

BEADED FLOWER: WHAT IS FRENCH BEADING?

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FLEUR EN PERLES :
QU'EST-CE QUE LE
FRENCH BEADING ?



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Have you ever come across stunning bouquets of hydrangeas, lilies, or daisies made entirely of beads, and wondered how such creations are possible? You've just discovered French Beading, a technique for making seed bead flowers that appeals to both curious beginners and experienced beaders looking to learn a new skill!

What is French Beading?

French Beading, literally "French-style beading," is a technique that involves shaping petals and leaves using metal wire and seed beads. Unlike traditional bead weaving, this technique requires no loom or frame: it's the wire itself—strung with beads and then twisted—that gives shape to each floral element. This method produces a surprisingly realistic result. Each petal and each leaf is shaped loop by loop, giving the finished flower volume and movement. The result: beaded flowers that perfectly mimic the curves and shades of real flowers. Plus, they retain their luster indefinitely—much like Lego bouquets!

This technique is particularly popular in sustainable decor, for creating a timeless bouquet or giving a handmade gift that lasts for years without ever wilting.

The Supplies You Need to Get Started with French Beading

Good news: French Beading requires relatively few materials to get started. The essentials boil down to just a few items:

- thin metal wire (copper, silver, or gold, depending on the desired look);
- seed beads, particularly [Miyuki 11/0](#), which are very fine and perfect for detailing the petals;
- [Miyuki 8/0](#) or 7/0 beads, which are slightly larger and often used for flower centers or foliage;
- [flower stems](#), which will serve as supports once the flowers are assembled;
- adhesive floral tape and embroidery thread, to wrap the stems and secure the bouquets.

The choice of seed bead colors is essential here: it will determine the realism and character of your flower, from the pale pink of a hydrangea to the bright yellow of a daisy.



What Flowers Can You Make Using French Beading?

French Beading allows you to recreate a wide variety of flowers.

Our tutorials will teach you how to make three of them:

- The hydrangea, whose clusters of tiny flowers create the effect of a full, lush bouquet. Our [French Beading hydrangea tutorial](#) details every step, from the first flower to the final bouquet composed of 36 flowers arranged in 9 clusters.
- The daisy and the lily, two iconic designs featured in our [video tutorial on creating a bouquet of seed beads](#). Here, we combine Miyuki and Preciosa beads for a look that's both delicate and colorful.



Both of these tutorials are rated beginner level and serve as an excellent introduction to the world of French Beading.

Our tips for successfully making your first beaded flowers

- Before you get started, keep a few simple guidelines in mind. Be generous with the amount of thread you use: it's better to have a little left over than to run out of thread in the middle of assembling. Also, work on a clear, uncluttered surface, as beads tend to roll away easily.
- When it comes to colors, don't hesitate to mix several shades and finishes of seed beads (matte, pearlescent, transparent) within a single flower. This is often what gives the final result the most depth and realism.

Ready to get started? French Beading is just waiting for your first petal—check out our step-by-step tutorials to create your very first beaded bouquet!

Result



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