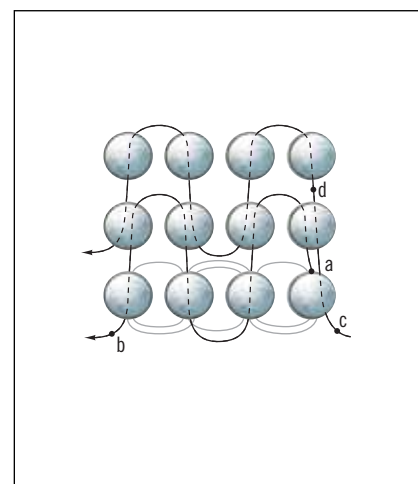
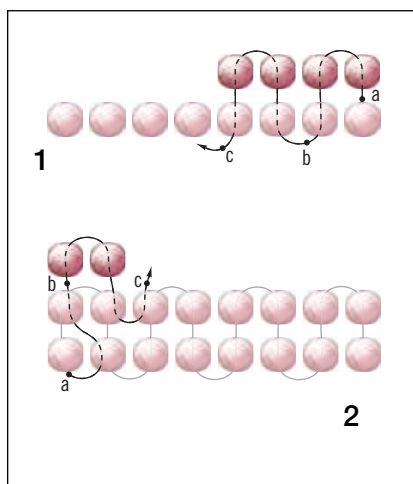
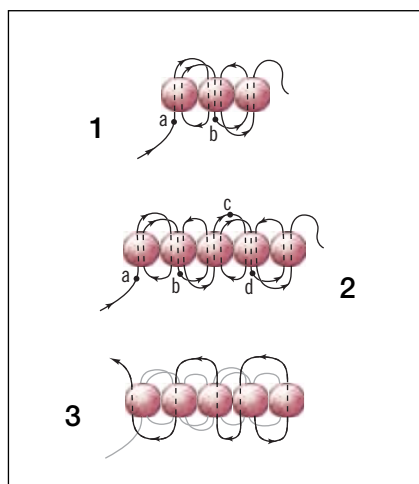


Ndebele Herringbone Basics



Ladder

1 A ladder of seed or bugle beads is often used to begin Ndebele herringbone. To make a ladder, pick up two beads, leaving a 4-in. (10cm) tail. Go through both beads again in the same direction. Pull the top bead down so the beads are side by side. The thread exits the bottom of the second bead (**a-b**). Pick up a third bead, and go back through the second bead from top to bottom. Come back up the third bead (**b-c**).

2 Pick up a fourth bead. Go through the third bead from bottom to top and the fourth bead from top to bottom (**c-d**). Continue adding beads until you reach the desired length.

3 To stabilize the ladder, zigzag back through it.

Flat Ndebele herringbone

Start with an even number of beads stitched into a ladder. Turn the ladder, if necessary, so your thread exits the end bead pointing up.

1 Pick up two beads, and go down through the next bead on the ladder (**a-b**). Come up through the third bead on the ladder, pick up two beads, and go down through the fourth bead (**b-c**). Repeat across the ladder.

2 To turn, come back up through the second-to-last bead, and continue through the last bead added in the previous row (**a-b**). Pick up two beads, go down through the next bead in that row, and come up through the next bead (**b-c**). Repeat across the row.

Tubular Ndebele herringbone

To work tubular Ndebele herringbone, you can start with either a ring or a ladder. To start with a ring, pick up the desired number of beads, and tie the tail and working thread together to form a circle.

To start with a ladder, use an even number of beads, and stitch the first bead to the last bead to form a ring.

