

FINE TUNING YOUR DESIGN

Usually it is a good idea to lay out your design on a bead board or a neutral coloured bead mat to give a sense how the end result will look. Here are some ideas to help you when something doesn't look "quite right".

Take a photo and then try some other alternatives and take photos of them. Reviewing colour theory and design principles can help you narrow the choices of what to put with your chosen bead or strand of beads. If you feel something isn't quite right, check the "rule of uneven numbers". The ancient Greeks felt that uneven numbers of things were more pleasing to the eye than even. So try 3 colours, textures or shapes instead of 2. Check the number of beads in a sequence or the number of strands in the necklace. Remember though, that rules are made to be broken and that sometimes even numbers (ex. 2 colours) can work successfully. A final suggestion if you are having doubts is to string the beads you think you want to put together on an inexpensive stringing material (we use 7 strand [Beadalon](#) as it is fast as well as inexpensive). This allows you to check the length and "the lie" of the beads against the body. Once satisfied, it is ready for the final assembly.

Remember, the more often you work with beads, the easier it becomes to figure out what might go with your dream!

Best wishes for many successful projects!