

PROJECT LEVEL

TECHNIQUES

Brick Stitch

Odd Count Peyote Stitch



DISCLAIMER

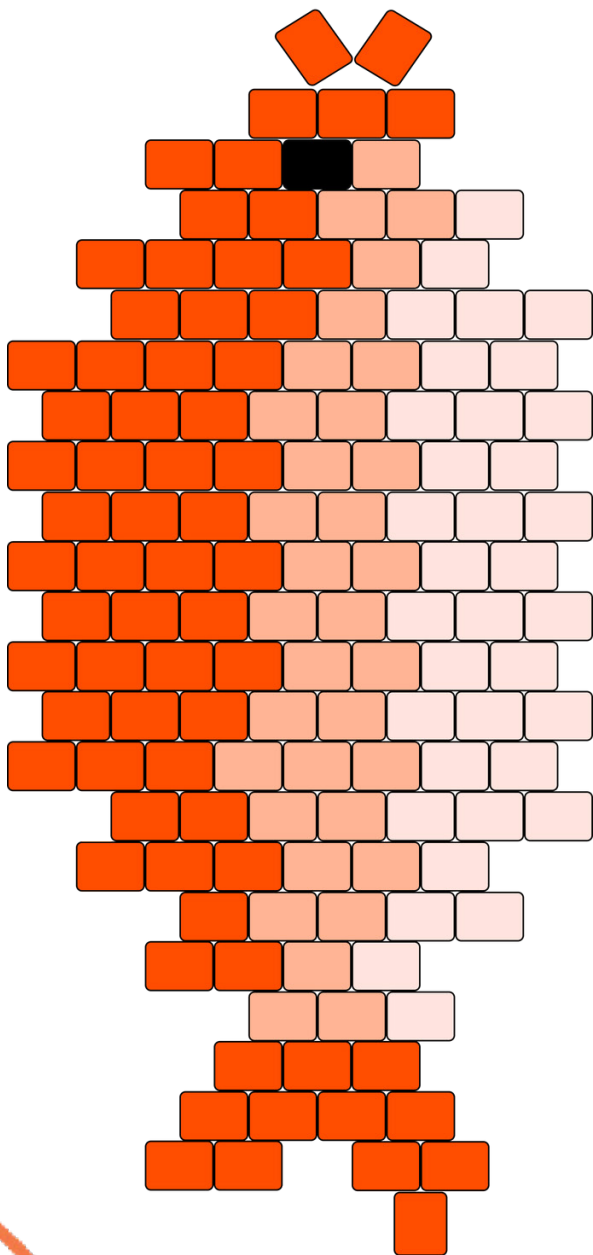
This beading pattern is based on my personal experience and the method that worked best for me.

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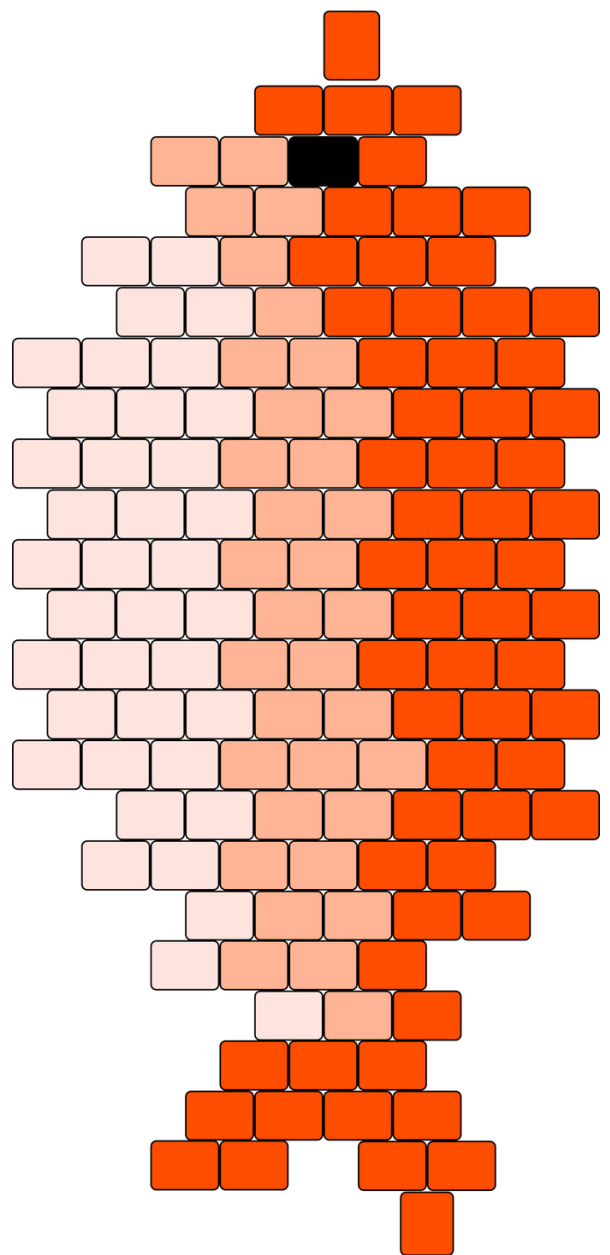


reference diagram

SIDE A



SIDE B



TOOLS

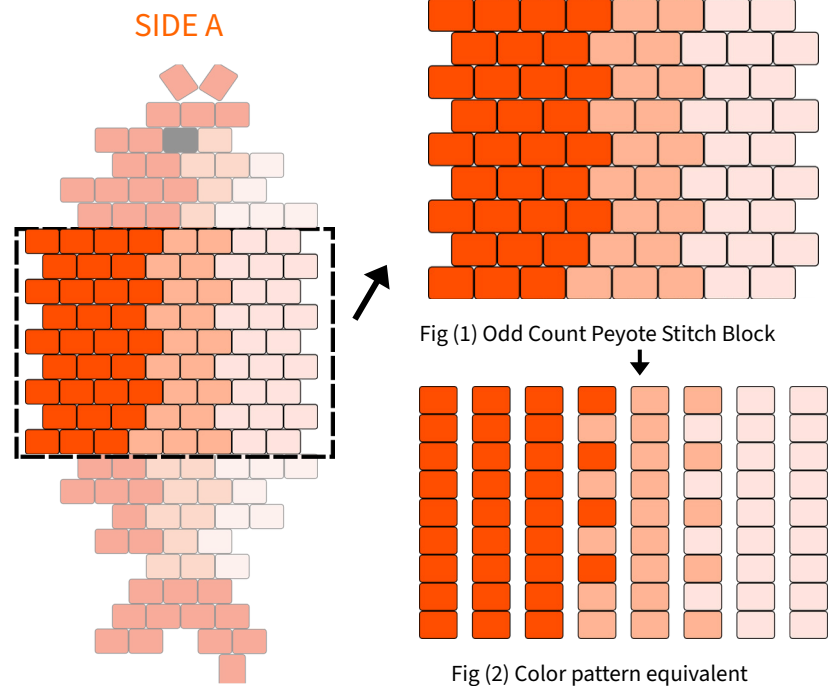
Scissors
Beading needle

MATERIALS

Miyuki Beading Thread - 100% Nylon
11/0 Seed Beads in 3 colors
11/0 Seed Beads in black
A piece of cotton or stuffing material

FINISHED SIZE

~ 3.5 cm



HOW IT WORKS

You'll be first building the two flat sides of the fish (Side A and Side B, diagrams on page 2).

