



Basic Beadwork Stitches

Right Angle Weave - Single Needle

Right Angle Weave can be worked using either one or two needles. These instructions are for the Single Needle version.

Right Angle Weave is made up of four-sided units. When each side of the units has several beads, a pretty open fabric is produced, giving lots of scope for further embellishment and decoration. When each side of the units is just a single bead, a wonderfully tactile and flexible fabric of closely connected beads is created.

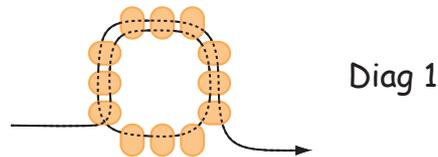
'Multi-bead' is the easier of the two forms to learn, so the instructions for that are given first. Practice it until you are comfortable with the thread path before trying the 'Single bead' form

Multi-bead Right Angle Weave

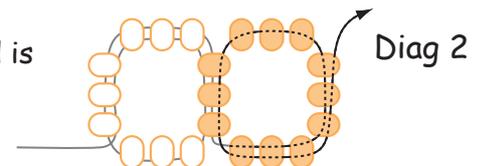
This example has 12 beads per unit. You can use any combination of beads you like, though it is best to have beads opposite each other the same.

FIRST ROW

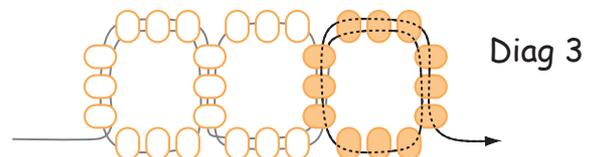
1. Pick up 12 beads and pass through the first 9 beads again. (Diag 1).



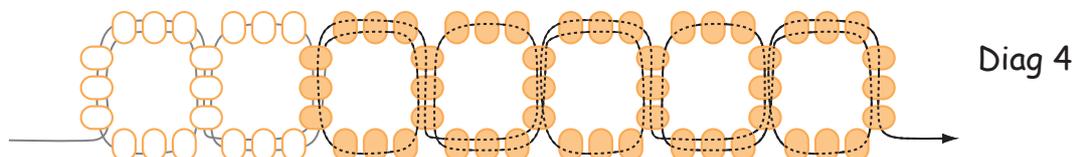
2. Pick up 9 beads and pass down through the 3 beads the thread is coming out of and then through the first 6 beads just picked up. (Diag 2)



3. Pick up 9 beads and pass up through the 3 beads the thread is coming out of and then through the first 6 beads just picked up. (Diag 3)



4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until the row is as long as required, here shown as seven units. (Diag 4)





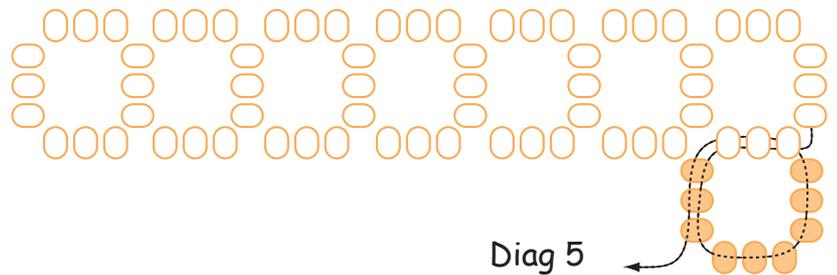
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Right Angle Weave - Single Needle

Multi-bead Right Angle Weave, continued

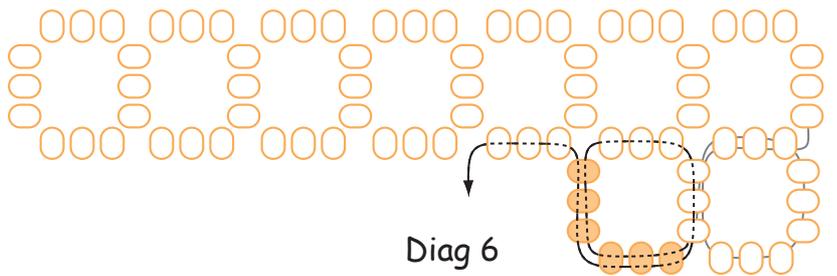
SECOND ROW

5. To turn and work the next row, bring the needle through the bottom 3 beads of the last unit of the first row. Pick up 9 beads and pass again through the 3 beads the thread is coming out of to form a new unit, and then down through the 3 beads on the left side. (Diag 5).



