

# CREATING A BEAD MOSAIC



Video Tutorials are available on YouTube. Access the Bead Mosaic channel (or use the QR code on the left) and look for your specific design instructions. We can do this together! Other videos are also available to provide ideas on how to personalize your bead mosaic. It is recommended to watch the video and read all the instructions before you begin.



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Add **WARM** water to the 3.5 oz. line of the empty bottle and pour in all of the glue provided. Put the lid back on and shake the contents. Remember to continue to shake the glue bottle mixture periodically while creating your bead mosaic.



## TOOLS NEEDED

(Note: All of these items are included in the Bead Mosaic Toolkit).

- Needle point tweezers (preferably non-magnetic)
- Bead Scooper
- Bead sorting trays
- Exacto knife
- Bottle to mix glue



## TIPS & TRICKS

- Use acrylic paint under the beads to modify the bead colors.
- Line up beads in the same direction to create variations in texture and sheen.
- Mix bead colors together to create blending effects.
- Add your own beads as accents.

# 1

### STEP 1

Use wide strips to outline the board edges. Peel back some of the white paper backing and stick the black foam to the edge of the board to surround the design. Peel off white paper as you stick to make it easier. Cut off excess foam with Exacto knife.

- **DO NOT** overlap foam strips but cut them as close as possible to each other. Gaps will allow glue to seep through.
- **DO NOT** stretch the foam as it will shrink back to its original size and leave gaps.
- The edge will allow you to frame the piece in a standard 8x10 frame, it will also contain the glue.

# 2

### STEP 2

Use the thinner black foam strips to cover the printed design lines while peeling off the backing and cutting as needed. Connect the ends of all foam strips together without leaving gaps where the lines meet.

- As previously mentioned, **DO NOT** overlap strips or stretch the foam.

# 3

### STEP 3

Begin filling specific areas with desired bead colors. Do not overfill or try to eliminate every single gap. Simply lay beads and pat flat to one layer with your fingers. There are more than enough beads for a single layer. Having too many beads will clump together when the glue mixture is poured. **ONE** layer only!

# 4

### STEP 4

When all the sections are filled with one layer of beads, shake the glue mixture again and begin dripping glue over the beads. Keep the tip well above the beads, and do not squirt the glue. Cover all the beads with a thin layer of glue, trying not to overfill. It is OK if the glue gets on the inner black lines. Once the glue is applied, you should still be able to see the tops of the beads. You should use less than half the glue in Step 4. Time to let it sit overnight! While the bead mosaic is drying, try not to move it so that the beads don't shift.

# 5

### STEP 5

Once dry, use the tweezers to place some of the extra beads in the larger gaps created during gluing. Use the sorting tray to easily organize the beads and dip them into a bit of glue to hold them in place. After the beads are placed and the large gaps are filled, cover the entire picture again with the remaining glue mixture and let it dry overnight.

You're done! Don't worry if all the holes do not get filled, if the beads are facing various directions, or if some holes are showing. Once the sunlight hits, it will create all the sparkle that you are looking for!



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Adult supervision  
recommended.