

# Russian Hearts Choker with seed beads

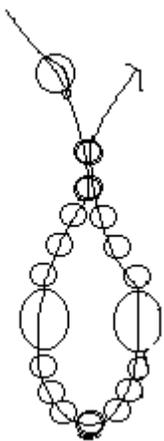
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This pattern was adapted from a photo in a Russian beadwork book

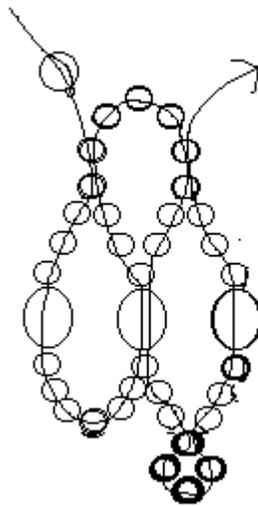


Supplies: Size 11 seed beads, about 25 grams  
Size 4 mm firepolished crystals, about 65 for a 17" choker, more if you want it longer.  
Needles and thread.  
Clasp (I used a toggle clasp in these directions)

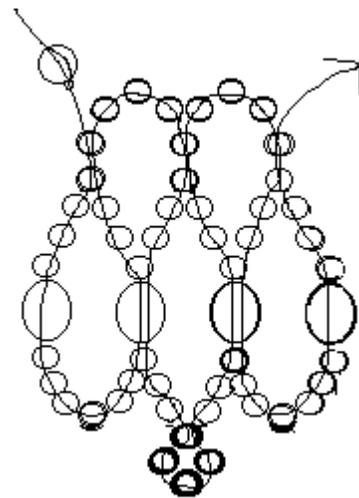
To begin, cut about a 2 yard length of thread, and thread the needle. Pick up one small bead, move it to about 7 inches from the end of the thread, and sew through it again. This will help hold the beads in place



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3

Follow the thread path on the drawings, this is easier than following written directions.

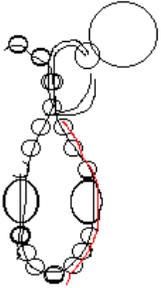
Step 1: Pick up 5 seed beads, one crystal, 7 seed beads, one crystal, and 3 more seed beads. sew through the first 2 seed beads, as in the diagram

Step 2: It is easier to follow the thread path as shown. Be sure to keep the beads snug, not too loose, but not so tight that the work puckers.

Step 3: Is the same as step 2 without the loop at the bottom. Repeat steps 2 and step 3 until you have the necklace length that you want. Finish with a step 3.

TO ADD THREAD: When you have about 5” of thread remaining, do not remove the needle. Tie a new length of thread around the old thread close to the beadwork. Then weave the old thread, still on the needle, through the bead work in a zigzag pattern following the old thread path to secure, then cut the end. Thread the new length of thread, and continue beading. At some point, go back and weave in the beginning end of the new thread.

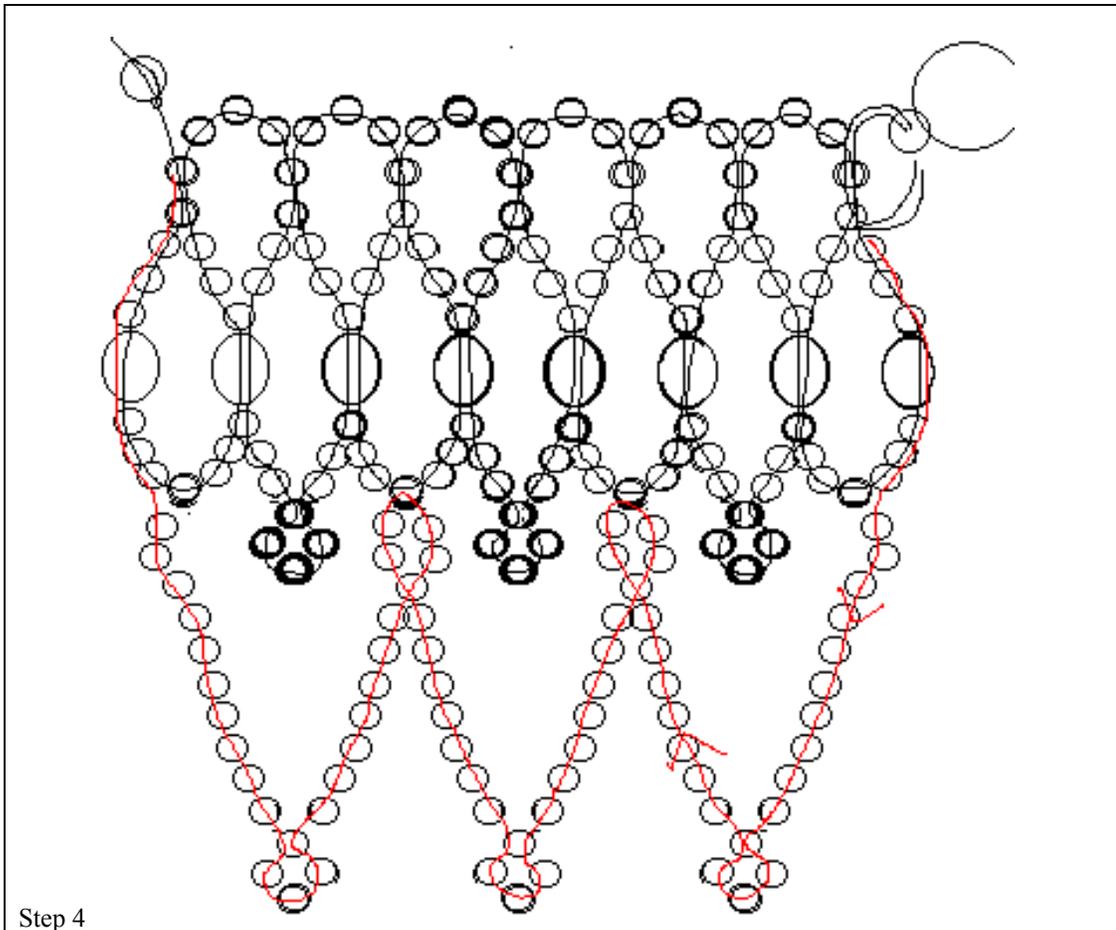
Before you continue to the second part of the necklace, add one half of the clasp to the end where you are now.



#### Adding Clasp:

Sew through the ring of the clasp, and through the 2 beads as many times as possible. If the beadwork seems loose, circle around, and sew through some of the other bead paths to strengthen.

The red line shows the thread path to continue with the second part of your necklace.



The red line shows the thread path for the last part of the necklace.

Work this pattern across the complete length of the necklace.

Step 4

When you reach the beginning, sew up towards the first beads you started with, remove the “stop bead” and add the second part of the clasp. For a toggle clasp, on the bar end of the toggle clasp, you will have to add a few beads to make a shank . (Or the end won’t go through the ring)

You may want to sew back through all of the beads along the top line of the choker, to strengthen, don't pull too tight.

Enjoy your new necklace!

Alternative designs:

Use the same pattern, but with a bugle bead in place of the crystals.

or use a teardrop shaped bead at the bottom of each heart point.

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