

Quilted Square Stitch – American Flag Designed by Michel & Steve Bowersock



Bead Pattern on page 14

Learning how to do Quilted Square Stitch can be both fun and frustrating. You should have a good knowledge of how to do square stitch and be flexible in going to the left or right direction with your beading.

Supply list:

4 colors of size 11/0 cylinder beads, seed beads

A = Blue

B = White

C = Red

D = Gold

Thread of your choice, I use 6 lb test crystal Fireline

Scissors or Threadzapper

Bead mat

Size 11/0 needle

From the picture on page 1, you can see three sides. The side you don't see is the reverse colors of the front or Side A. Please see the diagrams below to know bead layout.

Side B

O 16
O O 15
O 14 - **shared bead**
O O 13
O O 12
O O 11
O O 10
O O 9
O O 8
O O 7 middle of **Side A (starting point)**
O O 6
O O 5
O O 4
O O 3
O 2 - **shared bead**
O O 1
O 30

- beads 2 & 14 are shared beads on Side A & Side D

Please enjoy this FREE pattern.

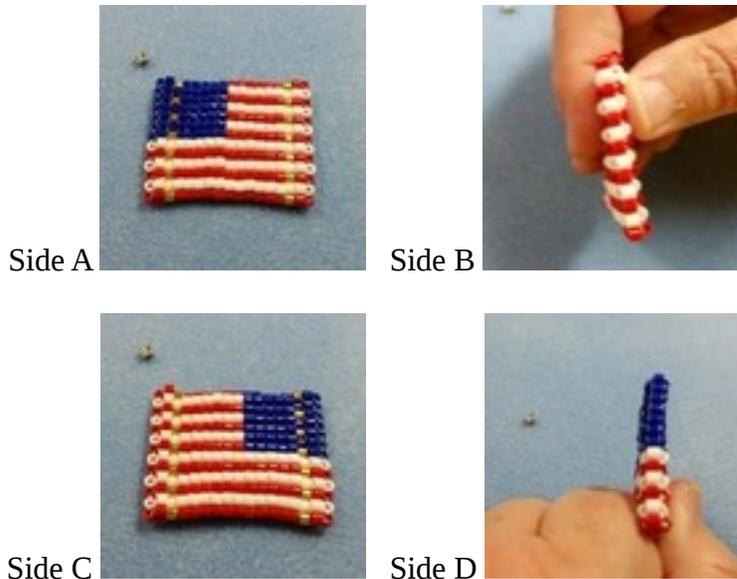
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Side B

- O 16
- O O 17
- O 18 - shared bead
- O O 19
- O O 20
- O O 21
- O O 22
- O O 23
- O O 24 **Side C**
- O O 25
- O O 26
- O O 27
- O O 28
- O O 29
- O 30 - shared bead
- O O 31
- O 32

Side D

There are 4 sides – Side A (11 beads), Side B (1 bead), Side C (11 beads) and Side D (1 bead). Although you count 32 beads around the pattern, there are only actually 30 beads used because two beads are shared on each side.



To begin with get a comfortable length of thread (one wingspan plus a little more). Put a stopper bead about 18 inches from the end. You will use this length later for Row 13.

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Row 1:

This row starts with the Color B beads (white stripe). Rows 12 & 13 (red stripes) will be done later. Pick up 4 B beads.



Slide the beads next to the stopper bead.



Now go thru the very first bead you put on (sitting next to stopper bead). That is now Side B.



Now pick up eleven more beads for Side A.



Slide them next to the first four beads. Your project should look like this now.



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Row 1: continued

Pick up four more beads to do Side C and come back thru first bead of this grouping to complete this step.



Be sure to use just enough tension on your thread to pull beads tight but not so tight as to break the thread.



Now you need to pick up eleven more beads for Side D.



Slide these beads to the end of the thread and put needle thru the bead before the three end beads. Pull tight.



Now go thru the three end beads and the single bead again and you should be on Side A.



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Row 1: continued

Continue thru the first six beads and come up between beads 6 & 7. This will be your starting point for each row. You will either be beading to the LEFT or to the RIGHT.



Can you see where the thread is coming out to start square stitching your first row?



Row 2: (red stripe)

If you turn this page upside down, you will see that you will be going to the LEFT here. But, if you prefer to go RIGHT instead, keep track of which way you are going on your pattern.



Continue square stitching one bead to the previous row..



