



ROW OF **BUTTONS** **NECKLACE**

This project spotlights an odd number of buttons in a simple but eye-catching formation. Try arranging them symmetrically and spaced evenly for an especially pleasing effect.

For the Buttons and Beads version, the seed beads you choose for this necklace need to be small enough to easily pass through the holes in your buttons. Size 15 seed beads should work well. The instructions given are for a standard 16-inch choker-sized necklace where the buttons lie nice and flat against your neck. You'll want to measure your neck to determine the perfect choker size for you.

Techniques

WIRE-WRAPPING,
JUMP RINGS (*BUTTON CURVE*),
BEAD STRINGING (*BUTTONS AND
BEADS*)

Tips

Using different buttons in the same color family is a nice way to spotlight favorites that don't quite match in the Button Curve design.



You'll Need

Pliers

One package of seed beads that are size 15 or smaller

Beading needle and 25 inches of thin beading thread (for a standard 16-inch choker necklace)

Nine sew-through buttons

Two jump rings

Clasp

BUTTONS AND BEADS

1. Thread your beading needle, string eight seed beads in a row, and go back through the very first bead you threaded. Then go through the other seven beads you threaded. This forms a loop of seed beads where you'll eventually attach one end of the clasp.
2. String about 4 inches of seed beads and then pass the needle through one hole of a button. String about five more seed beads and pass the needle through the opposite hole of that button. Now you've strung the seed beads through the button and the button should be nicely held in place by the beads.
3. String seed beads for about 2 more inches and repeat step 2.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you have a necklace that's 16 inches long or the length you'd like.
5. Finish off the other end of the necklace with a seed bead loop as instructed in step 1. Tie a square knot at the end of the loop and snip the thread.
6. Now attach the clasp pieces to the seed bead loops. Using the flat-nose pliers, attach one jump ring to each loop. Attach the clasp to one of the jump rings.

· By Leah Kramer ·



You'll Need

Pliers

24-gauge craft wire

5 vintage buttons of your choice

Delicate or medium-weight chain

Two small jump rings

Clasp

ALTERNATE VERSION with three buttons

For this one you'll make your necklace the same way, but use a slightly shorter piece of wire and longer pieces of chain (for a 17-inch necklace I used two 6½-inch lengths of chain). In step 1, slip 3 buttons on the wire instead of 5, and follow the directions accordingly.

BUTTON CURVE

1. Cut a 30-inch piece of craft wire and slip the five buttons onto it one by one, facing forward and in the order you prefer, so that they're evenly spaced about ¼ inch to ½ inch apart, and the last one is about four inches from one end.
2. Cut two pieces of chain, each 5½ inches long. Make a forward-facing plain loop with your short wire tail, ½ inch from the last button. Slip the last link of one length of chain onto the wire and into the loop. Wrap the working wire tail around the button-row wire neatly to form a coil, and clip it after two or three wraps, making sure the end is tucked to the back.
3. Form a plain loop the same way ½ inch from the button on the other end, with a very long wire tail extending outward. Slip the other piece of chain into this loop as in step 2 (or close it and use a jump ring to attach them later).
4. Gripping the loop with your flat-nose pliers, begin coiling the wire tail around the wire frame the same way as step 2, but continue wrapping instead of cutting it off early. Wrap it neatly until you reach the first button, then bring the working wire straight across the back of it and continue coiling between the first and second button.
5. Continue across the entire necklace frame until you reach the short coil on the other end. Wrap right up to it, until your working wire is flush with the coil then clip it neatly, tucking it to the back.
6. Use jump rings to attach the clasp and ring to each end of the open chains. If your necklace is too short or too long, remove the clasp and adjust the length now.

