

Beadalon®

Knotter Tool

Stringing & Knotting with the Beadalon Knotter Tool

WHAT YOU NEED: Beadalon Knotter Tool, Bead Reamer, Small Bowl of Water*, Carded Silk with Needle, French Wire (Bullion), Clasp, Pearls or Beads, Beadalon Bead Stringing Glue, Bead Mat, Flush Cutters or Sharp Scissors

*Only necessary when using the Battery Operated Bead Reamer.

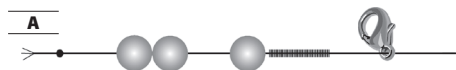


BEGINNING THE STRINGING PROJECT

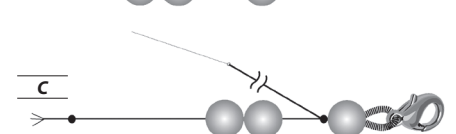
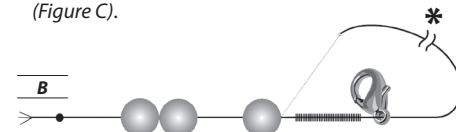
1. Use a bead reamer to enlarge the holes of six pearls. The newly reamed holes should be just big enough to fit a double strand of silk. Ream one side of the hole and then the other side. You will use three of these pearls to begin the strand. Put the other three aside and keep them separate from the rest of your pearls. You'll need these to complete the strand.
2. Make sure your hands are clean, as silk is an easily soiled material. Use the appropriate size of silk with attached needle to fit the hole of the pearls or beads you'll be using. Unwind the silk from the card and pull until all of the kinks from the card are no longer visible. Tie a knot at the end of the silk farthest from the needle, and string the first three reamed pearls.
3. Take care when handling the French wire — it's very small, delicate wire that has been coiled. It will serve as a shield for the silk at both ends of

your pearls where the clasp comes in contact with the strand. Cut two pieces of French wire as close to the same size as possible - the length should be about 1/4" to 3/8" depending on the size of the ring on your clasp. Cutting two consecutive pieces will give you the same size loops on each end. String one piece of French wire onto your strand with the three reamed pearls.

4. String one part of the clasp onto the silk. If you're using a safety or fishhook clasp, do not string the hook end at the beginning of the strand because it may become tangled. Always move the pearls to the end of the silk farthest away from the needle (Figure A).

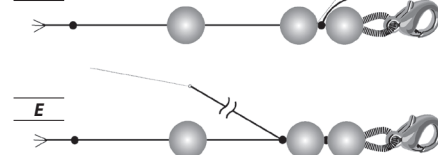


5. Skip the French wire and the clasp as you insert the needle's end back into the third pearl closest to the French wire (Figure B). Pull carefully. If the silk begins to twist, hold it between your two fingers as you pull to prevent the silk from twisting into the hole. Leave about 2" of silk at the opposite end of the needle for tying. Carefully pull the needle end until the French wire wraps itself around the jump ring of the loop. Pull just tight enough to complete the loop. Tie an overhand knot with the two ends (Figure C).

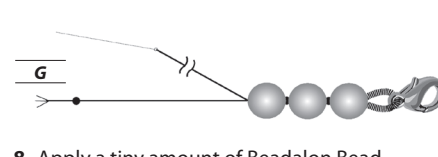
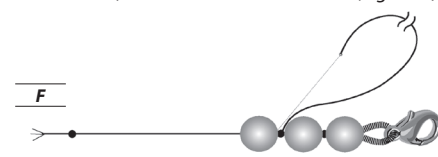


*This symbol denotes that there is more silk thread than shown.

6. Insert the needle into the second bead and pull the entire length through (Figure D). Tie another overhand knot with the two ends (Figure E).



7. Insert the needle into the remaining bead (Figure F). Pull the needle all the way through the bead, but do not tie a knot here (Figure G).



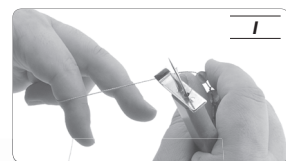
8. Apply a tiny amount of Beadalon Bead Stringing Glue between the two strands, allowing it to wick into the hole. Apply another tiny amount and let dry. This will ensure the tail of the cut silk will not slip out of the bead. Carefully cut the short end of the silk as close as possible.