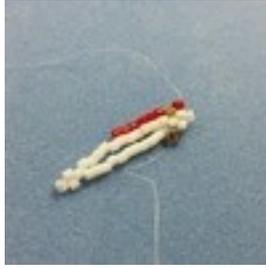
Now square stitch the single shared bead.



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Row 2: continued

Now square stitch the 1st of the three beads on this end for Side B.



Next square stitch the 2nd of the three beads on this end.



Now square stitch the 3rd of the three beads on this end. Notice how nicely they sit on top of the other beads?



Ok, now take your needle thru the shared bead and square stitch to the one below. I have found that this actually helps to center the shared bead in the project. You'll find that the three end beads are flexible and will move slightly to allow you to do this. However, if you find yourself going thru one of the 3 beads – just back out of that bead only and go thru single bead again to complete the square stitch. You will do this for each end.



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Row 2: continued

Now you need to square stitch the 11 beads on Side C.



Continue to square stitch this side.



Square stitch the single shared bead.



Now square stitch the 1st of three beads on this end or Side D.



Next square stitch the 2nd of three beads on this end or Side D.



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Row 2: continued

Now square stitch the 3rd bead on this end or Side D and take your needle thru the single shared bead. Now square stitch this one as well.



Now you are ready to continue square stitching Side A with 5 more beads..



Square stitch the last of the five beads to end the row but you are not where you need to be for the next row..



Now to Step up to the next row, you need to go thru the very first bead you put on this row. This is your starting point for each and every row. And for the next row you will be beading in the opposite direction. Left now going RIGHT or Right now going LEFT



Helpful Hint - Please take a few moments after each row to make sure that there are no threads showing especially on the shared beads. This is the time to fix those mistakes.

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Row 3 (white stripe)

This row is done just like the previous row. Square stitch one bead at a time and do the single shared beads twice.



Continue square stitching beads for this row.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

After you finish this row, take a few moments to look over your work to see how well the beads are sitting on top of each other and that there are no mistakes that need to be fixed at this time



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Row 4 (red stripe)

Square stitch this row as you have the previous rows. You'll notice with this row that your project begins to straighten up. It's pretty flexible but that will change when rows 12 & 13 are added.



1



2



3



4



5



6

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Row 5:(white stripe)

This is how your bead piece should look after this row is completed.



1



2

Row 6:(begins the blue portion of the flag + red stripe)



Row 7: (continues blue portion of the flag + white stripe)



Row 8:- this is a repeat of Row 6

Row 9:- this is a repeat of Row 7

Row 10:- this is a repeat of Row 6

Row 11:- this is a repeat of Row 7

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Row 12 (Top red stripe)

You have now reached the top row red stripe of your Square Stitch American Flag bead piece. This is where you will join Sides A & C together. Keep in mind that you only have to square stitch new beads to either Side A or Side C. You'll need to change your starting location for this row only to have your needle & thread come out before the shared bead. Now square stitch 11 beads of Side A. Next square stitch the single shared bead and then each of the three end beads. Now square stitch the single shared bead on this side. Now for Side D, you will share the beads from Side A to use also on Side D. When you are finished with this row, you will see that the two shared beads line up perfectly with the 11 beads from Side A & Side D. In the picture below, I have square stitched the 11 beads on Side A.



In the picture below, I am showing you the 11 beads already square stitched as well as the single shared bead square stitched (twice) and the three end beads. Now it's time to square stitch Side D to the new beads to close this top end.



See how nice this looks all closed up? Time to weave in this thread and close up the other end.

