



SUPERDUO DUETS MANDALA NECKLACE BY LESLIE ROGALSKI

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Mandalas are circular forms which represent a sense of universal wholeness. In this tutorial for advanced beginners and up, work with two toned Superduos Duets™ and other beads in circular peyote stitch and flat, right angle weave to create and link together these meditative components. Find serenity in the step by step photos and detailed instructions which guide you through the creation of a complete necklace.

MATERIALS for 18-inch (46cm) length plus pendant

8g Color A SuperDuo (lighter color)
30g Color B SuperDuo (darker color)
10g SuperDuo Duets™
10g size 8/0 seed beads
2 soldered closed jump rings
2 open jump rings

2 wire guards
1 lobster clasp
Beading thread Fireline™ 6-lb, color to best blend with beadwork
Size 10 beading needles
Scissors or thread zap

TECHNIQUES: circular peyote, flat right angle weave, ending and adding thread

SKILL LEVEL: Advanced beginner

IMPORTANT:

--Always make sure both holes are clear before using any two-holed beads!

--Check Duets and cull those which may have blurred edges where the two tones meet. Save them for a piece with a front and back so the more perfect side can be featured!



Step 1

LARGE PENDANT MANDALA

Make 1

1. On a 30-inch (76 cm) piece of thread string 10 SuperDuo color A and knot in a ring. Pass through one SuperDuo after the knot and then reverse direction through the open hole of the SuperDuo just exited.

String the tail on another needle, weave in and trim.

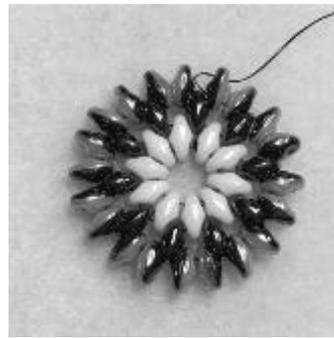


Step 2

2. String one SuperDuo color B between each SuperDuo in the ring. Sew in the reverse direction through the open hole of the last SuperDuo added.



Step 3



Step 4

3. Noting the direction of colors—in this case with the lighter color sides facing each other—string two Duets between each SuperDuo color B just added.

4. Exit through the first Duet added. Reverse direction and sew through the open Duet hole.



5. String one 8/0 and sew through the next Duet. String one SuperDuo color B and sew through the next Duet. The 8/0 should sit between the two lighter color sides of the Duets.

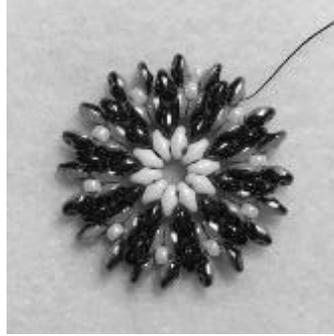
6. Repeat around the mandala alternating 8/0s and SuperDuos. Exit through the first 8/0 added.

Step 5



Step 7

Step 6



Step 8

7. String one Duet—note color direction, the darker side faces the SuperDuos—and sew through the stitched hole of SuperDuos. String another Duet—note the color direction with dark color facing the SuperDuos. Sew through the next 8/0.

8. Add Duets around the mandala. Exit a Duet next to an 8/0 with your thread coming out above the 8/0.



Steps 9 and 10

9. String an 8/0. Sew through the stitched inner hole of the next Duet, the outer hole of the SuperDuo, and the stitched inner hole of the next Duet.

10. Add an 8/0 over each existing 8/0. Sew through the stitched inner hole of the next Duet, the outer hole of the SuperDuo, and the stitched inner hole of the next Duet. Reverse direction and sew through the open hole of the Duet. Set this mandala aside, leaving the working thread long.



