



VOL 2025, ISSUE 6

2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

JUN 28 – Polymer Clay SIG
JUL 12 – De-Stash
JUL 26 - Polymer Clay SIG
AUG 2 – 2025 Challenge 2, Bead In
AUG 9-10 - Zoom Workshops with Shona Bevan
SEP 6 – Bead In; Polymer Clay Workshop with Tammi Williams (afternoon)
OCT 4 – Bead In
OCT 11 – Polymer Clay Workshop with Randee Ketzell
OCT 18 – RMBS Trunk Show
NOV 1 – 2025 Challenge 3, Bead In
DEC 6 – Holiday Luncheon

THERE IS NO MEETING IN JULY THE DE-STASH IS JULY 12

We ask that members not bring any pieces for the UFO Challenge or Show and Tell in July due to the De-Stash.

DE-STASH – JULY 12

The De-Stash returns on Saturday, July 12. This is an opportunity for members to go through their stash and select those crafting and art supplies that they may no longer be able to use and find someone who can. From June 9 through June 20, members will be able to register for one table only on a first come, first serve basis. After June 20, if any tables remain, members who have already registered for one table can register for additional tables. A few tables are still available if you would like to be a seller. The RMBS will also have two tables with items for sale from the RMBS and former polymer clay guild stash. One additional table will be available for members to sit and visit.

POLYMER CLAY SIG – JUNE 28

The Polymer Clay Special Interest Group (SIG) will be holding its next Zoom meeting on Saturday, June 28th from 10:00 a.m. until noon. If you would like to participate in this or future Zoom meetings held the fourth Saturday of every month, please reach out to Bertha Adamson

at mhpcg@rockybeads.org to be added to the email list for notices and other information about the Zoom meetings.

SAMPLER – 6/6, 6/7 AND 6/8

The Sampler was a great success this year. We had ten instructors offering 17 classes over the three days. 36 members participated in the classes. We had one member who took six classes (one each session) and several members took four or more classes! **Thank you to all who made the Sampler a success and a special thank you to Tracy D'Angelo for her efforts in coordinating the event.** If you think you might have a project or technique you'd like to teach at next year's Sampler, put on your thinking cap now! Any technique is welcome – we had five bead embroidery classes, two wire weaving classes, three bead weaving classes, one macrame class, three polymer clay classes, one kumihimo class and two bead stringing classes for this year's Sampler. Photos from the Sampler and a few completed class projects can be found at the end of this newsletter before the Workshops page.

AUGUST MEETING (8/2) - ANIMAL KINGDOM MINI CHALLENGE

This will be our first regular meeting after the Sampler and De-Stash. Have you been working on your piece for our next Mini Challenge? As announced at the May meeting, your piece needs to reflect the Animal Kingdom. **All pieces for this**

www.rockybeads.org

Challenge must be finished between May and August 2, when all entries will be displayed at the meeting and members will again vote for their favorite. The winner will receive \$25. As with our SpringTime Challenge, members can make the piece of their choice using any medium(s). It can be a piece of jewelry, 3D object, box . . . whatever you would like but it must represent the theme of Animal Kingdom.

We will also have a bead-in and an opportunity for members to learn or refresh their knowledge of cubic right angle weave (CRAW) in anticipation of Shona Bevans class, Serpentine Pendant, on August 9. You can also find some great videos on YouTube for learning CRAW, including the following:

Jill Wiseman – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBPGxnzdROg>

Heather Collin - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1IboqsQSy4>

Jo Barclay Loggie - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzCzjUcreVo>

Eureka Crystal Beads - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJ7359scb-s>

If you are not a visual learner, written instructions for CRAW, can be found here:

The Beadworkers Guild – Tutorial attached at end of newsletter

Artbeads.com - <https://artbeads.com/design-studio/cubic-right-angle-weave-how-to/?srsltid=AfmBOopL6aNWJ8FQoFwfGvyjdTeDyoSW-bWKIq2ZR8b2ohKh5XyTAWd>

You may also find other tutorials available on the internet by searching for “cubic right angle weave (or CRAW) beading tutorial.”

2025 PROGRAMS SCHEDULE

Shona Bevan will be teaching workshops by Zoom on August 9 and 10. The workshops with Shona Bevan, a London-based bead designer, will be held by Zoom. Members will have the option to join as a group and Zoom at the Lowry Conference Center or can Zoom from home. Shona will be teaching two full-day workshops on August 9 and 10. Members have to register to participate in Shona’s workshops. **Registration closes June 21** so that Shona will be able to find out which colorway members would like for her kits and get them shipped so the kits will be received in time for the Zoom classes.