We'll then stitch them while lightly stuffing them to form the 3D shape. Finally we'll add little fins.

SIDE A

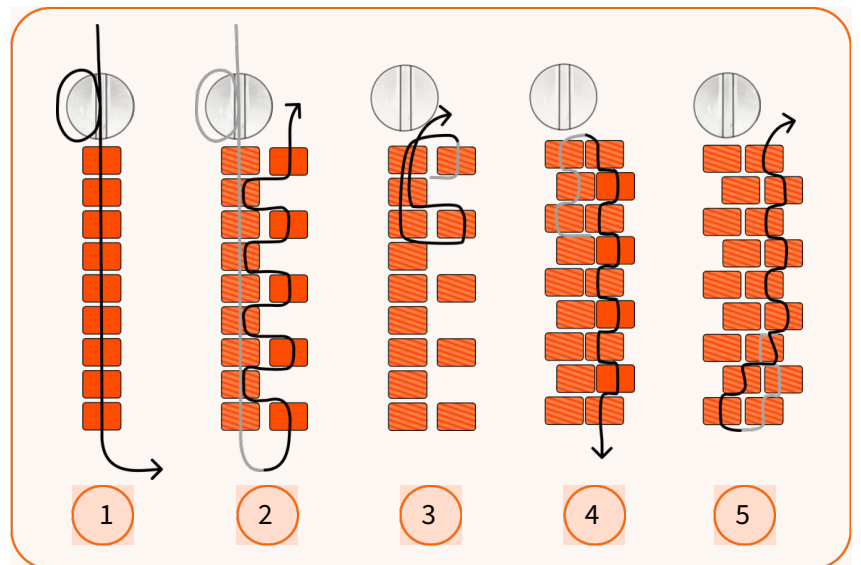
1) Odd Count Peyote Stitch - Base

Cut ~ 1.3 meter of thread. Set up your beading needle.

We'll first be working up a block of flat odd-count peyote stitch with:

- 8 columns
- 9 beads per column (Fig 2)

If you're unfamiliar with the method, follow the steps shown on the right and refer to the diagrams for color placement.



Step 1

String 1 large or different-colored bead, leaving a 15 cm tail. Pass back through that bead once or twice to keep it in place as a stopper. Next, string 9 seed beads.

Step 2

Alternate between adding 1 bead and passing through the next bead from the first column.

Step 3

Make a turn with your thread (without adding beads) by passing through nearby beads until you exit from the top-left bead.

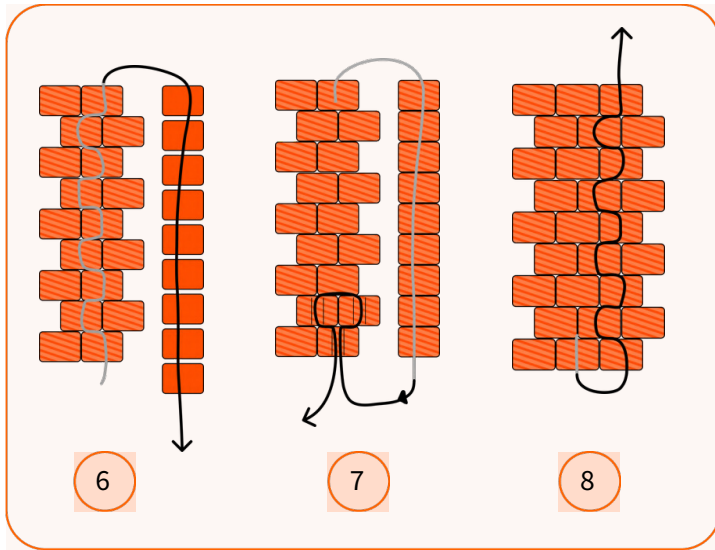
Step 4

Pass through the last bead of the second column. Then repeat: add 1 bead → pass through the next bead from the previous round, until the second column is all completed.

Step 5

Pass your needle back through the beads to exit from the top-right corner bead.

We'll now using the Zipping method for the Odd Count Peyote Stitch in order to make the next 6 columns. If it's your first time, the diagrams below will help!

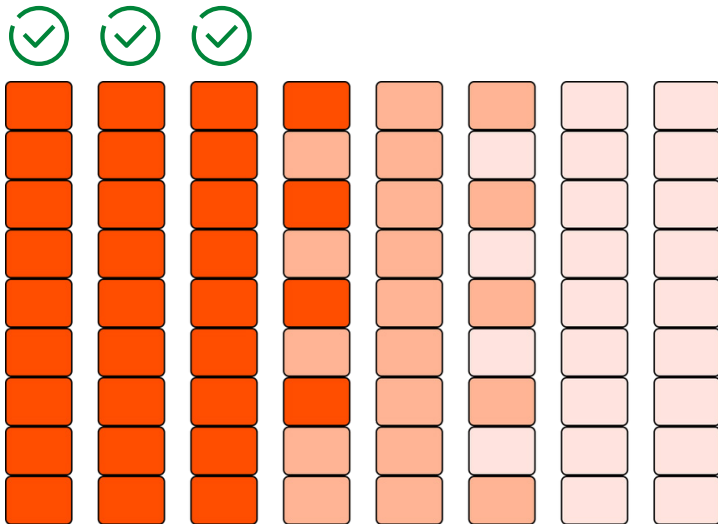


Step 6
String 9 beads.

Step 7
Make a simple turnaround at the end of the previous columns.

Step 8
Pass your needle back through the new beads the beads to exit from the top-right corner bead.

At this point, the first three columns are completed. Remove the stopper bead.

