



Instructions for

Decorative

Bead Stars

# Decorative Symbol of Protection: A Hand-Made Decorative Bead Star

**Stars** have been fascinating us for thousands of years. The **star** is regarded as a symbol of protection and as a guide leading through the night. No wonder that we like using it as a 5- or 6-pointed geometric shape for decoration. And now these **handicraft instructions** come into play: Use it to make your very own, personal **decorative wooden bead star!**

We have used **wooden beads with a 15 mm diameter** for making the decorative bead star. The finished star has a diameter (from one of the star tip to the opposite one) of approx. 11 cm. The wooden beads should not be smaller, because the cord passes through them several times. It is also advisable to use a **cord that matches the wooden beads' colours**, as it is visible between them.

Crafting a **decorative wooden bead star** is easy when using these instructions. However, it requires patience and dexterity . Allow about **30 minutes** for the first time.

These **craft instructions** are also a great opportunity to do **handicrafts with children**: How about making several stars as **Christmas tree decorations**? Put on some cheerful Christmas carols, make yourself some tea or children's punch and look forward to a cosy handicraft afternoon with the children. Do you want to try out more DIY projects? Then discover our other **instructions for children's accessories** or **home decoration**. **Schnullerkettenladen** provides you with the required **craft materials**. We wish you lots of fun making your own accessories!

The handicraft material you need for making a decorative bead star:



- approx. 1,5 m cord (PP-polyester cord or satin cord)
- 25 colourful wooden beads (with a diameter of at least 15 mm)
- optional: 2 safety beads

The small tools you need:



scissors



lighter



tweezers

## Let's Get Crafty!

### Step 1: Experimenting With Beads



Crafting a geometric shape like a **5-pointed star with wooden beads** isn't super easy. To get a first feeling for the shape, we recommend first arranging the 25 wooden beads in the desired form.

Especially if you're using **different colours**, as in our example, you should not omit this step.

The easiest way to do this is placing the **inner ring** that consists of 10 beads first. Then add 3 beads for each of the **5 points**.

### Step 2: Stringing the Wooden Beads



Have you decided upon your **decorative bead star's design**? Wonderful! First, lightly melt the cord ends with a lighter and press them flat. This makes stringing the wooden beads easier.

Now string the inner ring's 10 beads and slide them so that only a few centimetres of cord are left.

### Step 3: Making the Inner Ring and the First Basis for a Star Tip



Close the ring by making a tight **double knot** with the shorter cord end. String **2 beads** onto the long cord end. They will be the basis for one of the star tips.

Afterwards, pass the longer cord end through the bead that is positioned **laterally below (diagonally)** the two beads that have just been strung on.

### Step 4: Making the Bases for the Remaining Star Tips



Now proceed as described in step 3 (string 2 beads at a time and pass the cord through the bead that is positioned laterally below them) **all around the inner ring** until you reach the starting point. Tighten the cord properly after each time.

## Step 5: Making the First Star Tip



Now pass the long cord end through one bead of the starting point's basis. Then string another bead onto the cord. This bead is the first **star tip**.

Pass the cord through the other basis's bead, through the inner ring's bead that is positioned laterally below the basis's two beads and also pass it back up through next basis's first bead.

## Step 6: Making the Remaining Star Tips



Add the **remaining star tips** as described in step 5. Tighten the cord properly after each step. After reaching the starting point, make a **single knot** on the previous double knot with the short cord end from the beginning. Shorten the ends of the cord and weld the knot with the lighter.

## Step 7: Adding the Piece of Cord for Hanging Up the Star



Now let's add another piece of cord for making a **loop** with which you'll be able to **hang up the star**. To do this, first melt the cord ends with a lighter so that stringing is easier.

Pass this piece of cord through one the beads that represents a **star tip**.

## Step 8: Making the Loop



Now use the cord to make a **simple knot** that is a few centimetres above the star tip bead. Thus, you've created a loop.

If the visible knot does not bother you, you are now finished. If you want to hide it, continue with steps 9 and 10.

### Step 9: Adding the First Safety Bead



Now string a **safety bead** with its larger opening first. Slide it over the loop's knot. Then use both cord ends to make a **simple knot** on the safety bead.

### Step 10: Finishing the Decorative Wooden Bead Star



String a **second safety bead**, this time with the smaller opening first. Push the bead with some force over the simple knot. The easiest way to do this is to pull one end of the string on each side.

Make a **double knot** and carefully shorten the cord ends with scissors. Fuse the double knot with the flame of a lighter. If necessary, use tweezers to push the knot into the safety bead's larger opening until it is no longer visible.

That's it, great job! Why don't you lift up your hand-made star by the loop and have a look at it. Just hammer a small nail into the wall or add adhesive tape to the door and your **individual wooden bead star** will soon become part of your personal living environment.



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