

CRAFT CORNER

Beads have been used for thousands of years as decorative accents for clothing. However, it was not until the mid-19th century that beadwork, as a needle art form, achieved the height of popularity. In the Victorian era, with its rich opulence, beadwork was an integral part of needlework.

One of the most recognized pieces of beadwork done during this period (and it still is an occasional "find" at antique shops) is the evening bag decorated with colorful beads. These beads were made from many different mediums such as glass, metal, wood and semiprecious stones. The bag generally was knitted or crocheted, but continues even today to be known as the "beaded bag."

A booklet by Rosemary Drysdale titled Beaded Lace incorporates the techniques of beading and counted cross-stitch for an exciting variation on both themes. To purchase Beaded Lace, send \$3.50 to MPR Associates, P.O. Box 7343, High Point, NC 27264.

The following is a list of basic materials needed to knit or crochet with beads, and tips from Drysdale for needleworkers interested in trying their hand at beading.

Glass beads. It is recommended that authentic glass beads be used. Other trims can be attached in the

same manner: bangles, paillettes, pearls and wooden beads.

Yarns. The most important thing to remember is to choose a yarn that will give the same stitch gauge as indicated in the directions for specific patterns, and that will allow the beads to slide easily along the strand.

Needles. Any knitting needle or crochet hook that will give you the required gauge.

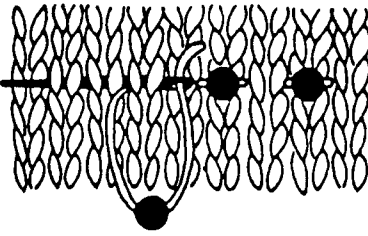
Tapestry needle. A size 22 is recommended to accommodate a knitting worsted-weight yarn and will slip through the hole in the bead.

Although each design pattern book gives directions and diagrams, here are a few pointers that will help you to achieve successful results.

If the design you are working on takes only a small amount of beads, do not thread the entire tube of beads. Thread only the amount that is required to complete the motif.

Always secure the yarn, strung with beads, by knotting it securely in the first row.

Never end or begin a row with a bead. You also might note that some beads vary slightly in size. This is because authentic beads are less uniform than factory-manufactured beads. It will not detract from your finished piece,



To attach beads to a store-bought item, use a simple backstitch and add beads as you go. This technique will enhance any "off-the-rack" purchase, or can be used to mend antique beadwork that has damaged areas.

but may cause problems when trying to fit the needle through a somewhat smaller hole. Simply set aside any beads that will not fit, allow the needle to pass or use a finer needle.

The care of beaded garments is important. Be sure to follow manufacturer's recommended laundering directions on the yarn label. Glass beads need no special care, however, if machine washing is recommended. Turn the garment inside out so that the beads do not the side of the washer. As with any special needlework, do not place directly in sunlight for any length of time. The beads will fade, as will the yarn.

Extension names "leader" for 17 northeast counties

UNIVERSITY PARK — Neal R. Buss has been appointed regional program leader for the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service. He will provide leadership for county staff in 17 northeast counties.

Buss, whose office is located on Penn State's Wilkes-Barre campus, will work to improve communication among county staff, state specialists and state program leaders. He will be responsible for identifying areas within the region that can be used to strengthen education programs in agriculture, community development and natural resources. He also will assist with planning and conducting multi-county events, activities and training.

Buss received his bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science from Penn State. He earned his Ph.D. in animal science with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Buss was formerly employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Industries as an administrative officer. He also was a research analyst for the Pennsylvania State Senate and House of Representatives. As an assistant county extension agent in Lehigh County he worked to develop and implement 4-H and adult livestock and dairy programs.

A native of Northampton, Buss is a member of the Penn State Stockmen's Club.

ELCO FFA

The Eastern Lebanon County FFA chapter recently elected officers for the 1985-86 school year. The senior class nominated candidates they felt would fulfill the required duties.

Elected officers were Ted Zook, president; Glenn Kurtz, vice-

president; Angie Bollinger; secretary; Dean Nolt, treasurer; Linda Zook, reporter; Gary Martin, Sentinel; Jeff Balmer, chaplain; Keith Ziegler, historian; and Brian Eitzweiler, parliamentarian.

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