

# HOW TO CALCULATE THE WIDTH AND LENGTH OF A PEARL BRACELET?

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What size is this Miyuki bracelet? The bracelet is too small, what can I do? I followed the weaving chart and the bracelet is too big for me, how can I shorten it?

These are questions that you often ask us, but it is easier to prevent than to cure! A weaving grid is easily adapted, and it is better to adapt it before starting to weave. You might think that without the bracelet pattern and a ruler in your hands, it will be impossible to know how many beads to add or remove. Think again! With a little bit of concentration and some simple calculations it will be very easy to answer your question yourself! No need to wait all weekend for an answer from our team!

This data sheet will talk about 4 weaving techniques, but the method is valid in many other cases: Peyote/Brick stitch, loom weaving, circular peyote bangles, simple bead stringing.

## 1- Measure your wrist or hand circumference.

Before starting your project, measure your wrist size. To do this, take a sewing tape measure or a piece of thread and a ruler. Wrap the tape measure or thread around your wrist where the bracelet should go. That is, not at the base of the hand, but just below the wrist bone. If you are using a wire, pinch the spot where the two parts of the wire meet and spread the wire out on the ruler to see how long it is.

The bracelet should not be exactly the size of the wrist. You should add about 1.5 cm of ease and at least 1 cm. If you use very large beads, 1 cm in diameter for example, it may be useful to go up to +2 cm.

To measure the circumference of the hand, close the fingers with the thumb stretched under the palm and measure at the widest point without tightening. This measurement is very important for the creation of bangles. Bangles are bracelets without clasps that are not elastic and are simply put on the wrist. They must be wide enough to fit your hand. Add 1.5 cm to this value.

## 2- Where to find the information to make the calculation?



- For the next step, you will have to get some important information that are indicated on the page of the products you are going to use. Namely, the width and length of the beads and primers. Everything is indicated on the page of each product and if it is not the case, for example for an old product, do not hesitate to ask our customer service who will add this information. For example, Miyuki delicas 11/0 beads are 1.27mm high/long and 1.6mm wide/diameter. The weaving tips for Peyote 21 rows are 28 mm long and 16 mm wide.
- For Bangles, find here a [conversion table](#) created by [EMJY](#) that tells you the number of beads needed for your turn.
- In the case of beaded bracelets simply strung on a wire, this tool will be very useful: [Assembly tray](#). It allows you to easily arrange your creation and measure the bracelet while preventing the beads from rolling off your table. Make a note of the size of your beads to check the quantity of beads to buy. It would be a shame not to have enough beads to finish your creation!
- Have you ever woven a bracelet using the same technique as this new project? Take this one with you. You can use it as a reference to compare the result you get with your calculation.

Things to know: You can use Peyote weaving tips and loom bead weaving tube tips slightly smaller than the width of your bracelet. You will then have to make a reduction of some beads on the end of your weaving on loom. Example : [Miyuki beads diamond bracelet](#). A 1mm larger or smaller tip will hardly be seen on the bracelet.

### 3- Calculate the width and length of the bracelet with the weaving grid

Now that you have all the information, you can start the calculation. Count the number of beads in the width of the bracelet and then in its length and write it down on a sheet of paper. Look at how the bead is positioned to see if you need to multiply the width or length. For example, for a Peyote weave of 21 delicas beads 11/0 wide. It is the height of the beads that you need to multiply, 1.27 mm. So you have to do:  $21 \times 1,27 = 26,67$  mm wide. We always round up so we get 2.7 cm wide.

In the length, there is from the beginning of the decrease to the other beginning of the decrease, 75 pearls. We take the other measure of delicas 11/0, that is to say 1,6 mm.  $75 \times 1,6 = 120$  mm. Out of this direction of weaving, the pearls are not stuck tightly. So we have to add a little bit of length. About 8%. The calculation is then  $120 \times 1,08 = 129,6$  mm. Your weaving will be about 13 cm excluding weaving tips and clasp.

For a loom bracelet, the logic is the same. In our example of the [nude miyuki bracelet](#), there are 14 beads in the width.  $14 \times 1,27 = 17,78$ . Again, here we can see that the beads are not glued because there are warp threads between the beads. We can either add the thickness of the thread if it is thick (for example 0.5 mm or more), or add another 8% to the measurement obtained so  $17,78 \times 1,08 = 19,02$  or 1.9 cm wide. For the length, we have 84 beads. So  $84 \times 1,6 = 134,4$ . We add 8%  $134,4 \times 1,08 = 145,15$ . This is about 14.5 cm.

Once we have the length of weaving, we must add the width of the tips and clasp. In the case of our first bracelet, we need to add two 16 mm wide end caps plus a clasp that once closed is 15 mm and 4 mm rings.  $130 + 16 + 15 + 8 = 185$  mm or 18.5 cm. The bracelet is currently suitable for wrists of 17.5 cm maximum to 16.5 cm. It can be lengthened a little by adding a few rings or a chain extension. To reduce its size, it will be necessary to modify the weaving grid.

In the case of the loom bracelet, we used a clasp with integrated tube ends. This one is 13 mm wide. 1 row of beads on each side of the bracelet will be hidden inside the clasp so the calculation will look like this:  $145 + 13 - 1,6 - 1,6 = 154,8$  or 15.5 cm. The bracelet is therefore suitable for wrists of 14.5 cm maximum to 13.5 cm. It can be lengthened by repeating the bead pattern.

### 4- Adapt the weaving grid

You have all the keys in hand. All you have to do is modify the weaving pattern. We advise you to print it and make the modifications directly on it.

Case of a too big bracelet.

This is the easiest case to adjust. Simply cross out the number of beads corresponding to the size you wish to remove on the ends of the bracelet. If the bracelet has a symmetrical pattern like our example, be sure to stripe the beads symmetrically on both sides of the bracelet. If there is a gold border, consider turning the last few beads into gold. Example: I want to remove 1 cm of weave. I make  $10 / 1,6 = 6,25$  so I need to remove about 6 beads. This makes 3 beads on both sides.

Case of a bracelet too small.

In the case of a Peyote and Brick Stitch weave, even if you have cut your thread, you can re-attach one in the weave and lengthen the weave either by making plain chevrons or by repeating a pattern from the weave. In the case of a loom weave, if you have already removed and cut the threads, there is not much you can do except add rings and an extension chain if you have only used glueless end caps. It's best to plan the length of the bracelet before you've cut everything.

Case of the bangle.

Add and remove beads 2 by 2, as a circular peyote weave for bangle is necessarily even. Also adjust the pattern symmetrically if it is symmetrical.