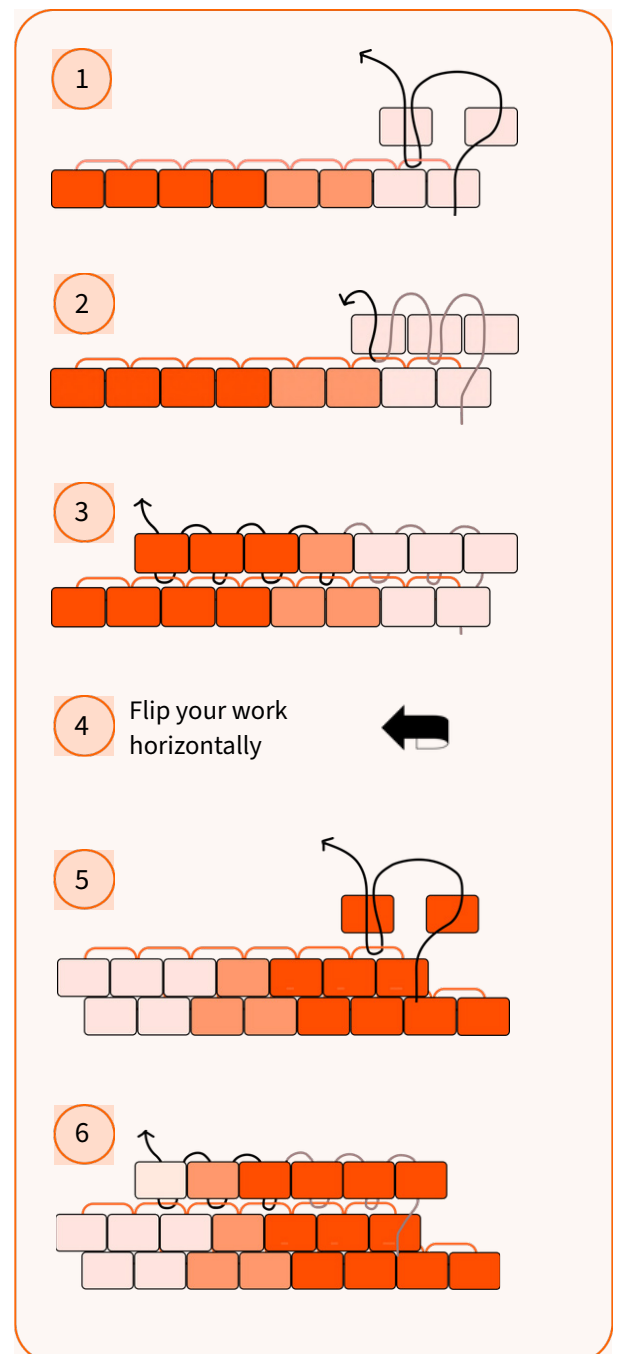
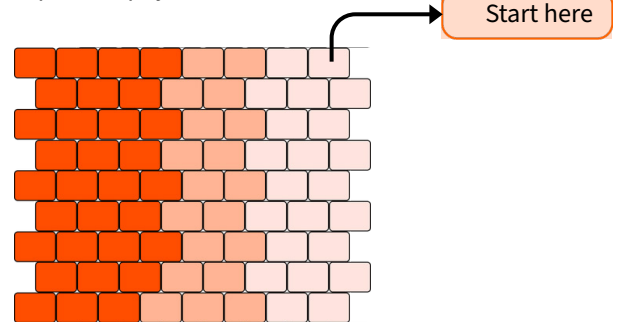


Repeat steps 6-8 until you get 8 columns in total. Make sure to follow the color pattern above. (Fig 2)

2) Brick Stitch - Shaping The Head

Now that you've completed the base, we'll switch to decreasing brick stitch to shape the head of the fish.

Start from the bead where your thread exits at the top of the peyote block.



Repeat techniques 4-6 until you've completed the full section shown in Fig (3).
Make sure to follow the color pattern below.

SIDE A

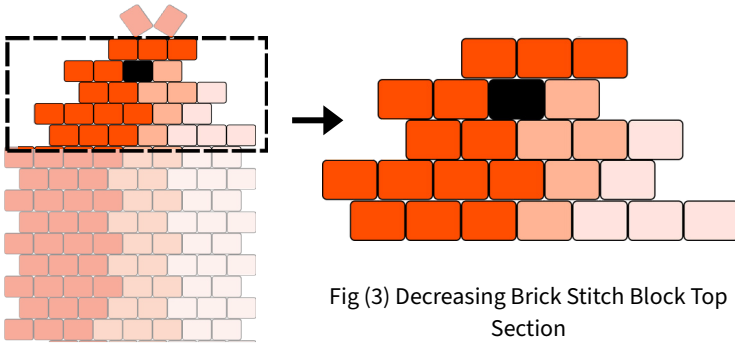


Fig (3) Decreasing Brick Stitch Block Top Section

Then, add 2 top beads by simply passing through them, as shown in Fig (4) below.

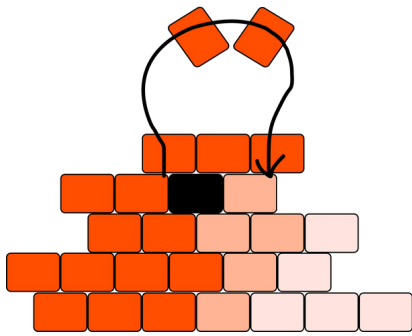


Fig (4) Attaching the two top beads

Now bring your needle down through the beadwork to exit at the bottom right bead of the base like shown on Fig (5) below.

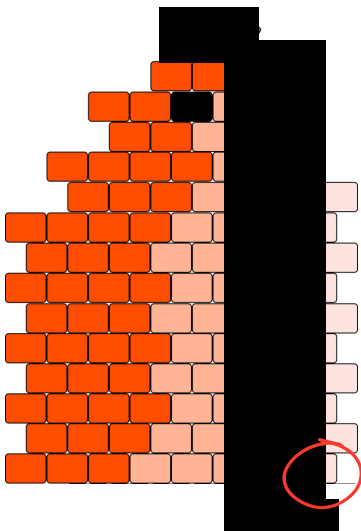


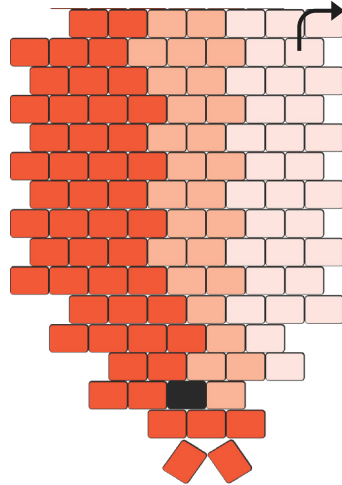
Fig (5) exit through the bottom right bead

3) Brick Stitch - Bottom Section



Flip your work upside down so you can start the decreasing brick stitch section for the bottom of the fish

