

A VC Artisan Originals Tutorial



OUROBOROS

A Super Duo Spiral Rope Necklace | Designed By Valorie Clifton

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This tutorial is intended for those who have a basic knowledge of bead weaving and thread tension. It is helpful (but not required) to be familiar with the Spiral Stitch. You should also be comfortable following diagrams and charts and starting and ending threads (a lot). This is an innovative use for Super duo beads and makes a fun accessory.



For this graduated thickness, 28 inch necklace, you will need:

- **Approx. 10 grams** [Color A] SuperDuo beads. (I used Super Duos in red.)
- **Approx. 8 grams** [Color B] SuperDuo beads. (I used turquoise Super Duos.)
- **Approx. 25-30 grams** [Color C] 11/0 seed beads in the color of your choice. (I used yellow as a main color.)
- **Approx. 10-15 grams** [Color D] 11/0 seed beads in a secondary color. (I used orange.)
- **Approx. 10-15 grams** [Color E] 11/0 seed beads in a third color, if desired. (I used red.)
- **Approx. 5-7 grams** [Color F] 11/0 seed beads in a 4th color. (I used turquoise.)
- **Approx. 10 grams** Core Beads: size 8/0 in a color of your choice. (I used red.)
- Size 10 or 12 beading needle.
- 6lb to 8lb test beading thread. Fireline in Smoke or Crystal or Spider Wire EZ Braid are highly recommended. I prefer Spider Wire. I used 10 lb test in the sample but any good, sturdy thread will work.
- A bead mat, bead tray, scissors, a bead reamer and a thread burner are helpful tools.

You will need to add more thread a few times. I like to tie multiple half-hitch knots into the core section and also through some of the spiral stitches before cutting my tail thread. Do the same to add new threads.

I recommend using Super Duo beads for this project because they interlock well.

It's best to maintain proper thread tension with this or any bead project. Aim for a **medium** tension with no loose gaps. This necklace requires a semi-firm tension but not so firm as to break beads or snap your thread. I apologize in advance for my wonky diagrams. ☺

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At this point the spiral should match and blend very well on both sides. Sew through the core beads a few inches and begin to tie half hitch knots along the core. Sew through a loop here and there and back into the core beads, following the thread paths and tying half-hitch knots along the way. Once you're sure it's well-tied-off, snip or burn your tail thread.



This addition is the brainstorm of my friend, Michel Bowersock of <http://www.beadybikers.com> :

After the spiral is sewn, she inserted size 15/0 seed beads between the spirals along the spine. (the light beads are connected to the bronze beads of the spiral). This keeps the spirals neat and tidy and highlights the "snake skin" feel.

I hope you've enjoyed this tutorial. If you have any questions or need assistance with this tutorial, please feel free to email me at valoriec@mchsi.com. I check my email daily.

I'd love to see your results! Please feel free to email me a photo of your finished necklace.

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