

Melty Beads

 20 Minutes



Instructions:

1. Choose a flat, stable area to make your Perler bead design. The pegboard has very small pegs, so an unlevel surface may cause the beads to fall off. If using a non-slip craft mat, lay it beneath your pegboard before beginning. This will help prevent the board from moving around and knocking beads loose.
2. Separate the color beads into several small bowls to make it easier to select the beads as you decorate the pegboard.
3. Decorate your pegboard with colorful Perler beads. Your imagination's the limit!

Tip: Place your Perler beads onto the pegs working row by row from the bottom up or top down. Working from the outside in can crowd the empty pegs on the inside of the board, which may cause you to accidentally knock beads off of pegs.

Optional: Choose your own pattern online from the free printable pattern website. Print the pattern and slide it underneath your pegboard to guide you where to place the beads. Make sure the pattern is properly aligned with the pegs. Each bead represented by the pattern should center around a peg.

OVERVIEW

Design a melty bead project using a variety of colorful perler beads to fill the pegboard. Your imagination's the limit!

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Perler beads
- Perler pegboard
- Non-slip craft mat (optional)
- Small bowls (to separate colored beads)
- Wax paper or parchment paper
- Towel
- Clothing Iron (an adult will handle this)

ONLINE RESOURCES

- [Instructional Video Link](#)
- [Printable patterns](#)

Melty Beads (continued)

Fuzing the beads together: (Adults only)

1. Set up an ironing board and iron.
2. Plug in the iron and heat it to the linen setting (or medium heat)
Note: If you have an iron with a steam function, make sure it's turned off. Hot steam could affect the outcome of your design.
3. Lay a towel on top of the ironing board and carefully place your completed peg board on top of it
4. Cut a piece of wax or parchment paper that's larger than the size of your pegboard, leaving a few extra inches of paper on each side.
5. In a circular motion, begin to iron the project. Do not press down with the iron. When ironed properly, the beads will still have an open center.
6. Let the design cool.
7. Remove the paper and bead design from the pegboard. Flip the design over to expose the non-fused side and repeat step 5.
8. Let cool completely and enjoy your colorful melty bead project!

NOTE: Beads need heat for about 10-20 seconds per side to fuse evenly, and some colors may fuse more quickly than others. Lift the paper occasionally to see how the beads are fusing. Depending on the size of the project, additional heating time may be required. If you are doing any assembly with your project, DO NOT OVER-IRON the beads as it will make the centers of the beads close and can make the assembly more challenging.