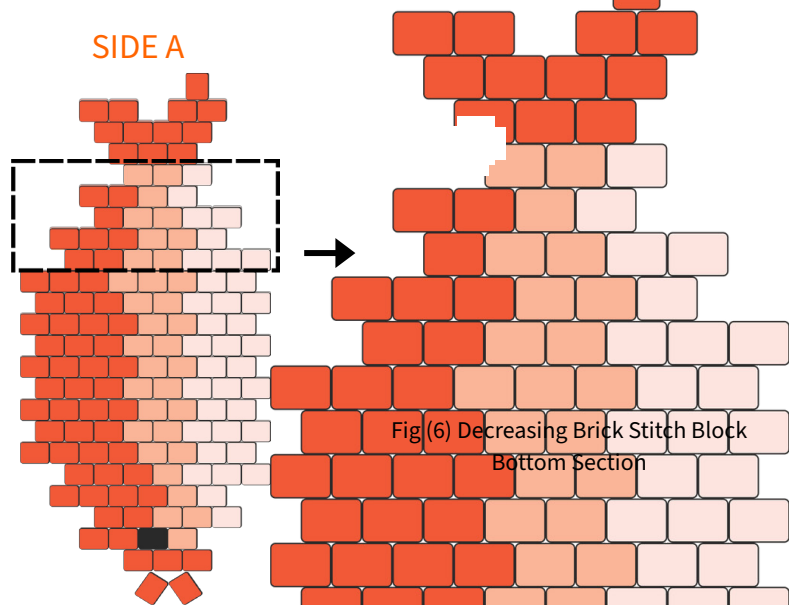
Start here



Brick stitch your way up Fig (6) below, decreasing as shown. Stick to the color pattern.

You can follow the same brick stitch tutorial shown on page 4.

SIDE A



Fig(6) Decreasing Brick Stitch Block Bottom Section

Once the section of Fig (6) is complete, flip your work horizontally and work up a normal brick stitch row (3 beads total) like on Fig (7) below.

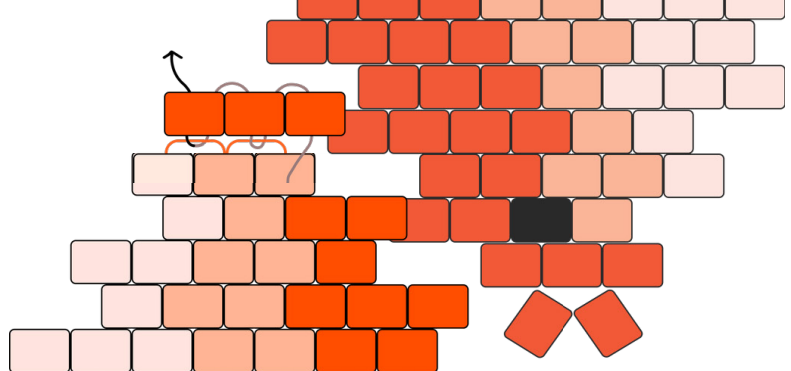


Fig (7) Work up a normal 3-bead brick stitch row

4) Working up The Tail

Flip your work again, add another brick stitch row with a one bead increase (4 beads total), like on Fig (8) below

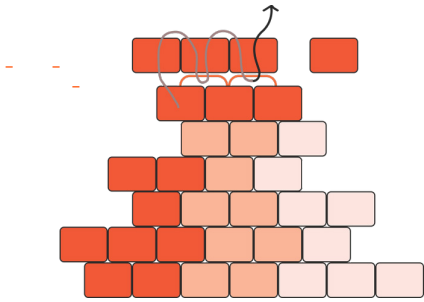


Fig (8) Work up a brick stitch row with a 1-bead increase

Exit your needle through the rightmost bead, like on Fig (8.5) below.

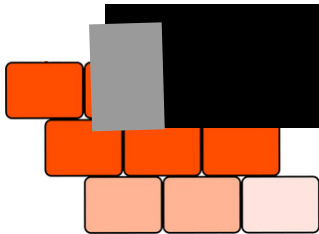


Fig (8.5) Exit through to the rightmost bead

Stitch a new row with 2 beads using brick stitch (Fig 9)

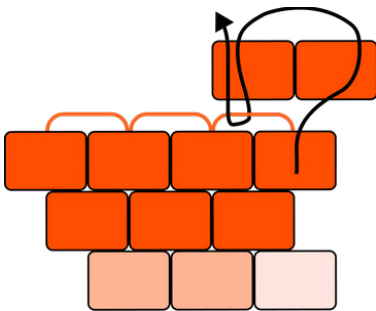


Fig (9) Work up a 2-bead brick stitch row

Add a single bead to the top of this last 2 beads row. Then bring your needle and thread through to exit through the leftmost bead (Fig (10))

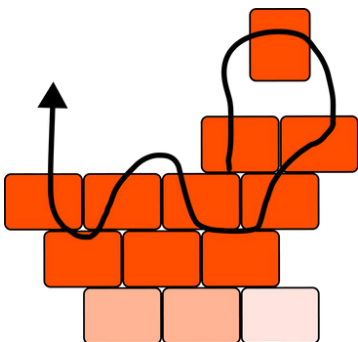


Fig (10) Add a single bead and exit through the leftmost bead

Flip your work. Work up a 2 bead-row in brick stitch (Fig (11))

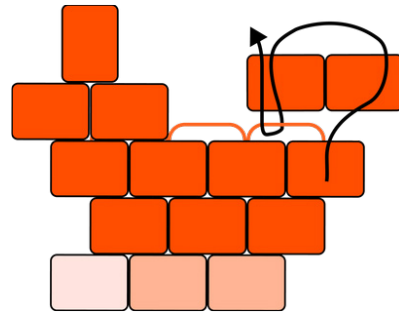


Fig (11) Work up a normal brick stitch row

5) Finishing Off - Side A

We're almost done for Side A! To finish off, simply weave your needle through a few random beads, up, down and around, to secure the thread.

Then, trim the thread close to a bead so it doesn't stick out.

Repeat the same process for the other thread end.

