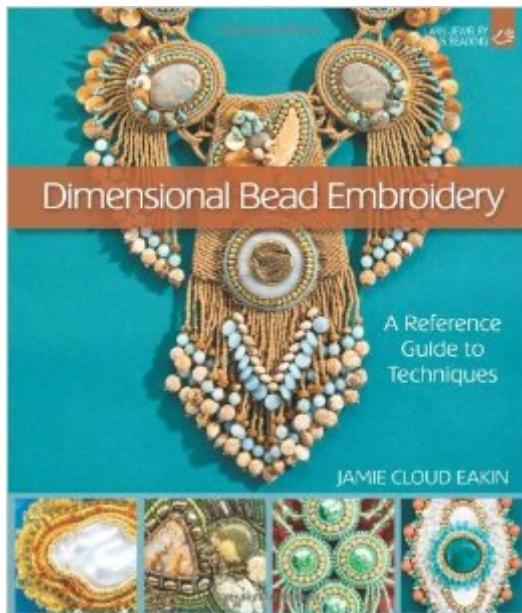


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# Dimensional Bead Embroidery: A Reference Guide To Techniques (Lark Jewelry & Beading)



## Synopsis

From popular author Jamie Cloud Eakin comes a fantastic all-around bead-embroidery guidebook. Modeled on Eakin's acclaimed Beading with Cabochons, Dimensional Bead Embroidery shows beaders how to use old stitches in new ways and lays out boundary-breaking techniques for embroidering beads onto a base fabric with beaded bezels. Focusing especially on cabochons and large, eye-catching focal beads, the book covers decorative stitches such as fringes, picots, and rope edging. Nine illustrated projects include bracelets, necklaces, earrings, a brooch, and a purse. The book includes a gallery of bead-embroidered jewelry from a variety of artists.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I spent a glorious day with this new book, by the author of the incredibly well-received earlier books, Beading with Cabochons, and Bugle Bead Bonanza. What makes this book special? Frankly, it is the very fact that it IS an instruction/technique book, rather than a book offering projects (although the nine projects which ARE offered, at the end of the book, are stunning). Therefore it focuses primarily on technique, with the fabulous projects for the reader to soar with, after learning or brushing up on, via the previous chapters, all there is to know. A quote I found appropriate to describe this super book is that it is "a remarkable, 160-page encyclopedic guide to bead embroidery techniques with plenty of material for beginners and experienced beaders alike" . This is

the great concept which makes Dimensional Bead Embroidery so successful in purveying understanding, clearly and in a most excellent manner, to the reader, at every turn. This great technique book also has going for it an astounding collection of beautiful photos (hundreds of them!) to assist with the reader's learning and desire to keep ON learning. There is nothing like a vast collection of jawdroppingly beautiful photos, clearly taken and stunning, to keep a person learning and loving a jewelry technique book. The drawings which assist the reader to learn each specific technique are excellent as well. Ms. Eakin's book is divided into 9 chapters, and then there is a gallery with what I would consider museum quality contributions from other amazing beaders. Chapter 1 contains a list of materials and tools which you will require. Chapter 2 is "Basic Techniques".

Dimensional Bead Embroidery is one of those books you absolutely should get if you have any interest in learning bead embroidery, or building on existing skills. The first chapter covers tools and supplies and explains about backing materials. Each of the projects are done on a foundation which is backed with another fabric after it's embroidered to cover the stitches. The second chapter gets into techniques, and starts from the very basics. It doesn't assume you know anything about bead embroidery which makes it a good book to learn from if you're a beginner. It talks about how to tie secure knots, finding and marking the center of the foundation you will be beading on. Then you learn how to plan a design working around a focal element like a cabochon and more detail on choosing the right backing material for your project, as well as tips for strengthening it if necessary. This chapter also has an overview of edging and finishing techniques. Using components give tips on how to use irregular components that don't have flat backs, have holes you want to cover and when you should glue a component down to the backing material. Then it gets into the stitches. If you overview the first few chapters and it's all things you're fairly confident about, this is where it gets exciting. If you're a beginner to bead embroidery, this chapter covers how to do the 3 basic embroidery stitches, back stitch, couched stitch and lazy stitch, as well as variations like stacks stitch, loop stitch, picot stitch and other very textured stitches. Bezel stitches is where it starts getting very exciting for people who've done bead embroidery before. The author has a bunch of different bezels that are ornamental and functional.

When I first saw that this book came out, I passed it by, thinking that I didn't need it since I already have a small collection of bead embroidery books, including Sherry Serafini's *Sensational Bead Embroidery: 25 Inspiring Jewelry Projects (Beadweaving Master Class Series)*, *The Art of Bead*

Embroidery, and Beading on Fabric: Encyclopedia of Bead Stitch Techniques. At a beading class last weekend taught by Jill Wiseman (whom I see has also already reviewed this book), however, Jill said that is was a fantastic book that was worth picking up -- so, of course, I had to immediately order it to add to my beading library. It's definitely worth it! If I could give this book six stars, I would -- it's that amazing. As other reviewers have remarked, what is noteworthy about this book is that instead of just including a short chapter at the beginning that covers techniques, this book spends the first 88 pages going over various techniques in detail. Although I didn't pay attention to it at first, the subtitle of this book is *A Reference Guide to Techniques*, and that is most certainly what this is. The in-depth coverage is fantastic, and I learned some new skills that I can immediately put to use.

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