MEDIUM MANDALAS: DARK CENTER. Make 3

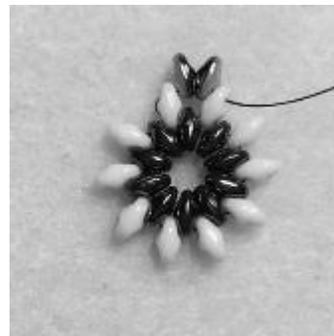
11. On a 20-inch (51 cm) piece of thread string ten SuperDuo color B and knot in a ring. Pass through one SuperDuo after the knot and then reverse direction through the open hole of the SuperDuo just exited.

String the tail on another needle, weave in and trim.

Step 11



Step 12



Step 13

12. String one SuperDuo color A between each SuperDuo color B in the ring. Sew in the reverse direction through the open hole of the last SuperDuo added.

13. String two Duets with the darker color B sides facing together between each SuperDuos color A around the ring.



Step 14



Step 15

14. Exit to be between the first pair of Duets strung, and reverse direction through a Duet.

15. String an 8/0 and sew through the next Duet. The 8/0 should sit above the SuperDuo color A from the previous round. String a SuperDuo color B and sew through the next Duet. The Superduo color B should sit between two Duets.



Step 16

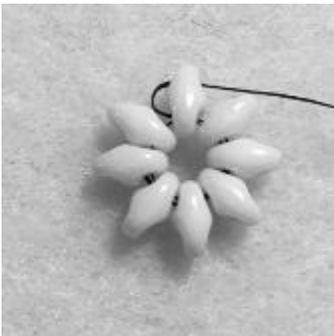


Step 17

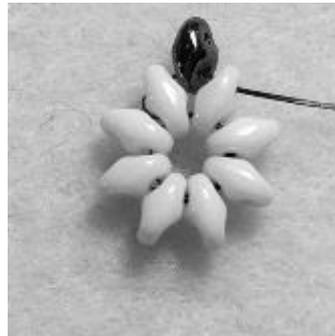
16. Alternate adding 8/0s and SuperDuo color B between pairs of Duets around the ring. Sew through a few beads and exit one of the SuperDuo color B strung this step.

17. End the working thread: Make a half hitch knot around an existing thread. Sew through a few beads and make another half hitch knot. Repeat a third time, weave in the remaining thread and trim.

SMALL MANDALAS. Make 4



Step 18



Step 19

18. On a 20-inch (50cm) piece of thread string eight SuperDuo color A and knot in a ring. String the tail on another needle, weave in and trim. Sew through a few beads and reverse direction to exit the open hole of a SuperDuo.

19. String one SuperDuo color B and sew through the next SuperDuo.

Remember to check all holes to make sure they're clear!



Step 20



Step 21

20. Repeat to add SuperDuo color B around the ring. Sew through the first SuperDuo just added, reverse direction, and exit through the open SuperDuo hole.

21. String an 8/0, a SuperDuo color B and an 8/0. Sew through the next SuperDuo. Repeat around the ring. Sew through the last round again.



Step 22

22. End the working thread: Make a half hitch knot around an existing thread. Sew through a few beads and make another half hitch knot. Repeat a third time, weave in the remaining thread and trim.

SMALLEST MANDALAS: Used to connect the larger mandalas. Make 13. (For longer length, add a pair of smallest mandalas per desired inch, one mandala on each side.)



Step 23



Step 24

23. On a 12-inch (31cm) piece of thread string eight SuperDuo color B and knot in a ring leaving a 4-inch tail. Sew through a few beads, reverse direction and exit the open hole of a SuperDuo. String the tail on another needle, weave in and trim.

24. String an 8/0 between each SuperDuo. Sew through the first few beads again and leave working thread untrimmed. Set aside. Make 12 more.

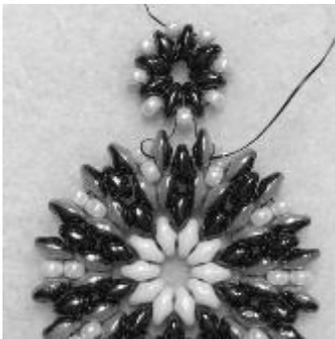
CONNECTING MANDALAS TOGETHER

The largest mandala is connected by one of the smallest mandalas to a medium dark center mandala first, making the “pendant” section. This tutorial then works up one side of the necklace. Those steps are simply mirrored for the other side.