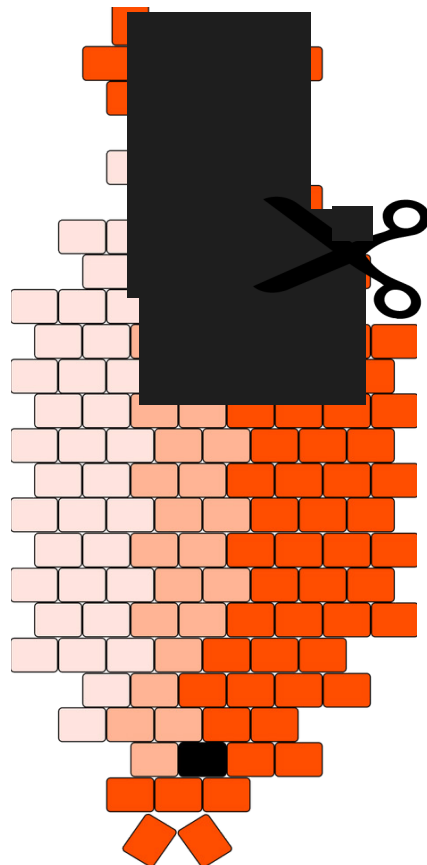


Fig (12) Finishing off - passing the thread through random beads and cutting it

SIDE B

1) Odd Count Peyote Stitch - Base

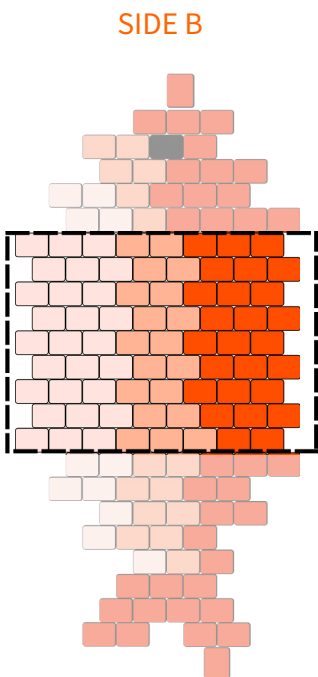
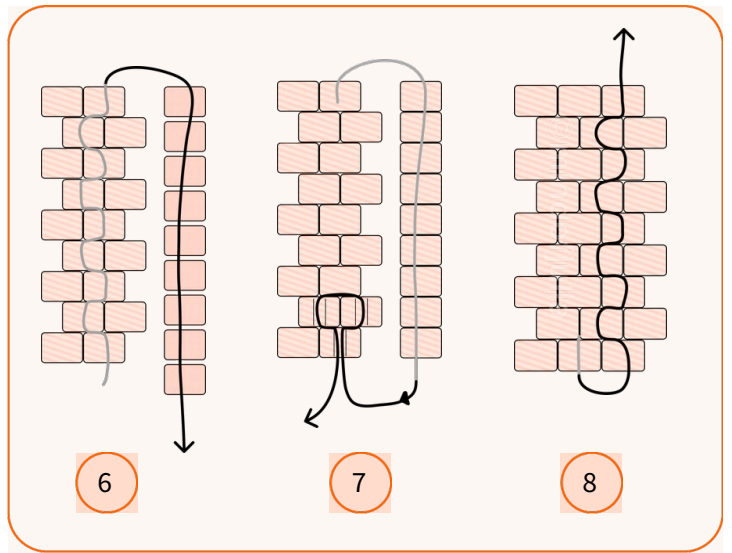
Cut ~ 1.5 meter of thread. Set up your beading needle.

Like for Side A, step 1), work up a block of flat odd-count peyote stitch with:

- 8 columns
- 9 beads per column

Make sure to follow the color pattern as shown in Fig (13).

You can refer back to the detailed tutorial on page 3 and page 4 (steps 1 to 7 below).



SIDE B

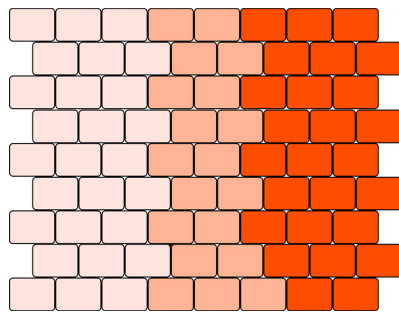


Fig (13) Odd Count Peyote Stitch Block

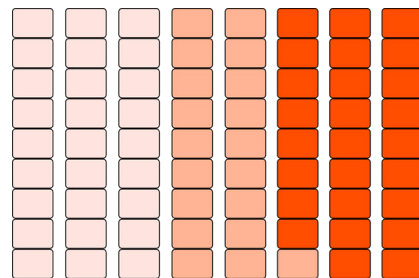


Fig (14) Color pattern equivalent

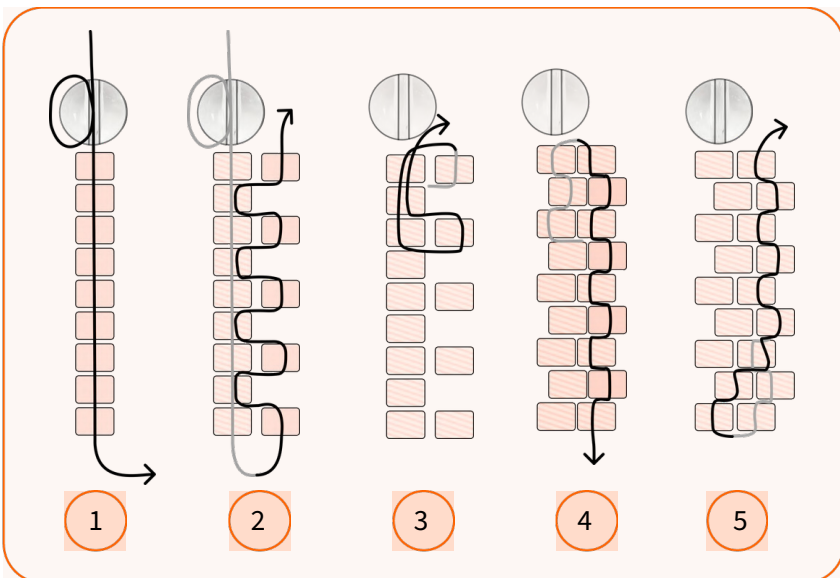
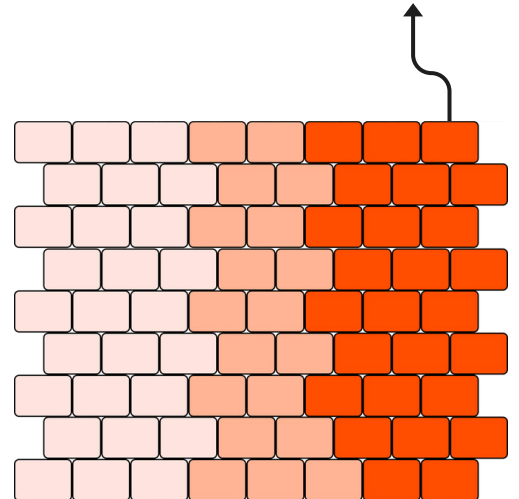
Repeat steps 6-8 until you get 8 columns in total. Make sure to follow the color pattern on the diagram above. (Fig 14)

2) Brick Stitch - Shaping The Head

Switch to brick stitch to shape the head of the fish.

□ Start from the bead where your thread exits at the top of the peyote block.

Start here



Follow the same decreasing brick stitch technique shown on page 4 to complete the section in Fig (15). Just make sure to use Side B's color pattern.