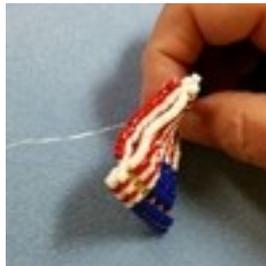


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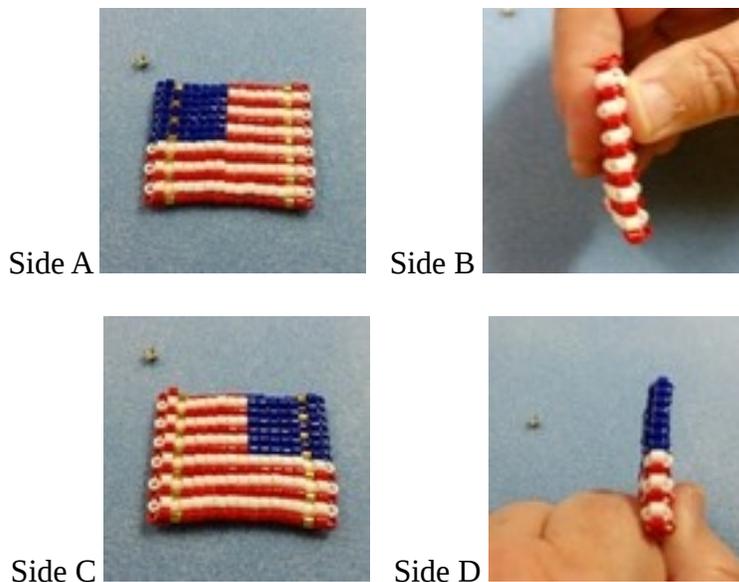
Row 13:(very 1st red stripe)

Remove your stopper bead and thread your needle to begin this final row of your bead piece. Again for this row only, you will be using a different starting point. Is your thread coming out at one end of eleven beads but before the shared bead? If it isn't, please go thru the beads to get to this point. Now square stitch one side of eleven beads, shared bead, three end beads and shared bead again. Now it's time to join Side A & Side C for the final time by using the eleven beads used on the other side. Continue to square stitch one bead at a time finishing up the other end of shared bead, 3 end beads and shared bead again. Go thru the first few beads of the first eleven beads you did first. Now weave in your thread on this end.

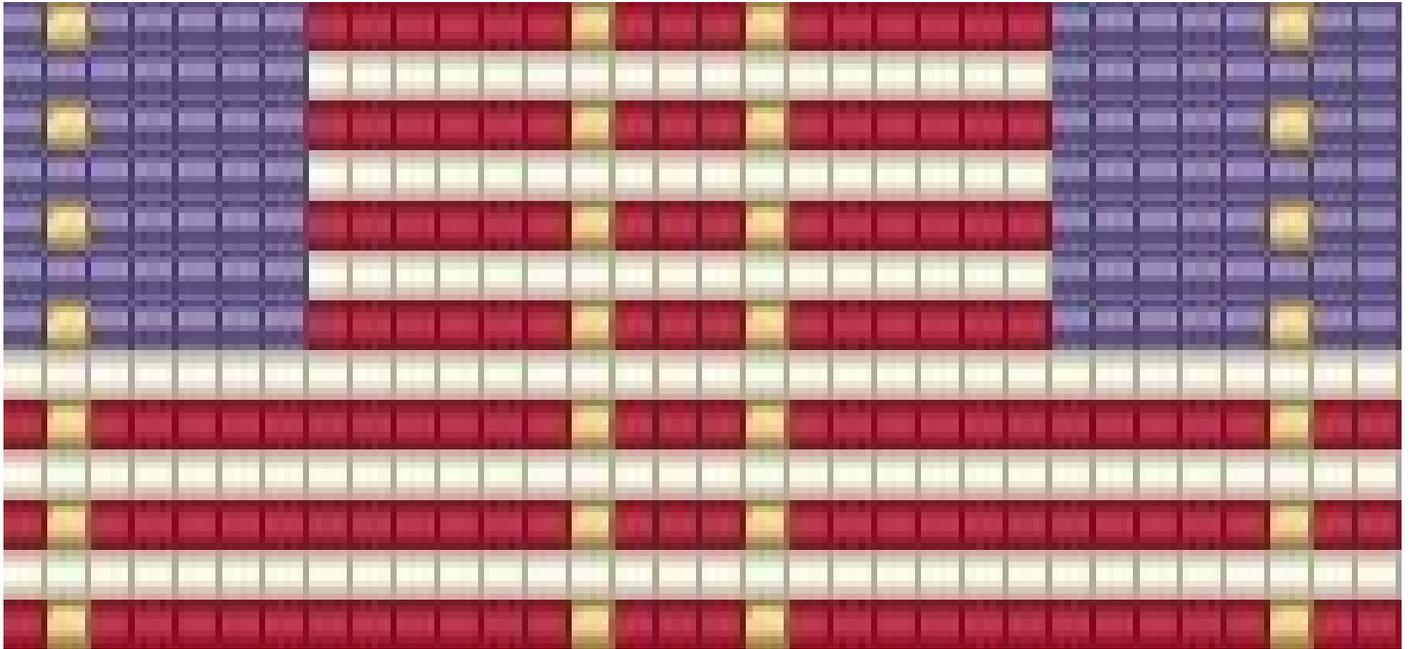
In the picture below, I have square stitched the first eleven beads on this row that will be shared with the other side.