PLEASE NOTE: For Shona’s Serpentine Pendant, she recommends that students should be very familiar with CRAW. For anyone interested in taking this class that is not familiar or comfortable with CRAW, we will have an opportunity for members to learn CRAW prior to the Zoom class. We will also have members in attendance at the workshop that will be able to help you if you have any problems or questions. **Don’t let your inexperience with CRAW keep you from registering as we can help you through it.**

If you were lucky enough to take Tammi Williams Kitty Cat Ornament class at the Sampler, Tammi will be teaching an “owl” class following the regular meeting on September 6 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. If you are nervous about polymer clay because you think it's a long process, Tammi does ALL the prep work for you. She has each kit set up with every single piece of clay, pre-cut into correct colors and sizes. You just have to knead them into the right shape and apply. Easy, peasy! This project would be adorable holiday gifts for anyone who loves whimsical owls! More information on Tammi’s class is forthcoming.





For anyone excited to learn more about polymer clay, we will have a workshop with Randee Ketzel Saturday, October 11, 2025, on making Faux Cinnabar. Faux Cinnabar is an accessible sculpting technique that can be applied to a variety of colors—and requires very little in the way of supplies. Even newbies produce astounding results. Randee is a polymer clay artist from Austin, Texas, and has co-authored a book with Kim Schlinke titled *Polymer Clay Gemstones: The Art of Deception*. This will be a hybrid session with Randee being present in person and some



students participating through Zoom. Registration for Randee’s class will open on July 13 for members only through August 1, with registration for both members and non-members closing on August 31. Class fee will be \$50 for members and \$70 for non-members. Registrants will get a supply list to fill on their own or have the option to purchase a kit from RMBS (price to be determined).

ROCKY MOUNTAIN JEWELRY ARTS RAFFLE

Don’t forget that many of the sponsors for the raffle also offered discount codes for participants who purchased tickets. These discount codes were included in the email you received shortly after noon on April 5. This was the email that told you if you won or didn’t win any prizes. Several of these discount codes expire at June 30, 2025, so please take advantage of these discounts before they expire. Your purchase shows our gratitude to these companies for sponsoring our raffle, and using the coupon codes shows them that marketing via our raffle WORKS! A complete vendor list can be found at <https://rockybeads.org/rmjaraffle/>.

WHOLE BEAD SHOW

The Whole Bead Show will be returning to Denver September 12 and 13 and will be held at the Lowry Conference Center. Hours will be Friday, September 12, from 1:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This event is not an RMBS-sponsored event but we will host a table with volunteers to promote the RMBS and membership.

KING SOOPERS COMMUNITY REWARDS

RMBS receives donations quarterly through the King Soopers Community Rewards program based upon amounts spent at King Soopers by registered participants – you don’t have to do anything other than sign up! If you haven’t signed up, instructions are here: <https://rockybeads.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/FREE-MONEY-FOR-RMBS-1.pdf>.

HOW TO CONTACT 2025 BOARD MEMBERS, OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OTHER

If you need to reach out to a board member, officer or committee chair with any questions or additional information, please go to our website: www.rockybeads.org. You will need to login to your account and then click on “About Us” and “Board Members” for email contacts.

SAMPLER 2025!!



Kristina Amato – Dream Catcher taught by Rita Caldwell



Betty Stackpole – Blooming Earrings taught by Jeannette Stutzman



Having spent the last 3 days with members at the RMBS sampler, I came home exhausted and exhilarated! The talent and creativity shown and shared was both encouraging and humbling. Thanks to those who organized and those who shared their skills and knowledge in the class sessions. I am so glad to be a member and to be among a group of talented people who continue to inspire me.

~ Karen Goldman



Jody Charmatz - Silver Elk Earrings taught by Rita Caldwell



I had a wonderful time! The RMBS Sampler was such an incredible experience, and I feel so grateful to have been a part of it. I loved every class and the opportunity to learn from others.

~ Kristina Amato



Clare Pramuk - Pinch Bead Earrings
taught by Jane Albright



Kristina Amato – Elongated Triangle
Earrings taught by Jane Albright



Tracy D'Angelo – Kitty Cat
Ornament taught by
Tammi Williams

I did 2 days, which wore me out but in the good way! Thank you for all our members who were willing to share their talents with some of us who haven't mastered that skill. I love the Bead Sampler!!

-Betty Stackpole



Kristina Amato - Leather, Macrame and Beads
Wrap Bracelet taught by Jeannette Stutzman



So much creativity in one place is so good for the soul.