Step 25

25. Select one of the smallest mandalas. Thread a needle on the working thread on the large pendant mandala—this thread should be exiting from a Duet (see Step 9). Sew through an 8/0 bead on the small mandala which is exactly opposite its own remaining working thread. Sew out through the other Duet.



Steps 26 and 27

26. Reverse direction and sew back through the inner hole of the Duet, through the outer hole of the SuperDuo, and through the inner hole of the Duet. Reverse direction to sew through back through the other hole in the Duet and through the small mandala 8/0 bead again.

27. Repeat this thread path a second time, pulling the two mandalas together. Sew once more around the small mandala through all the 8/0s and outer Superduo holes. Weave thread into the pendant mandala to secure, and trim.



Step 28

28. Thread a needle on the working thread of the small mandala just linked to the pendant mandala. Working in right angle weave, string one 8/0, sew through an open hole of any outermost SuperDuo in the medium mandala with dark center ring. String another 8/0 and sew through the 8/0 exited in the small mandala.



Step 29

29. Repeat this a few times to secure; exit the SuperDuo in the medium mandala. Reverse direction and weave the thread in to the medium mandala to secure.



Step 30

30. Make a half hitch knot in a discreet place and weave in more thread. Trim.

Note: Do NOT use a small mandala as a connector for the next few steps.



Steps 31 and 32

31. Thread a needle on a new 30-inch (76cm) piece of thread. Secure it in the dark centered mandala to exit one SuperDuo on either side of the center SuperDuo opposite the connection to the large mandala. Reverse direction to sew through the SuperDuo's open hole.

32. Choose a light centered medium mandala and align one of its outer SuperDuos to the SuperDuo being exited in the dark center mandala. Work in flat right angle weave using 8/0s to connect the two mandalas as done in Step 28.



Step 33

33. **NOTE:** To align the necklace properly, each new mandala should be connected using the SuperDuo directly opposite the one previously connected.

You should have enough working thread left to connect the next three medium sized mandalas without adding new thread. Sew around the new mandala following existing thread paths and be sure not to pierce any existing threads. Exit the SuperDuo opposite where you just connected, reverse direction, and sew through the outer hole of the SuperDuo.



NOTE: The side of the necklace goes off at a slight angle from the pendant. (Images will show things straight on for alignment.)

SMALL MANDALA END SECTION



Steps 34 and 35

34. Use the remaining working thread on the last medium mandala to connect one small mandala. Working in right angle weave, string one 8/0, sew through the 8/0 on the small mandala opposite where its remaining working thread exits. String another 8/0 and sew through the SuperDuo exited in the medium mandala.

35. Repeat around this thread path once more to snug the connection. Weave in the thread around the small mandala, making a discreet half hitch knot to secure the thread, and trim.



Step 36

36. Use the remaining working thread on the newly attached small mandala to work in flat right angle weave to connect another small mandala.

37. Repeat to add a total of six small mandalas.

38. Repeat Steps 31 to 37 to create the other side of the necklace. Make sure to connect to the pendant properly on the other side of the center SuperDuo as in Step 31.

CLOSURE

39. Use a new 14-inch (36cm) length of threads to attach your clasp to each end small mandala. Exit the 8/0 opposite the last connection. String four 8/0s, a wire guard, and a closed jump ring. Nudge the jump ring inside the wire guard, and sew through the other half of the guard and one 8/0.



Steps 40 and 41

40. String three 8/0s and sew in the opposite direction through the 8/0 exited in the mandala. Repeat the thread path through all beads and components twice to reinforce. Weave thread into the mandala to secure and trim. Repeat Steps 39 and 40 for the other side of the necklace.

41. Use an open jump ring to connect the clasp to one closed ring. Attach an open jump ring to the closed ring on the other side of the necklace.