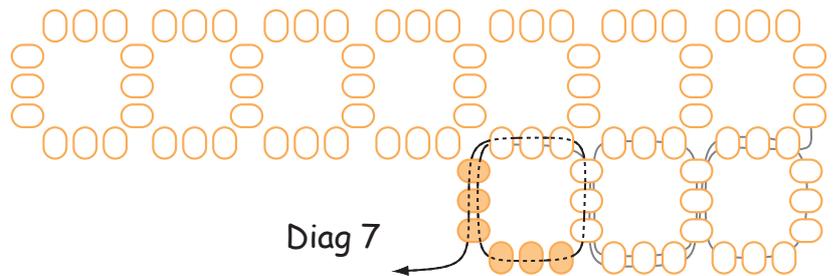
Diag 5

6. Pick up 6 beads and pass through the beads at the bottom of the next unit along in the row above, then through the next 9 beads of the new unit and, finally, through the bottom beads of the next unit along in the row above. (Diag 6)



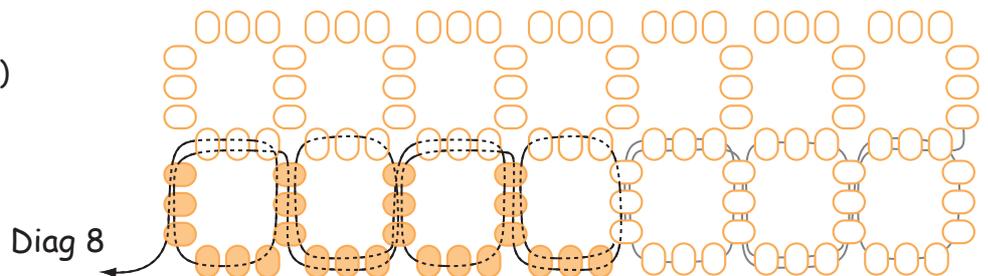
Diag 6

7. Pick up 6 beads, pass up through the beads on the left edge of the last unit, and through the next 6 beads of the new unit to exit on the left. (Diag 7)



Diag 7

8. Repeat Steps 6 and 7 to the end of the row. (Diag 8)



Diag 8

SUBSEQUENT ROWS

Repeat the 2nd row until the work is the size required.
(Turn the work over if you wish so you do not need to worry about going in the opposite direction.)



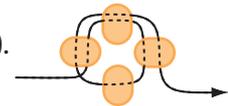
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Right Angle Weave - Single Needle

Single bead Right Angle Weave

FIRST ROW

1. Pick up 4 beads and pass through the 1st, 2nd and 3rd beads again. (Diag 1).



Diag 1

2. Pick up 3 beads and pass down through the bead the thread is coming out of and then through the 1st and 2nd beads just picked up. (Diag 2)



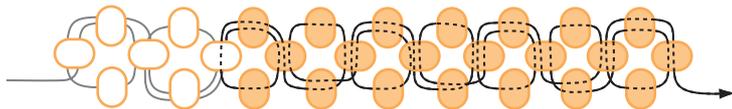
Diag 2

3. Pick up 3 beads and pass up through the bead the thread is coming out of and then through the 1st and 2nd beads just picked up. (Diag 3)



Diag 3

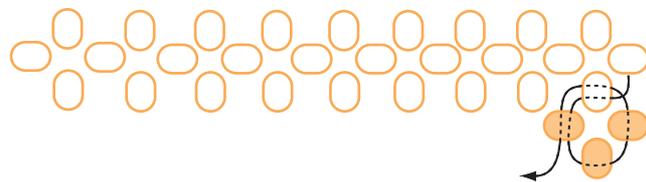
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until the row is as long as required, here shown as nine units. (Diag 4)



Diag 4

SECOND ROW

5. To turn and work the next row, bring the needle through the bottom bead of the last unit. Pick up 3 beads and pass through the same bead again to form a new unit, and then down through the bead on the left. (Diag 5).