~ Carrie Tahquechi

WORKSHOPS

Saturday, August 9

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Shona Bevan

Serpentine Pendant



Elegant and sophisticated, the Serpentine motif creates a dramatically twisted jewellery set. Featuring large, lustrous pearls wrapped in a carefully curved frame this is a satisfying project to stretch your CRAW skills. When suspended from a slim necklace this striking design makes the perfect classic pendant to wear anytime. Made with smaller beads, the scaled-down version makes stunning earrings that twist delightfully while you wear them.

This project is suitable for intermediate/advanced level beaders who have very strong CRAW skills.

Skill Level: Intermediate to advanced.

Prerequisites: Students should be very familiar with CRAW.

Kits are mandatory and will be purchased from Shona closer to the class date.

Member Class Fee: \$60

Non-Member Class Fee: \$90

Kit Fee: \$55 (Mandatory)

Registration is required and space is limited to 16 students.

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Sunday, August 10

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Shona Bevan

Bonbon Necklace

Almost sweet enough to eat, the Bonbon necklace is fun to make and easy to wear. Two sizes of lightweight cotton pearls are captured with sleek right angle weave (RAW) bezels and linked together with peyote stitched rings to make a relaxed long necklace.

This project is suitable for all levels of beader who have experience of RAW and peyote stitch.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Kits are mandatory and will be ordered from Shona closer to the class date.

Member Class Fee: \$60

Non-Member Class Fee: \$90

Kit Fee: \$65

Registration is required and space is limited to 20 students.

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Registration closes June 21, 2025.

Both workshops will be held through Zoom -- you can choose to Zoom from home or hang with others at the Lowry Conference Center.



Saturday, October 11

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Instructor: Randee Ketzel

Faux Cinnabar

Join Randee Ketzel and learn how to create faux cinnabar objects using polymer clay. Faux Cinnabar is an accessible sculpting technique that can be applied to a variety of colors—and requires very little in the way of supplies. Even newbies produce astounding results. Randee is a polymer clay artist from Austin, Texas, and has co-authored a book with Kim Schlinke titled *Polymer Clay Gemstones: The Art of Deception*. Photos below are illustrative only and not the actual class project.

This project is suitable for all skill levels.

Registrants will get a supply list to fill on your own or have the option to purchase a kit from RMBS (price to be determined).



Member Class Fee: \$50

Non-Member Class Fee: \$70

Kit Fee: Registrants will get a supply list to fill on their own or have the option to purchase a kit from RMBS (price to be determined)

Registration is required.

Registration for this Workshop will open on July 13, 2025 for members, August 2 for non-members and close August 31, 2025.

This workshop will be held in person at the Lowry Conference Center as well as through Zoom -- you can choose to Zoom from home if you can't make it to the Lowry Conference Center.

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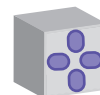


Basic Stitch Instructions

Cubic Right Angle Weave (CRAW)

Cubic Right Angle Weave (CRAW) is a variation of Right Angle Weave (RAW) and creates three-dimensional cube structures with a flexibility similar to RAW. Depending on your tension these can be self-supporting or may need an armature to help provide stability.

The basic stitch is still made up of sets of four beads but rather than being on a flat plane you are building up cubes with a count of four beads on each of the six faces of the cube.

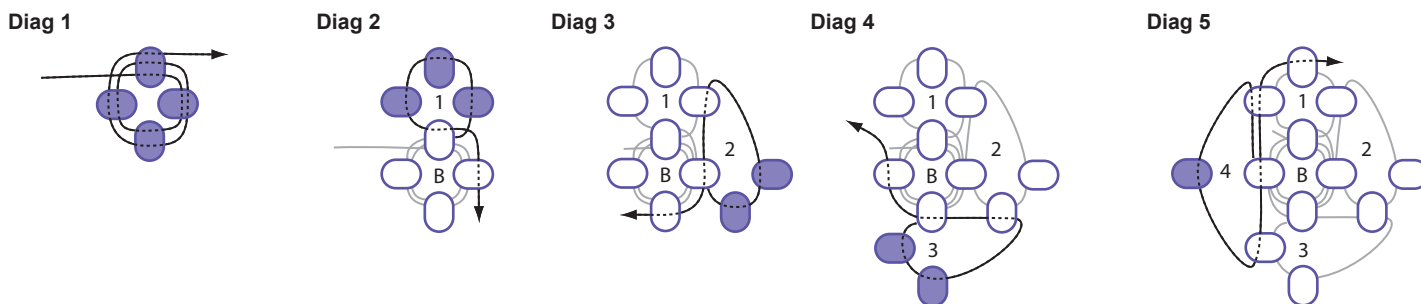


Mastering CRAW is not easy for some and even more difficult to describe and illustrate because of its three-dimensional character. Here we give basic instructions to help you master this stitch, but please be aware that there are a number of ways of approaching this stitch and this is just one of them.