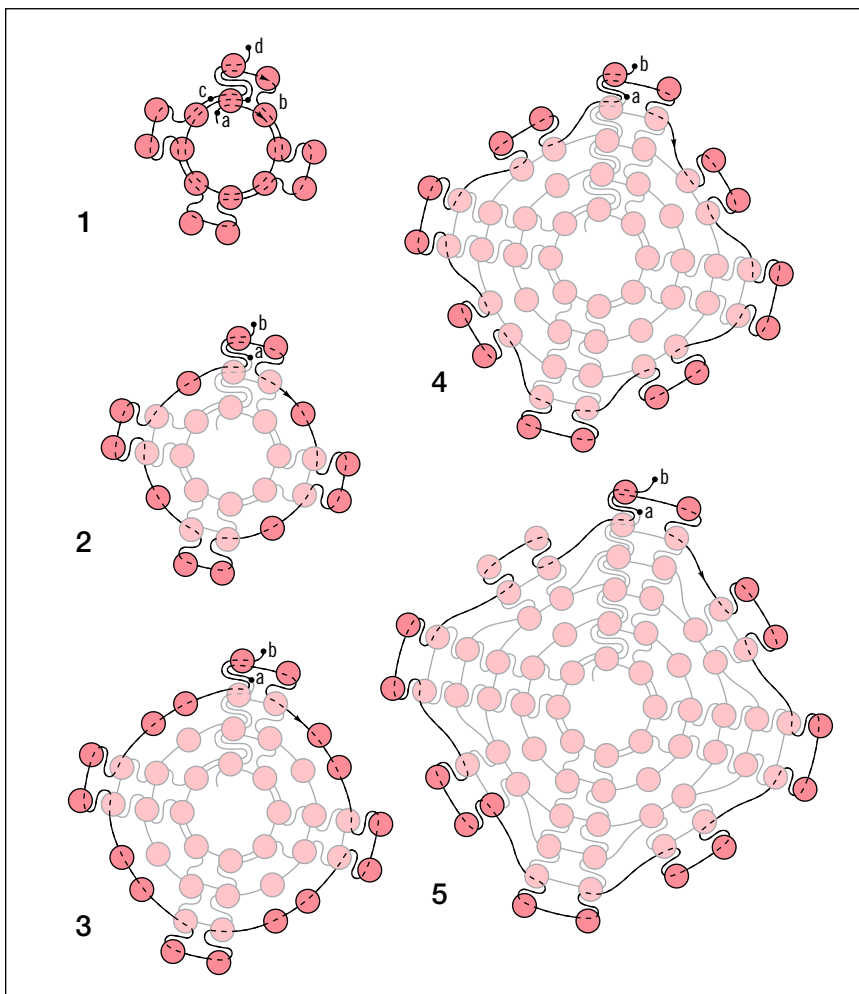
Pick up two beads, and go through the next bead on the previous row (the ladder). Come up through the next bead, and repeat. There will be two stitches when you've gone down through the fourth bead (**a-b**).

You need to work a step-up to be in position to start the next row. To do this, come up through the bead next to the one your needle is exiting and the first bead of the first stitch in the row above (**c-d**).

Continue adding two beads per stitch and stepping up at the end of each round.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The term *Ndebele herringbone* is synonymous with both *Ndebele* and *herringbone*.



Increasing in tubular Ndebele herringbone

Since Ndebele herringbone is usually worked with an even number of beads, increases are made between pairs of beads.

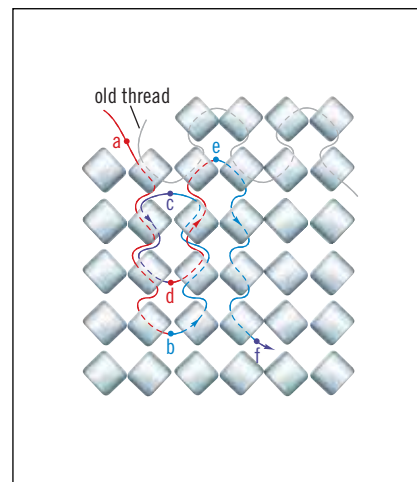
1 Work the number of rounds indicated before the increase. The illustration shows an eight-bead ring (a-b), one round (b-c), and a step up (c-d).

2 In the first increase round, pick up single beads between pairs, as indicated in the pattern, and complete the round (a-b). You will not stitch through these single beads again.

3 In the next round, pick up two beads above every single bead added between pairs in the previous round (a-b).

4 In the next round, go through the two beads added as a base for the increase columns (a-b).

5 In subsequent rounds, work all the beads in tubular Ndebele herringbone (a-b). The increase rows may initially seem shorter than the other rounds but will catch up as you work additional rounds.



Ending and adding thread

To add a new thread, thread a needle on the end you cut from the spool. Insert the needle in the bead where the old thread exits, and go down four beads (a-b). Go up three beads in the adjacent stack (b-c). Go down two beads in the first stack (c-d). Go up three beads in the second stack (d-e). Go down four to six beads in the third stack (e-f). Trim the short tail off and thread the needle on the long end. To end a thread, follow a similar path to the one you used to add the new thread, working in the opposite direction.