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Building a better bracelet: wallpaper patterns in bead crochet

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Abstract

A typical bead crochet bracelet consists of a narrow tube of seed beads sewn together

to form an uninterrunted hollow hand. Creating symmetric colour natterns on bead

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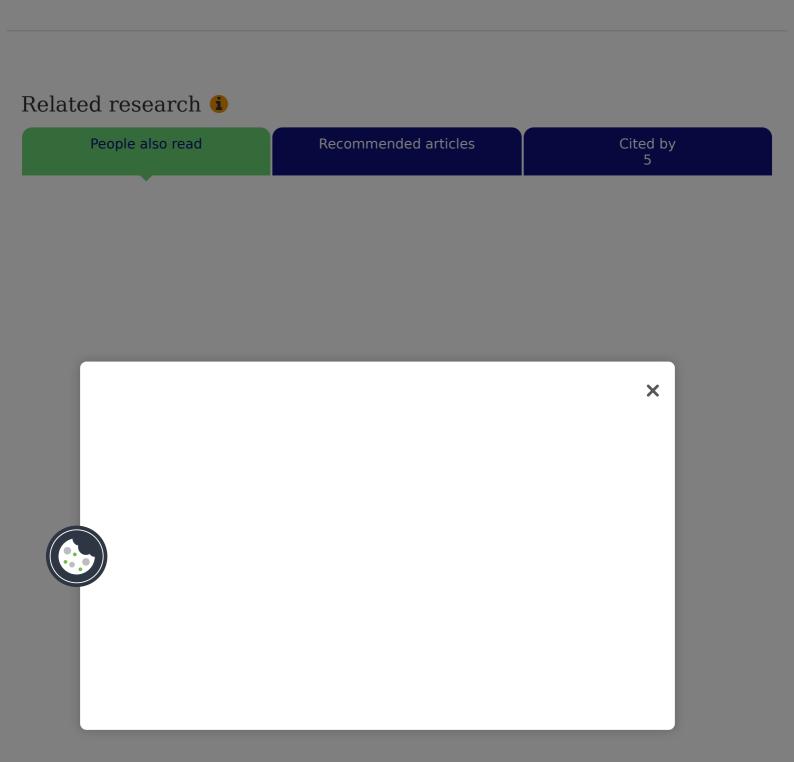
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along the I Accept e have Essential Onland used ffect. We Show Purposed crochet

planar bead

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Sophie Sommer's investigation of wallpaper patterns in bead crochet as part of her science fair project 'Mathematical Explorations in Bead Crochet' was the initial inspiration for our work. She was also kind enough to allow us to interrupt her crocheting of the bracelet in Figure 1 to photograph the process for this article. Robert Fathauer's suggestions for how to construct a regular tiling on a vertical bead crochet chart got us past an early stumbling block. Kira Isaacs and Kate Magauran were patient and accurate bead-stringers extraordinaire. Judith Bertoglio-Giffin's pattern books provided a helpful spring board for thinking about bead crochet pattern design, and Amy Nastasi started everything by generously passing on her bead crochet craft expertise.



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