Note: for the purposes of these instructions, each set of four beads is described as a unit, the base of each cube is a base ring, a set of six units is a cube and several cubes joined together are a row.

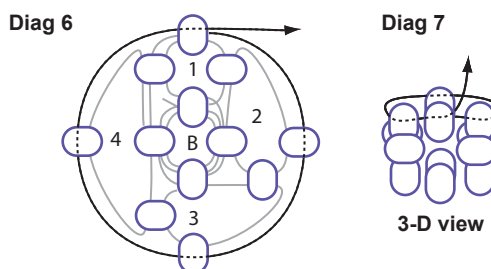
A single cube

1. Pick up four beads, thread through all four beads plus the first bead again to make a secure ring of four beads (this is the base ring of the cube). (Diag 1)
2. Pick up three beads, thread back through the bead your thread is exiting and through the next bead in the base ring. (Diag 2)
3. Pick up two beads, thread down through the side bead in the previous unit, through the bead your thread was exiting and through the next bead in the base ring. Repeat this step once more. (Diags 3 & 4)
4. To finish the last unit thread up through the side bead in the first side unit, pick up one bead and thread down through the side bead in the last unit. Thread back through the base bead, the side bead in the first side unit and the bead just picked up to exit at the top of the cube. (Diag 5)



5. To complete the cube thread through all of the top beads in each unit. (Diags 6 & 7)

Note: the sequence for picking up beads in the first cube is: four for the base unit; three for the first side unit; two for the second and third side units, one for the fourth side unit and none for the top unit (which is just threading through the top four beads to close the cube).



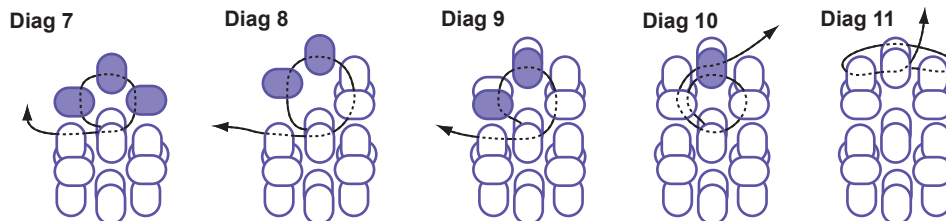


Basic Stitch Instructions

Cubic Right Angle Weave (CRAW)

A row of cubes

To add subsequent cubes use the four top beads of the last cube as the new base ring and repeat Steps 2 to 5 to complete another cube. (Diags 8, 9, 10 & 11)

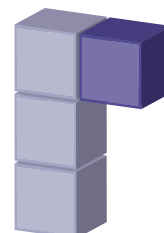


Note: the sequence for picking up beads for all subsequent cubes is (remember that the base beads are already in place): three for the first side unit, two for the second and third side units, one for the fourth side unit and none for the top unit.

Adding a cube at right angles

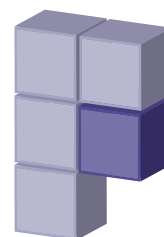
Geometric frames of CRAW can be worked in this way by changing the direction of work.

In the first row of cubes the top four beads provided the new base ring for the next cube, when adding a cube at right angles the four beads on the side of the previous cube are used as the base ring for the next cube. Therefore with the thread exiting a side bead in the previous cube repeat Steps 2 to 5 to make the next cube at a right angle.



Adding a second row of CRAW

This is where CRAW becomes a little trickier to explain and illustrate but in essence the stitch is exactly the same as before. Having changed the direction of work by adding a cube at right angles, the next cube in the row needs to use the side beads in the first row as the base ring but will also share the beads of one unit in the cube just added. Therefore only three side units need to be added to make another complete cube.



Weave through the work to exit a side bead in the next first row cube and repeat Steps 3 to 5 to complete the next cube (remembering that the first side unit is already in place from the cube just added).

CRAW layers

Once the desired number of CRAW rows have been made these can be built on to create more layers of rows by using the surface units of four beads as the base rings for the new cubes.

In conclusion CRAW is based on just the five steps at the start of these instructions but the number of sides you need to add will depend on how many cubes are sitting next to the one you are working.

