



# Basic Stitch Instructions

## St Petersburg Stitch

### The Stitch

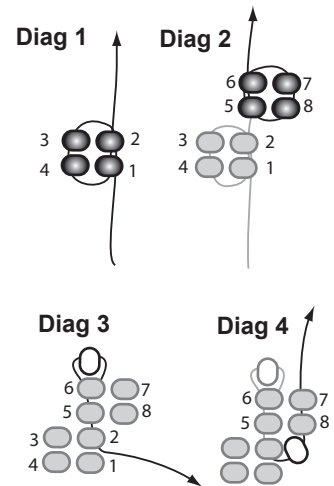
1. Pick up four main colour beads (M), put the needle through the first two of them (beads 1 & 2). Pull tight so that the two pairs of beads sit side by side. Hold the work so that beads 3 & 4 are to the left. (Diag 1)

2. \* Pick up four M beads. Put the needle through the first two of them (beads 5 & 6) and pull tight so that the two pairs of beads sit side by side. Pull the thread up tight so that the new set of beads is sitting snugly on top of the previous set. (Diag 2).

3. Pick up one contrast colour bead (C) and put the needle back down through the three M beads immediately below it. (Diag 3)

4. Pick up one C bead and put the needle up through the last two M beads. (Diag 4)

Repeat from \* until the chain is the length required.

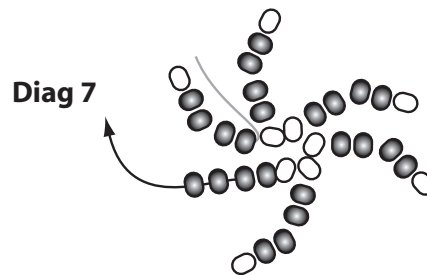
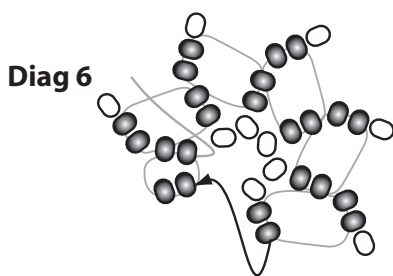
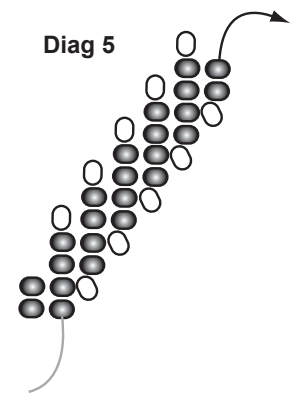


### A St Petersburg Circle

1. Leaving a 20 cms tail of thread, make a strip of St Petersburg with a minimum of five **complete** units (count the C beads along one edge). (Diag 5)

2. Bend the strip around with the 'tops' of the units at the outside of the curve. Take the needle through the two beads at the beginning of the strip (beads 3 & 4) from the centre of the circle outwards. (Diag 6)

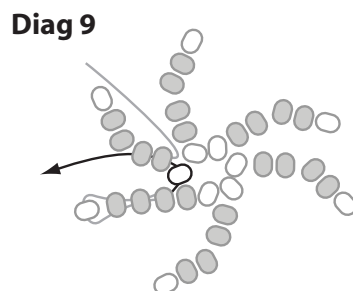
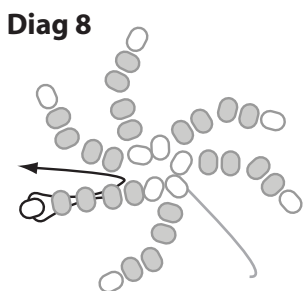
3. Pull everything up tight. (Diag 7)



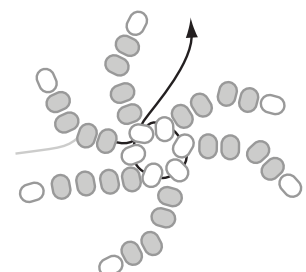
4. Pick up 1 C and go back down 3 M beads. (Diag 8)

5. Pick up 1 C and go up through the 2 M beads at the bottom of the next unit. (Diag 9)

6. Put a needle on the tail of thread and run it through all the C beads at the centre of the circle and then 1 or 2 more. Pull up tight. Secure both threads. (Diag 10)  
(Note - on much larger circles, ignore this final step as too much thread will show.)



