



Global Beads Inc.

BEADS • CLOTHING • JEWELRY

How Many Beads Do You Need?

GBI Knowledge Center



How Many Beads Do You Need?

Approximate Number of Beads in a 16 Inch Strand								
2MM	3MM	4MM	5MM	6MM	8MM	10MM	12MM	14MM
203	135	102	81	68	51	41	34	29

All of these number are approximate. Of course, when buying beads you may need to purchase more on order to get good matches.

Type/Length	2MM	3MM	4MM	5MM	6MM	8MM	10MM	12MM	14MM	
Bracelet	7"	89	59	44	36	30	22	18	15	13
Choker	16"	203	135	102	81	68	51	41	34	29
Princess	18"	229	152	114	91	76	57	46	38	33
Matinee	20"	254	169	127	102	85	64	51	42	36
	21"	267	178	133	107	89	67	53	44	38
	22"	279	186	140	112	93	70	56	47	40
	23"	292	195	146	117	97	73	58	49	42
	24"	305	203	152	122	102	76	61	51	44
Opera	28"	356	237	178	142	119	89	71	59	51
	29"	368	246	184	147	123	92	74	61	53
	30"	381	254	191	152	127	95	76	64	54
	31"	394	262	197	157	131	98	79	66	56
	32"	406	271	203	163	135	102	81	68	58
Rope	40"	508	339	254	203	169	127	102	85	73
	41"	521	347	260	208	174	130	104	87	74
	42"	533	356	267	213	178	133	107	89	76
	43"	546	364	273	218	182	137	109	91	78
	45"	572	381	286	229	191	143	114	95	82
Lariat	48"+	610	406	305	244	203	152	122	102	87



Glossary of Terms

In the past we have taken many things for granted. For instance, what is a hank? What is a bead? So for all of the people who are just getting started in the whole big, beautiful, colorful world of beading, I dedicate this section to you.

I hope that this helps make a difference.

SEED BEADS	Small glass beads, used for beadwork, usually 2 mm. or less In diameter. They are classified by size and style.
HANK	A bunch of seed beads or bugles consisting of 10 to 14 strands (usually 12), and measuring approximately 12 to 14 in. per strand.
BUGLE	A tubular shaped bead ranging in length from 2-35 mm. (for measurements, see Bugles, pages 21,23).
SEED BEAD SIZES	Sizes are notated by X/0, X being the variable number. The higher the number the smaller the bead. The following are approximations: One-Inch Lengths of Seed & Pony Beads by Size 6/0's (pony) contain 11 beads per inch. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9/0's contain 15 beads per inch.• 10/0's contain 17 beads per inch.• 11/0's contain 19 beads per inch.• 12/0's contain 21 beads per inch.• 13/0's contain 23 beads per inch.• 14/0's contain 25 beads per inch.

Measurements

g.	gr., gram, 28 grams to an ounce.
gr.	gross, 12 dozen, 144 pieces.
oz.	ounce, 28.3 grams.
mass	100 dozen, 1200 pieces.
tubes	Beads in our tubes weigh 20-28 grams.

Classification of Bead Styles

Ceylon	A pearl- like finish.
Charlotte	Also known as one cuts. Occasional facets, usually a 13/0 bead, used in many higher quality Indian bead work pieces. This type of bead is in very high demand, and colors only come in sporadically.
Crystal	Glass made with lead to provide a high refractive quality.
Fire Polish	Facetted glass (usually round), that have been heat treated to give very clean, glossy surfaces. F.P. sometimes has an A.B. finish on half the piece.
Iridescent, A.B. (Aurora Borealis)	A rainbow effect, usually transparent.
Iris	Usually a dark color (almost Black) with tinting of the color mentioned. It appears to look like a drop of oil spilled in water. e.g.- Blue iris is Black with Blue rainbow effect, but solid in color.
Lined	Clear on the outside, color on the inside.
Luster	A rich, shiny, semi-transparent effect, very high gloss.
Opalescent	An opal-like effect in translucent materials, or waxy looking finish.
Opaque	Solid in color, allows no light to pass through.
Rocaille	Silver lined, usually size 11/0 or 10/0, round bead with square hole.
Satin Glass	Shimmering translucent glass that appears to consist of fibers of different tones of the same color.
Scarabee	Rich, opaque Iris (rainbow) coating, usually over a whole jet glass bead.
S/L	Silver lined, a mirrored effect coming out from the center of the bead, metallic looking.
Striated	Swirls and streaks of other tones or colors within the body of the bead.
Transparent	Allows light to pass through, clear or colored.
2X	Two cut, cut at the top and bottom, body of bead round, like very small bugle (approximately 2 mm or less).
3X	Three cut, barrel facetted all around the sides to create a very shiny and luster look.
White Heart	A bead made of two layers the inside of which is White.
XL	Extra long bugles, 20 to 35 mm.