Your bead piece is now completed. Your beading should look very similar to the pictures below. This would make a nice pendant to wear around your neck. You could string some beads and attach at end beads for example.



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Helpful Hints:

- Have no threads showing on top of single shared beads. That might mean that you didn't go thru that bead for the 2nd time or your thread may have got caught on the end beads. Important to check after each row.
- It might be helpful to go thru the middle between Side A & Side C when square stitching the single shared bead.
- I find it helpful to lay out the beads for each row before I bead them.
- Try to keep your tail thread out of your way by putting it in a small plastic bag until it's needed or wrap around a piece of paper.
- This pattern looks like there are 32 beads but actually only 30 are used. You share the outside gold rows on each side as one bead. And, the two inside gold rows are shared on each side, too.
- It's best to add thread on either Side A or Side C for ease of beading.

When you are finished with your bead piece, I would love to see it. Please email me – michel@mutternet.com.

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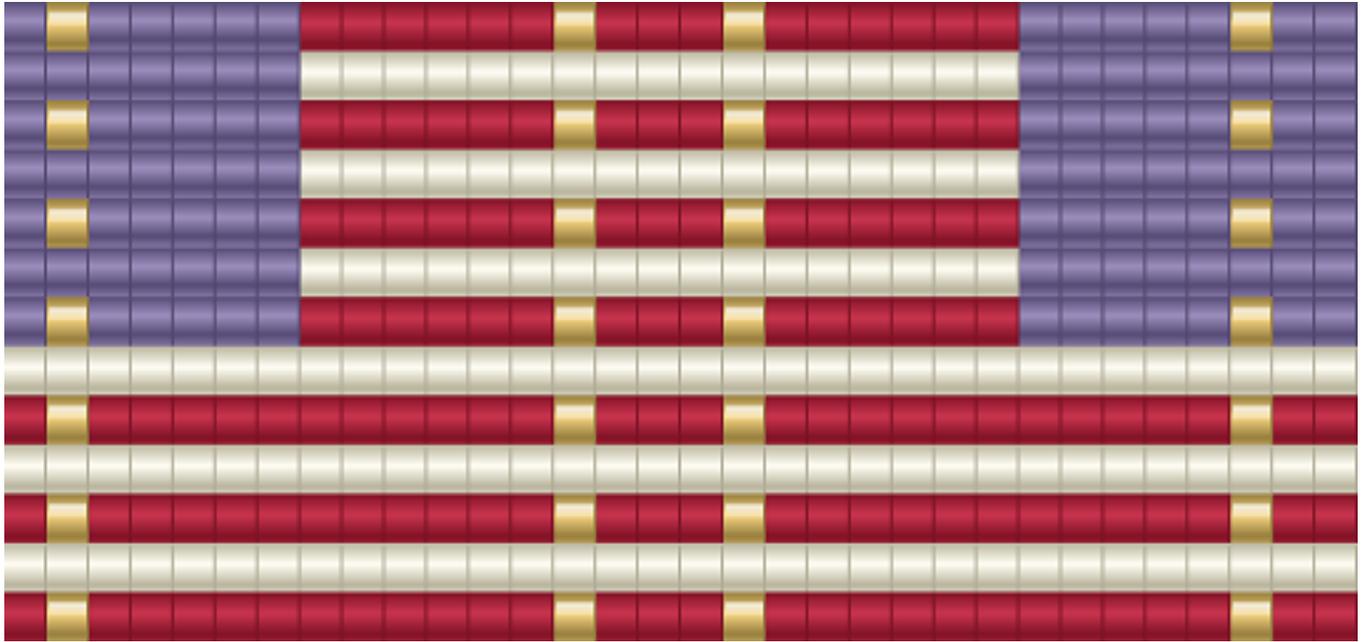


Chart #:A
 DB-1265
 Count:97

Chart #:B
 DB-1510
 Count:147

Chart #:C
 DB-362
 Count:144

Chart #:D
 DB-42
 Count:28

A	D	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	D	A	A	
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
A	D	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	D	A	A	
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
A	D	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	D	A	A	
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
A	D	A	A	A	A	A	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	A	A	A	A	A	D	A	A	
B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C
B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C
B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	D	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	D	C	C