

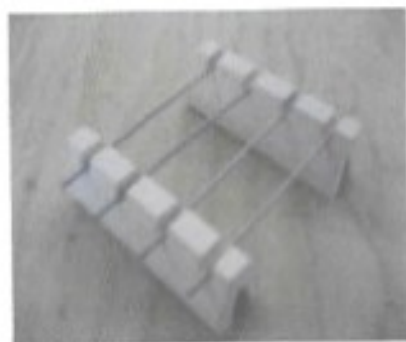
Beads and More by Betty Lehman

Plan ahead: What size is right for my project, what size hole do I need, how will I get these into a kiln, how will I get them glazed, what will I string them on, etc... Make beads or test tiles when you have extra clay, and your project is done.

Vessels and contraptions/myths and reality: Build you own. Know the limits of what you find in club drawers. Read or view online "bead making".

Keep kiln footprint in mind: 6-inch tiles, racks, posts

Easy does it: Oxides are easiest, but glazes are beautiful. An overworked bead will have a crackle look when oxidized, as it has been dried out. Glazing a bead will require an appropriate piece or pieces of kiln furniture to go to the kiln.



Visit Marjon Ceramics website (or other sources familiar to you).

At Marjon's search "products", then 'stilts' to view. Marjon states that stilts are for Low Fire.

Also view Nicrome wire and rods. These are used with bead racks. Search "products" then "nicrome wire" available in several sizes. I buy 10 feet of 17 gauge wire for \$7.95. It is more suitable than the smaller 24 gauge at \$4.95

Nicrome rods can be used for man-y firings, the wire is not as durable. Rods are more expensive, 9 gauge rods, 6 inches long are about \$4.00-5.00 each.

Bead Snowman by Betty Lehman

White clay is recommended, small amount...enough to make 3 graduated beads, "head", "upper torso", and "lower torso", (hat, boots, etc...)

1. Form "head" bead, with or without hat.
Pinch the clay or slip to make a carrot style nose.
Use a needle tool or toothpick to make impressions for eyes and mouth.
Using a small straw or other hole tool, make a VERTICAL hole from top of "head bead" to bottom of bead. Vertical hole will need to accommodate string, wire or other material when beads are strung together. Clay shrinks!
2. Form upper torso and lower torso beads.
Use small straw or other tool to make a vertical hole from top of beads to bottom.
3. If adding arms...make a horizontal hole through the upper torso bead only.
4. Use tool to mark buttons, if desired, on both torso beads.
5. A "hat" may be attached or added to the head when finished beads are strung together.
6. Boots are optional. Vertical or horizontal holes required for boots.

All parts will be low fired. Finish or glaze as desired.
String with wire, twine, ribbon as desired.

