Ice Crystal Tassel
© Melissa Grakowsky Shippee

Structural and elegant, this bead weaving project is the perfect winter project. Put it on a tree hook to turn it into a holiday ornament, or hang it off of a chain for a unique winter pendant.

View the video tutorial on YouTube:
https://youtu.be/30K3ZYKGGRU

What You’ll Need...

Supply (Gold/Blue colorway)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name in Pattern</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Weight (g.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4mm Czech firepolished rounds, crystal golden rainbow</td>
<td>4mm FP</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3mm Czech firepolished rounds, crystal golden rainbow</td>
<td>3mm FP</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size 11/0 seed bead, duracoat galvanized gold, Miyuki 4202</td>
<td>11A</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size 11/0 seed bead, matte gold lined aqua, Toho 995F</td>
<td>11B</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size 15/0 seed bead, pearl white, Toho #121</td>
<td>15/0</td>
<td>1489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4mm Swarovski bicone, aurum 2X</td>
<td>4mm bicone</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8mm Swarovski bicone, crystal AB</td>
<td>8mm bicone</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12mm Swarovski art. 5540 (artemis bead), golden shadow</td>
<td>Artemis bead</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notions
Size 12 beading needles, nylon beading thread

Tools
Scissors, beading mat.

Techniques
Netting, right angle weave, peyote stitch, ladder stitch.
1. On a wingspan of thread, pick up eight 11Bs. Stitch thru the first again to form a loop (blue thread).

Hold the tail thread or use a stop bead. Pick up one 15/0, one 11B, and one 15/0. Skip the next 11B in the loop and stitch thru the next. Repeat 3 times, then step up thru the first 15/0 and 11B added (black thread).

Pick up one 3mm FP and stitch thru the next 11B. Repeat 3 times, step up (purple thread). Pick up two 11Bs and stitch thru the next 3mm FP. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 2 11Bs (2nd black thread).

2. Off the two 11Bs, stitch 7 units of right angle weave (RAW) using 6 15/0s in each unit (black thread). Stitch thru all 6 15/0s in the last unit. Peyote stitch 1 11A between each pair of 15/0s on the edge of the RAW, stitch thru 11Bs and 15/0s to repeat on second side. Stitch thru all 6 15/0s in last RAW unit and the first 11A added (purple thread).

3. Pick up 5 15/0s and stitch thru the next 11A. Repeat 4 times. Pick up 5 15/0s and stitch thru single 11/0 between 3mm FP. Pick up 5 15/0s and stitch thru 11A on other side.

Add groups of 5 15/0s between 11As as on first side. Weave around, step up thru 1st 15/0s added (black thread). Pick up 1 4mm FP and stitch thru middle 15/0 in next group. Repeat 3 times. Pick up 1 3mm FP and stitch thru middle 15/0 in next group (blue thread).

4. Pick up 1 11B and stitch thru the middle 15/0 in next group of five. Stitch between firepolish beads and middle 15/0 in groups of five 15/0s.

5. Pick up 1 11B and stitch thru the middle 15/0 in the 1st group of 5. Stitch thru the next 4mm FP. Peyote stitch 11Bs between the firepolish beads. Then stitch thru the middle 15/0 in the end group of 5, the 11B, and the middle 15/0 in next group of 5. Stitch back thru the 3mm FP and last 11B added.

6. Pick up 3 15/0s and stitch thru the same 11B again, the next 4mm FP, and next 11B. Repeat 3 times. Turn around at end and stitch back through 11Bs and firepolish beads. Weave to the next pair of 11Bs between 3mm FP (black thread).

7. (No diagram) Repeat Steps 2-6 three times to build three additional arms; but on the last repeat stop your thread at the end of the arm.
8. The arms are shown flat in the diagrams but should curve around like a half circle. Bring your thread out of the last pair of 15/0s in the 7th RAW unit in one arm. Bring the last RAW unit in each arm together below the base you formed in Step and work from the bottom or underside.

9. The underside of the place where the four arms meet is shown in the diagrams with only the nearby beadwork for clarity. The rest of the beadwork is not shown.

10. Pick up one 11A and stitch thru the last pair of 15/0s on the next arm. Repeat 3 times, step up (magenta thread).

Pick up one 11A and stitch thru the 11A across. Stitch back thru the last 11A added, then first 11A. Repeat, then stitch through newest 11A (black thread).

11. Pass your needle between beads so it is on the inside of the structure. Pick up one 4mm FP and the artemis bead (from large side first). Stitch through the center of the base (not thru any beads). Pick up the 8mm bicone, one 11B, and 7 15/0s. Stitch back thru the 11B, 8mm bicone, center of the base, Artemis bead, and 4mm FP. Stitch thru the middle 11B again (black thread).

Repeat the thread at least once, then stitch through the nearest 11A, the next four 15/0s, and next 11A (magenta thread).
12. Work on the underside again. Pick up one 15/0, one 4mm FP and one 15/0. Stitch thru the corresponding 11A on the next arm, from outside to inside. Pick up 3 15/0s and stitch thru the next 11A from inside to outside. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 1st 15/0 and 4mm FP added (black thread).

Pick up 3 15/0s and stitch thru the next 4mm FP. Repeat 3 times, pulling tightly to pull the 4mm FP in to the middle. Step up thru 1st 2 15/0s added (purple thread).

Pick up 5 15/0s and stitch thru middle 15/0 in next gorup of 3. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 1st 3 15/0s added (green thread).

Pick up one 3mm FP, one 11B, one 3mm FP. Stitch thru middle 15/0 in next group of 5. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 1st 3mm FP and 11B (brown thread).

Pick up 2 15/0s, one 4mm FP, and 2 15/0s. Stitch thru 11B in next group. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 1st 2 15/0s and 4mm FP (blue thread).

Pick up 6 15/0s, skip the 4mm FP and stitch thru next 2 15/0s. Stitch thru next 11B and next 2 15/0s. Repeat 3 times, step up thru 1st 3 15/0s in 1st group of 6 (pink thread).

Add 1 11B in middle of each group of 6 15/0s (black thread).

Beadwork should look like figure 13 below. Leave thread hanging from an 11B in corner (shown with asterisk in Figure 13).

14. Start a new double wingspan of thread (or as long as you can tolerate). Ladder together twenty pairs of 11As (blue thread). Add one fringe to each pair of 11As: 40 15/0s, one 11B, one 3mm FP, one 4mm bicone, one 11A, 3 15/0s. Skip last 3 15/0s, stitch back thru all other fringe beads and pair of 11As, stitch thru next pair of 11As (black thread). Make 20 fringes.

15. Roll up tightly the laddered beads and fringe, and ladder together the pairs of beads in various places so the roll stays together, being careful not to get your thread tangled in the fringe. Secure and trim thread when done.

16. Using the hanging thread on the tassel base, stitch each of the four 11Bs on the bottom side between 3mm FPs to four 11A pairs on the fringe. Make sure it is very secure, then secure and trim your thread. Add a jump ring to the beaded loop at the top to attach to a necklace or ornament hook.