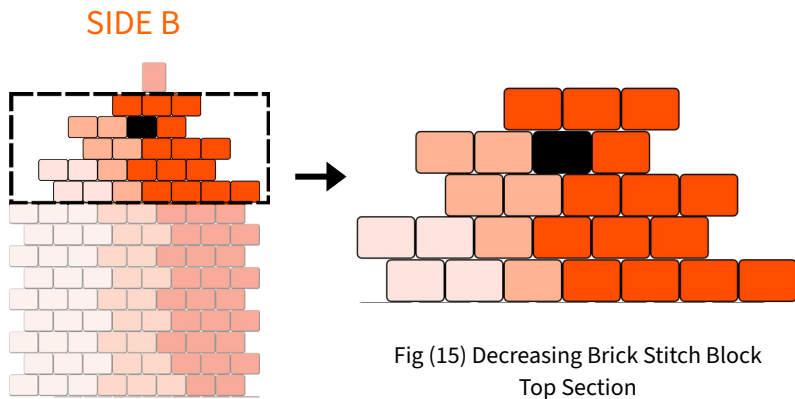


Fig (15) Decreasing Brick Stitch Block Top Section

3) Brick Stitch - Bottom Section

Flip your work upside down so you can start the decreasing brick stitch section for the bottom of the fish (like on Fig (18)).

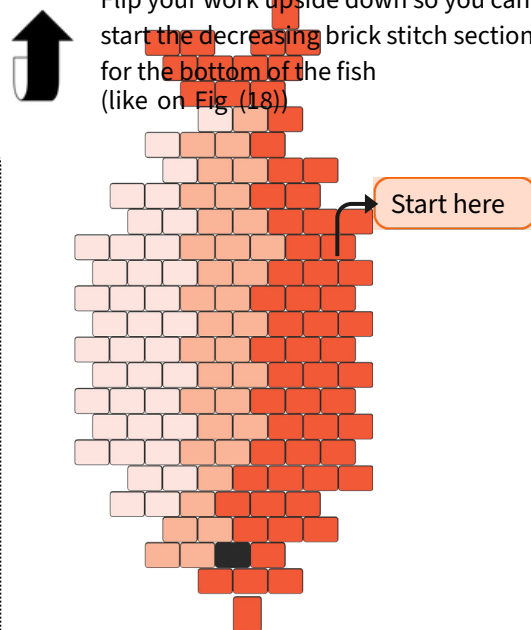


Fig (18) flip your work upside down

After adding the last bead for that section, add 1 top bead by simply passing through it, as shown in Fig (16) below.

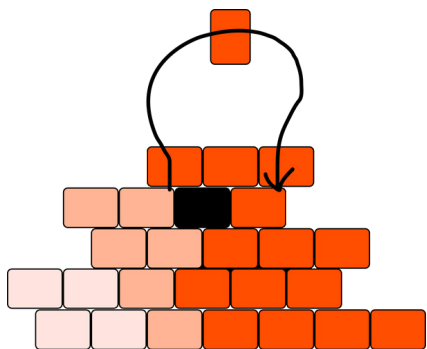


Fig (16) Attaching the top bead

Now bring your needle down through the beadwork to exit at the bottom right bead of the base like shown on Fig (17) below.

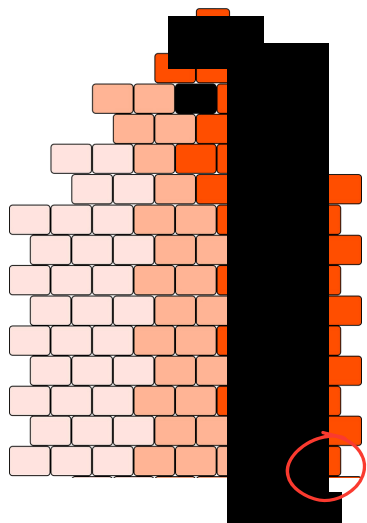


Fig (17) exit through the bottom right bead

Brick stitch your way up Fig (19) below, decreasing as shown. Stick to the color pattern.

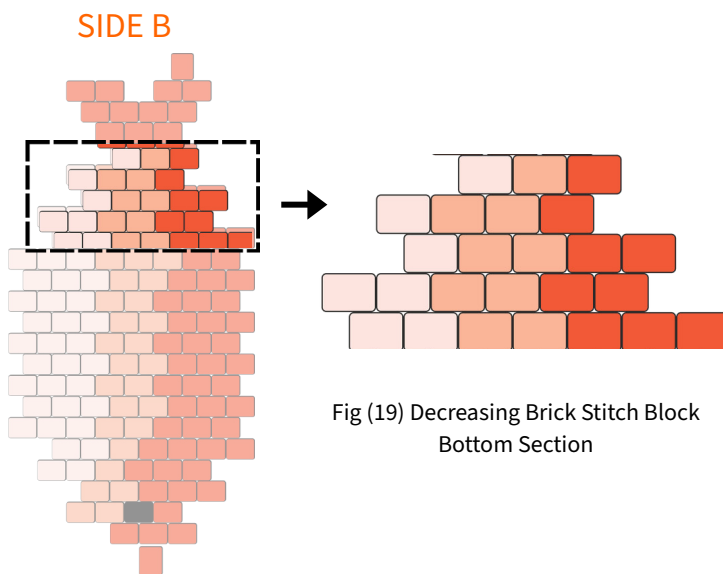


Fig (19) Decreasing Brick Stitch Block Bottom Section

Once the section of Fig (19) is complete, flip your work horizontally and work up a normal brick stitch row (3 beads total) like on Fig (20) below

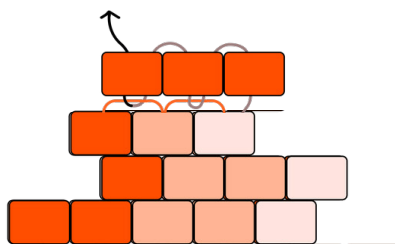


Fig (20) Work up a normal 3-bead brick stitch row

4) Working up The Tail

Repeat the exact same steps as in Side A, Step 4)

5) Finishing Off - Side B

Remove your needle from the thread you just finished working with - but DO NOT CUT IT

Thread your needle onto the other thread end, the one from the starting point of your work.

Weave this thread through a few nearby beads (up, down, and around) to secure it. Then, trim it close to a bead so it stays hidden.

