

'Jacobangle' – A Bracelet in Stuart Right Angle Weave

by Stephney Hornblow

On looking at a 17th-century Beadwork Basket in The Burrell Collection (in Glasgow, Scotland), I was fascinated by the construction of the various leaves and fruit. On closer inspection it turned out that they were two-needle right angle weave using one bead at the top and bottom edge and two beads at either side (see right). To reconstruct the technique, I decided to use a size 8/0 seed bead for the top and bottom and two size 11/0 seed beads for the sides.

A pretty, wearable and indeed historic bracelet was the result.



Photo: Glasgow Museums and The Burrell Collection

Materials

- Nymo, beading needles
- 5g size 8/0 seed beads
- 10g size 11/0 seed beads
- fastening (either beaded or commercial)

Method

- Take 3m of Nymo (or the length required in a pattern) and thread a needle on each end. Thread on six beads and cross threads through the 5th and 6th beads to form a circle with the beads in the centre of the length and positioned North, South, East and West (see fig 1).
- Thread three beads onto one thread and one on the other. Cross the threads through the 'extra' two beads (see fig 2). The beads will continue N, S, E & W. Pull the thread reasonably tight but expect it to show a little.
- Anchor the chain down to a 'pillow' or mat and continue until it is the desired length to fit around the wrist allowing for fastenings. To make the last link thread four beads on the upper thread and cross through the 4th bead to bring the join to the bottom (instead of the side) (see fig 3).
- This technique can be worked in any horizontal or vertical direction. To continue (the next row is worked in the opposite direction to the first one unless the work is turned over). It is a help to be ambidexterous!
- Add five beads on the side-with most thread and cross through the 4th and 5th beads (see fig 4).
- Take the top thread through the bead above on the next link. Put three beads on the other thread and cross through the second and third ones (see-fig-5).
- Continue in this manner to the last link. Keep the work pinned to the 'pillow' as it progresses although it may only need an anchor each side and one-in the centre.
- At the next turn take the top thread through the last S bead and thread on five beads then cross through the 1st and 2nd beads ready to start the next row as before and repeat to the end of the pattern (see fig 6). NB Take care – it is easy to complete one stage at the end of the row instead of the two that are required. Last bit!
- Complete 4 rows in this way.
- Attach a commercial or beaded fastening onto the bracelet. Work in all ends securely.

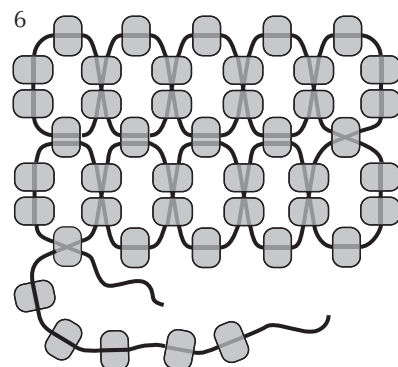
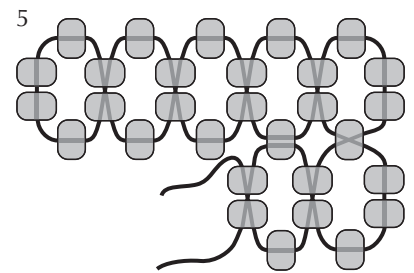
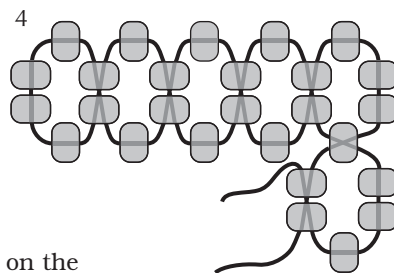
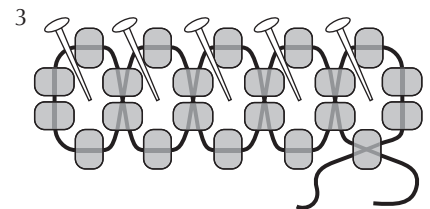
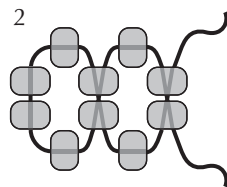
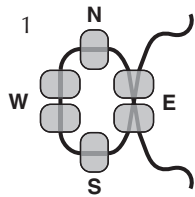


Photo: Carole Morris

Artwork: Graeme Morris

