

JUNE 2023 BEAD-ALONG FRENCH BEADED WILD ROSE- BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE



Instructor: Fen Li
Website: [BeadFlora.com](https://beadflora.com)

In this beginner friendly bead-along, I will walk you through step-by-step in creating your very own spray of French beaded wild roses. Below are free pdfs/videos on some of the techniques we'll be using if you would like to familiarize with the techniques prior to our time together.

- [Basic Frame](https://beadflora.com/french-beading-techniques/basic-frame/)
- [Beaded Fringe](https://beadflora.com/continuous-fringe/)

MATERIALS:

- 35 grams 11/0 main color seed beads
- 45 grams 11/0 green seed beads
- 1 gram 11/0 brown seed beads
- <2 grams 15/0 color A yellow beads
- <2 grams 15/0 color B yellow beads
- 24 gauge main color copper-core wire
- 24 gauge green copper-core wire
- 28 gauge green copper-core wire
- 30 gauge neutral color (silver or gold) copper-core wire
- 5 lengths 18 gauge stem wires
- 5 lengths 20 gauge stem wires
- 2 skeins embroidery floss (DMC 910)
- Green floral tape

TOOLS:

- Wire cutters
- Chain nose pliers
- Bead spinner
- Scissors
- Ruler/Measuring tape

A limited amount of kits are available at <https://beadflora.com/product-category/bead-along/>

MATERIALS

BEADS:

I use a mixture of size 11 and size 15 seed beads in this pattern. Size 15s are used in order to achieve a thinner looking stamen. Using size 11 beads would cause the stamens to look too bulky. You can use any brand of beads. For your information, here are the beads that I used.

Main color options (only one color is needed for petals):

- 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite matte pink
 - 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite matte light pink
 - 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite opaque luster white
 - 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite rainbow cream soda

Center/Stamen:

- 15/0 Miyuki opaque luster yellow
- 15/0 Miyuki opaque luster light lemon ice
- 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite transparent rainbow brown

Leaves & Sepals:

- 11/0 Matsuno Dynamite rainbow emerald green OR
- 11/0 Czech Opaque rainbow green

WIRE

It's best to use copper-core wire for making beaded flowers. They are more pliable and easier to wrap. All wires discussed here are copper-core wire. If you used different types of wire, the gauges discussed here may not work the same.

Petals/Leaves: Using 24 gauge wire is best for the petals. I don't recommend substituting other gauges of wire for these units.

Sepals/Center: Both of these units use 28 gauge wire in this pattern. In a pinch, the Sepals can be made using 30 gauge wire. The center can be made with 30, 28, or 26 gauge wire.

Stamen: Due to using size 15/0 beads, 30 gauge wire is the only suitable wire for the wire to go through the smaller beads twice.

Assembly: Assembly wire can be 30, 32, or 34 gauge. It's best to use the thinnest wire possible for a less bulky looking stem.

OTHER MATERIALS

Floral tape: Due to using thin stem wires, floral tape is used sparingly. The more layers of floral tape there is on the stem, the bulkier it is for the final assembled stem. Generally, that's not an issue with thicker stem wires but we're aiming for the thinnest stem possible. The instructions in this tutorial uses floral tape only when necessarily.

Embroidery Floss: We'll be assembling mainly using embroidery floss. The floss will give the stems a more polished look and will have better hold on the stems.

Stem wires: Stem wires can be found at the florist section of the craft store and the standard length is 18 inches. For stem wires, make sure to use galvanized steel wire. Do not use copper or aluminum wire as they'll be flimsy to hold up the flowers. If you can't find the gauges you need at the florist section, spools of galvanized steel wire can be found at the hardware store or Amazon.

TOOLS

Wire Cutters/Pliers: It's fine to use just basic wire cutters and pliers for making French beaded flowers. It's not necessary to invest too much money in those two tools. Any type of pliers you have lying around will work including chain nose or needle nose pliers.

Heavy Duty cutters: If you'd like to make yourself easier during assembly, a heavy duty wire cutter is useful when cutting stem wires. I recommend the Knipex brand. However, if it's not in your budget, a regular cutter and some elbow grease will work just fine.

Bead Spinner: A bead spinner will help you immensely in getting beads strung on wire very fast. The brand that I recommend is the Spin N Bead Jr.

RESOURCES

To find my favorite resources of all of the materials and tools I've listed, I've compiled a list of Resources on my website.

>> Supply resources <https://beadflora.com/supplies-resources/>

LINKS

If you're a complete beginner to French beaded flowers, the below video is a great way to understand the basics.

Fundamentals of French beading - this video will talk about the basics of French beading along with several ways of how to string beads onto wire. <https://youtu.be/v9M98KA6mIs>