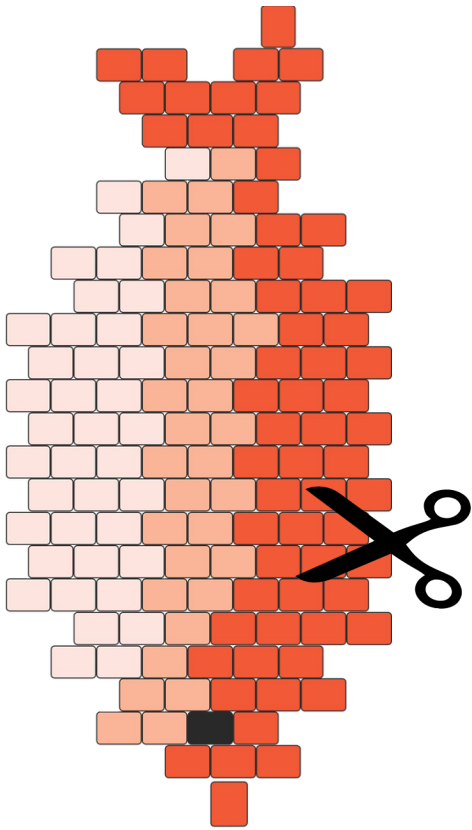
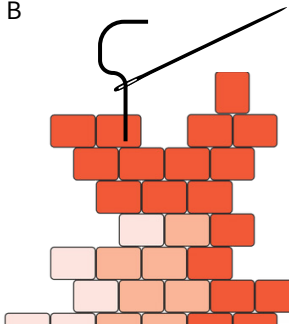


Fig (21) Finishing off - passing the starting point thread through random beads and cutting it

JOINING SIDE A & SIDE B

1) Assembling the sides

Place your needle back on the thread end left on side B



Start by superposing both sides of the fish. Use Fig (22) as a reference for how the two pieces should line up.

Make sure the edges line up bead-for-bead. You're now ready to join the two sides using the zipping method.

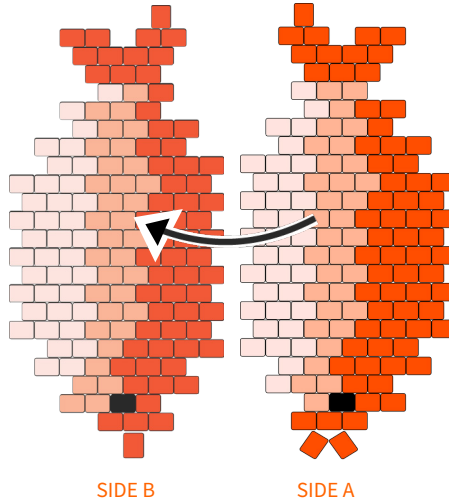


Fig 22) Superposing the 2 sides

In the next diagrams, side B beads are shown in blue and side A beads in yellow. Green beads represent the overlapping beads.

Start zipping from the thread's exit point. Begin zipping as shown in the side view (Fig 24), alternating between side A and side B beads.

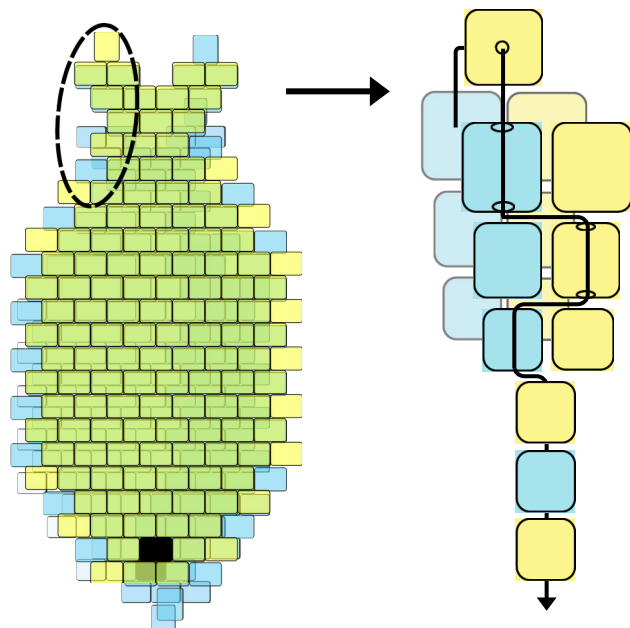


Fig 23) Front view

Fig 24) Split view / side section of tail

☐ Don't worry if it's not perfect!

While zipping, it's totally okay if you don't alternate sides perfectly or if you miss a bead here and there.

This step doesn't have to be super precise -the goal is just to join the two sides securely with as little thread showing as possible.

Focus on making the edges align and keeping things snug. The fish will still look great! ☐☐

Keep zipping until you're around the bead marked in Fig 25).

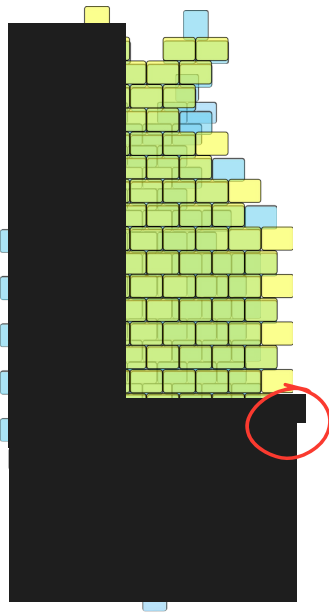
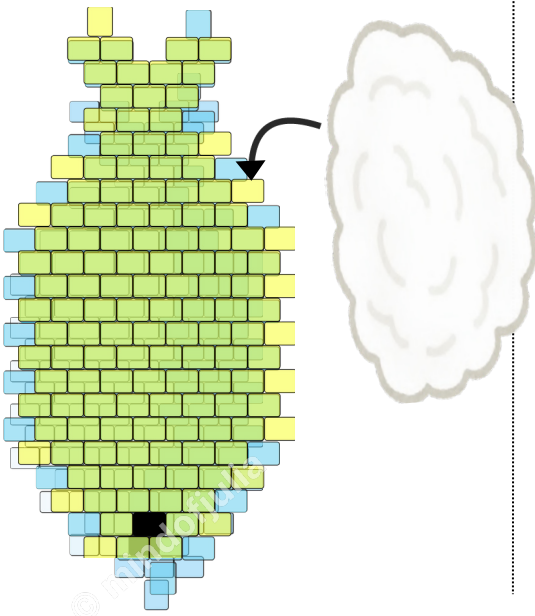


Fig (25) Zipping stopping point - before stuffing

2) Stuffing

Insert a bit of cotton into the opening between the two fish sides to give it some shape.



3) Finish zipping

Once the cotton is in place, keep zipping up the two sides together until you get all the way back to your starting point.

BACK & BELLY FINS

☐ All the steps below are flexible, what matters is that the fins are secure and symmetrical.

To add the back fin, you'll need to move your needle and thread to the right spot on the fish body.

Weave your needle through nearby beads until your thread exits through the area marked in Fig (26). Make sure the fin looks centered when viewed from above.