KNOTTING THE STRAND

9. String the rest of the pearls needed for desired length onto the silk (Figure H).



10. With the palm of your left hand facing down, point the two fingers of your left hand. Separate your index and middle fingers so there is a 'V' space between them. Your thumb will be pointing toward you. Fold your ring and pinky



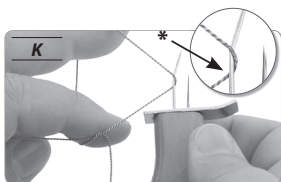
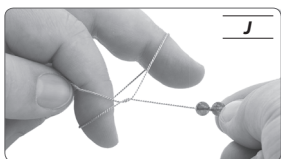
Knotter Tool

fingers in to hold the excess silk (Figure I). Make sure to keep the Beadalon Knotter Tool in your right hand at all times.

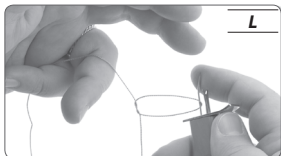
11. Take the end of the silk thread with the three pearls and the clasp into your right hand. All your motions will be moving away from you. This allows you to create a knot without a twist.

12. Wrap the silk around your fingers. After you have made one wrap, drop the end of the silk down through the circle you've just made between your fingers (Figure J).

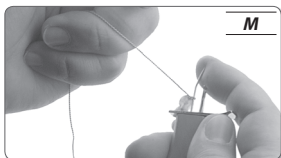
13. With the Beadalon Knotter Tool in your right hand, pick up the top string that is stretched between your two fingers with the sharp beading awl part of the knotter (Figure K). **The knotter and the silk should look exactly as illustrated in Figure K.**



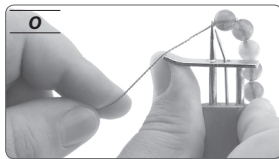
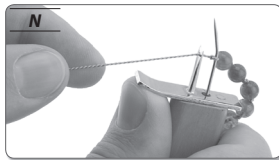
14. While continuing to hold the excess silk with your left pinky and ring fingers, remove your left hand from the loop. Place your right index finger on the side of the beading awl part of the knotter to prevent the knot from slipping off the end (Figure L).



15. While pointing the knotter away at a right angle, pull the silk upward with your left hand. Pull the excess silk until the knot brings the pearl flush against the beading awl (Figure M).



16. Turn the knotter and carefully guide the silk into the 'Y' portion of the knotter; gently pull with a downward motion. Once all the slack is pulled, remove your index finger from the beading awl (Figure N). Push up with your right thumb while pulling the silk with your left hand until the completed knot slips off the end of the awl (Figure O).



17. After tying a knot, slide another pearl onto the silk and place it firmly against the previous knot. The silk should not snag or pull; you will need to adjust the pressure at which you pull the silk as you create more knots.

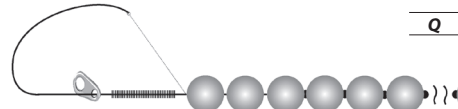
Repeat these steps until you have all the knots in place.

ENDING THE STRAND

18. Once all the pearls have been knotted with the Beadalon Knotter Tool, including the last pearl, string the three reamed pearls, the extra length of French wire, and the opposite end of the clasp onto the strand (Figure P).



19. Skip the French wire and clasp, as in the beginning, and insert the needle into the last pearl. This time, leave just enough room between the last and second-to-last pearls to allow space for a knot between each of them (Figure Q).

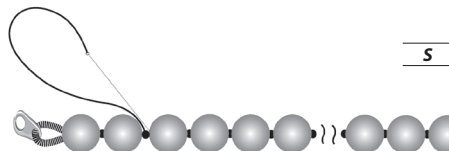


20. Once the French wire has been pulled taut by the silk and the correct amount of space is left, tie an overhand knot (Figure R).



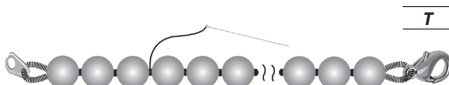
21. Insert the needle into the second-to-last pearl (Figure S).

22. Tie a final overhand knot and insert the needle



into the third-to-last bead. Pull the rest of the silk through (Figure T).

23. Put a tiny amount of Beadalon Bead Stringing



Glue at the base of the knot, allowing the glue to wick into the hole of the third-to-last bead. Do this twice. Carefully cut the end of the silk as close to the bead as possible (Figure U).