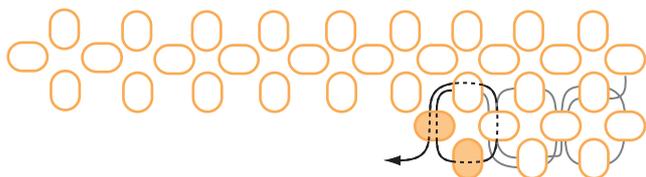
Diag 5

6. Pick up 2 beads and pass through the bead at the bottom of the next unit along in the row above, then through the next 3 beads of the new unit and, finally, through the bottom bead of the next unit along in the row above (Diag 6)



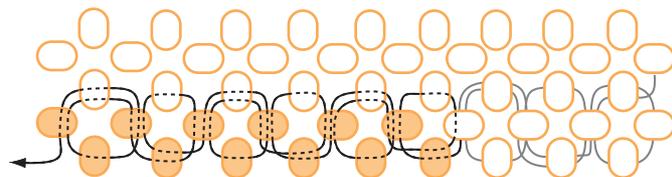
Diag 6

7. Pick up 2 beads, pass up through the bead on the left edge of the last unit, and through the next 2 beads of the new unit to exit on the left. (Diag 7)



Diag 7

Repeat Steps 6 and 7 to the end of the row. (Diag 8)



Diag 8

SUBSEQUENT ROWS

Repeat the 2nd row until the work is the size required. (Turn the work over if you wish so you do not need to worry about going in the opposite direction.)



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Some Tips

1. THE RIGHT ANGLE WEAVE THREAD PATH

Here is a drawing of the thread path without any beads in place. Remember that there should NEVER be a thread going directly horizontally or vertically between the beads.

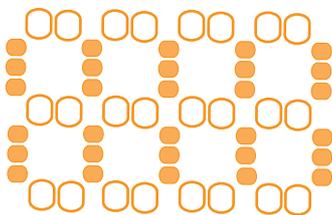


The thread path alternates with each unit, first going up, then coming down.

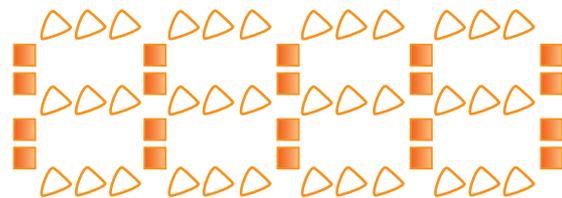
The instructions have an **ODD** number of units in the 1st Row. If you have an **EVEN** number of units, the thread will be coming out of the opposite side of the bottom beads of the last unit in the 1st row. Add the beads for the first unit of the 2nd Row going in the opposite direction to that shown. The beads to pick up and the thread path for the second unit will be as for the third unit in the instructions; the beads to pick up and the thread path for the third unit will be as for the second unit in the instructions.

2. COMBINATIONS OF BEADS

Here are two suggestions for different combinations of beads for the Multi-bead form. There are so many possibilities for you to experiment with!



Size 8 and size 11 seed beads



Size 10 Triangles and cylinder beads

3. SOME NOTES ON TENSION (single bead form)

When you first try Single bead Right Angle Weave, you will find that your tension is quite loose but that it gets tighter as you practice. This means that if your first piece is, say, 8 units by 8 rows, it is unlikely to be the square you were expecting!

Many people imagine that the fabric will be even more soft and flexible if worked with a loose tension. This isn't generally the case (though those people with a very, very fierce natural tension might find it so). The flexibility of this stitch is in its construction - working with a particularly loose tension just results in a fabric with lots of thread showing.

4. ACCIDENTAL DECREASING!

It is very easy to miss a unit when working several rows of Right Angle Weave, especially when doing the Single bead form. So it is worth counting the number of units you have at the end of each row. Run your needle through all the 'bottom' beads to make it easier to count them.