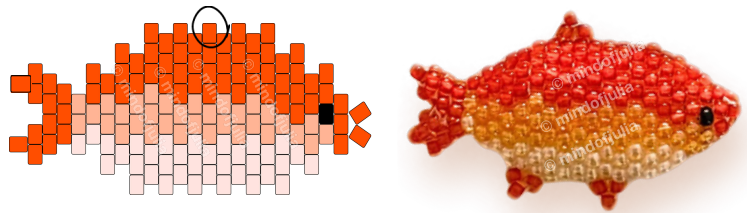


Fig (26) Approximate placement for back fin

Add 3 beads and work them in a small pyramid structure. No precise method here, just weave through until you get the desired shape! Example on Fig (27)

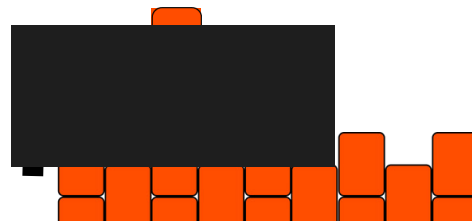
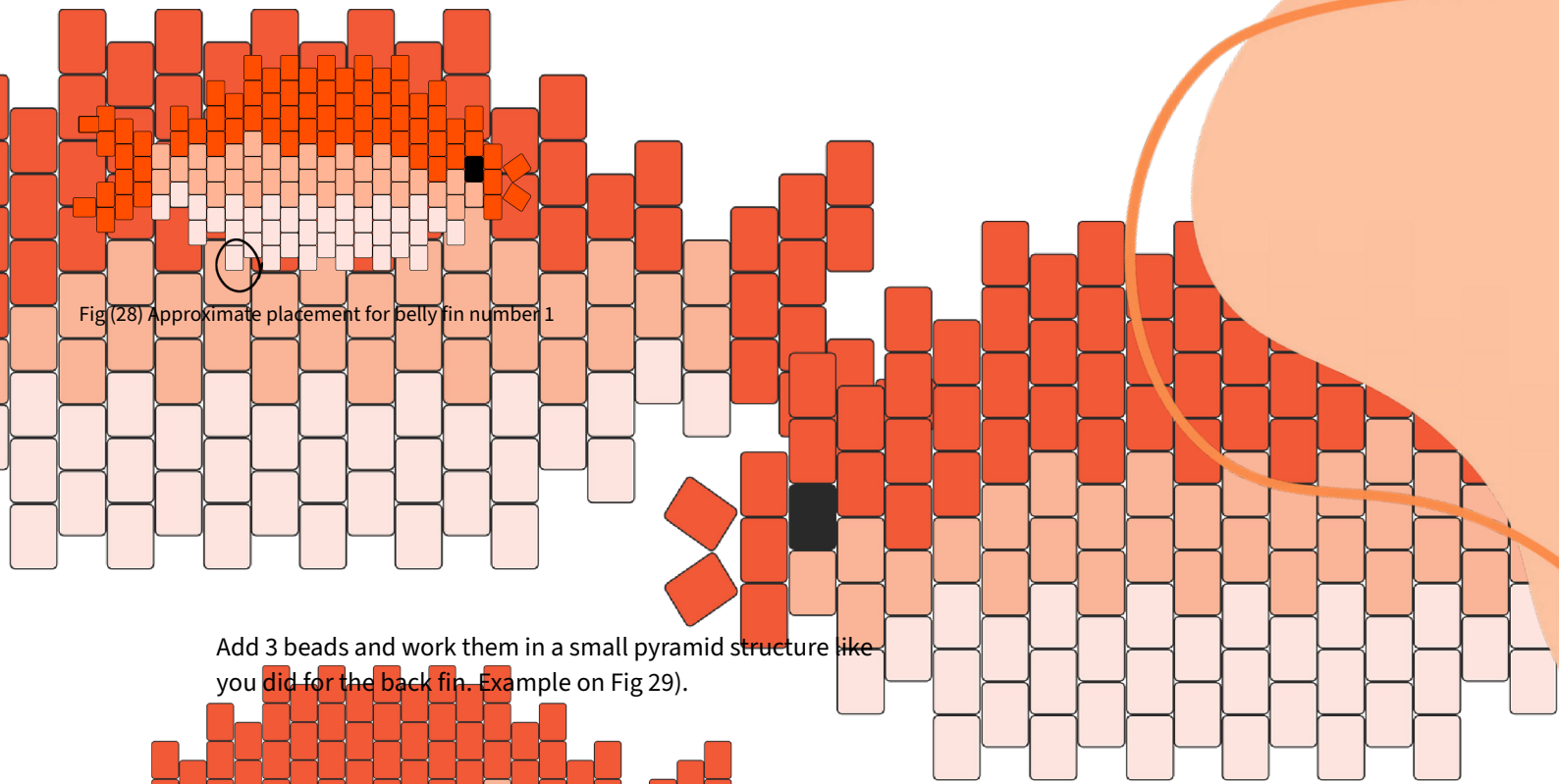


Fig (27) Work through the beads to create fin shape

2) Belly Fins

Again, weave your needle through nearby beads until your thread exits through the area marked in Fig 28. Just make sure it looks centered when viewing the fish from underneath.



Fig(28) Approximate placement for belly fin number 1

Add 3 beads and work them in a small pyramid structure like you did for the back fin. Example on Fig 29).

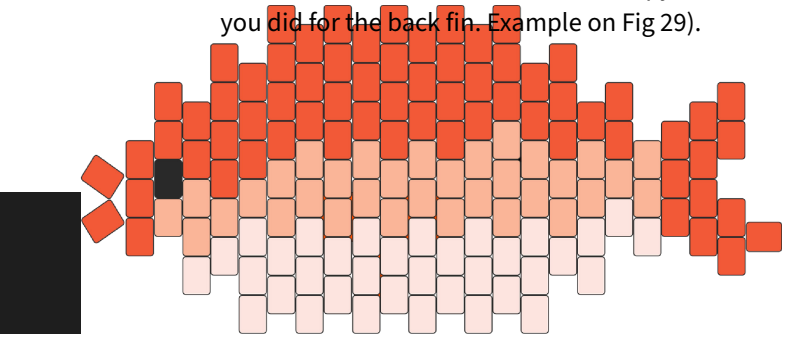


Fig (29) Work through the beads to belly fin

Weave your needle through nearby beads until your thread exits slightly to the right. Check that the fin placement looks centered when viewing the fish from below. Work the second belly fin.

Fig (30) Work through the beads to create second belly fin

3) Finishing off

Weave your thread through a few nearby beads (up, down, and around) to secure it.
Trim close to a bead so the thread stays hidden.

Et voilà!