Diag 10



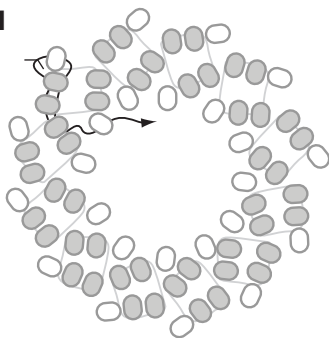
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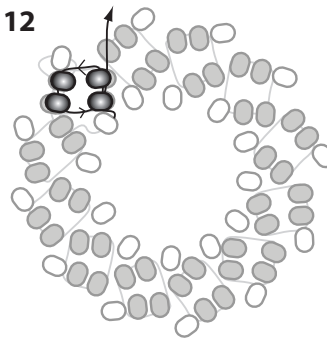
### A Two-layered St Petersburg Circle

1. Make a St Petersburg circle. The circle in these illustrations has a total of twelve units. Secure the tail of thread but keep the main working thread and take it up to the top of the spoke, through the bead at the top and back down through 3 M. Pass into the next C bead at the centre of the circle. (Diag 11)
2. Pick up 4 M and go through the first two of them again. Pull tight so that the two pairs of new beads sit side by side, and as close to the first layer as possible. Push the 3rd and 4th beads just picked up over to the left. (Diag 12)
3. \* Pick up 4 M and go through the first two of them again. Pull tight so that the two pairs of beads sit side by side. Pull the thread up tight so that the new set of beads is sitting snugly on top of the previous set. (Diag 13)

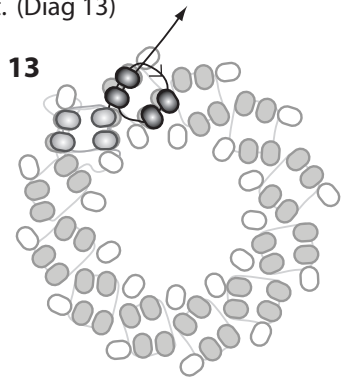
Diag 11



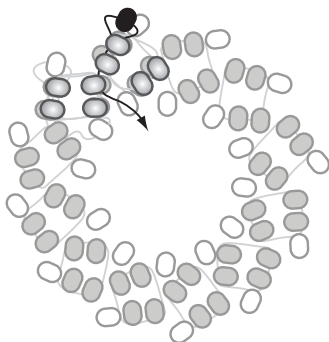
Diag 12



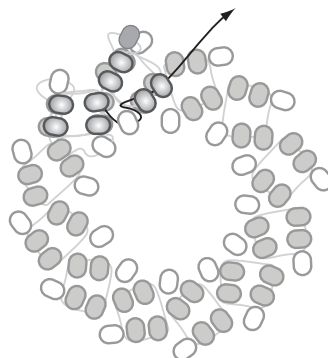
Diag 13



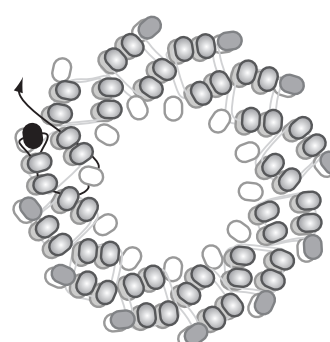
4. Pick up 1 C and go back down through the three M beads immediately below it (Diag 14).
5. Now, instead of picking up a new C bead, go through the next C bead which is already in the centre of the circle and on up through the last two M added (Diag 15).
6. Continue around adding a second layer on top of the first, always using the C bead which is already there in the centre of the circle so that they are shared by both layers. You will have added the final unit once you have one **less** C bead around the outside edge than there are in the base layer, as shown in Diag 16.
7. Connect the beginning and end of the second layer: go up through the 2 M beads added in the first unit, pick up 1 C and go back through 3 M and the next C which is already in the centre of the circle (Diag 17).



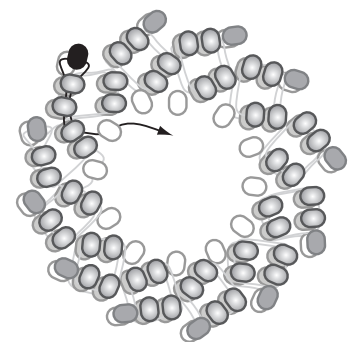
Diag 14



Diag 15



Diag 16



Diag 17

8. (Optional) You might like to join the two layers together around the outside edge. Stitch from a C bead of one layer to the corresponding bead on the other layer, adding a new C in between them. Weave on to the next unit and repeat all around.

#### TIP

A two-layered circle can be particularly effective when made using three sizes of bead. For the base layer, use large beads for M and medium beads for C. On the second layer, use medium beads for M and small beads for the C beads added around the outside of the circle.