as possible to the beads.