How to Assemble the Quick Start Pattern

T he hardest part of beading, is keeping track of what color and what row you are on and making sure your thread tension is correct.

These patterns have been exported from BeadPlan 2.0 to size so that beading your amulet will be much easier. These work best using Silamide beading thread.

Follow these easy steps to create your form, then bead your first complete row (which is your first and second row.) Then slide the beads onto your form and align the beads with the pattern and start your third row! Then all you have to do is follow your pattern around the form!
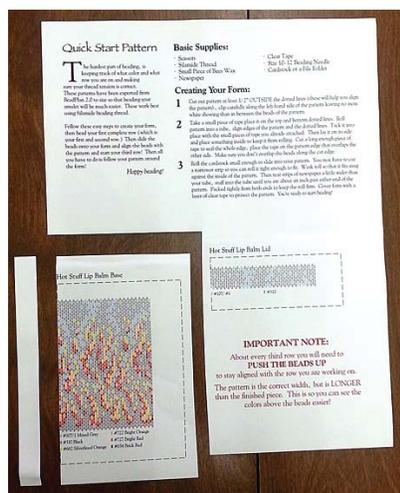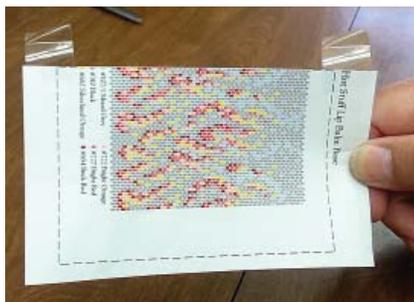
Happy beading!

Basic Supplies:
· Scissors
· Silamide Thread
· Clear Tape
· Newspaper
· Size 10-12 Beading Needle
· Card stock or a File Folder

STEP 1: Cut **1/2" OUTSIDE** the dotted lines (these help you align the pattern when you roll it into a tube), clip carefully along the left-hand side of the pattern leaving no more white space than what is in between the beads on the chart.

Step 2: Cut two small pieces of tape and place them on the top and bottom edges over the dotted lines. Then roll the pattern into a tube, align the straight edges of the pattern and use the dotted lines to align the top and bottom edges.

For smaller designs it's good idea to pre-roll the pattern to get the curve started.

Tack edges into place with the small pieces of tape you already attached.

STEP 3: Lay it on its side and place something inside to keep it from rolling.
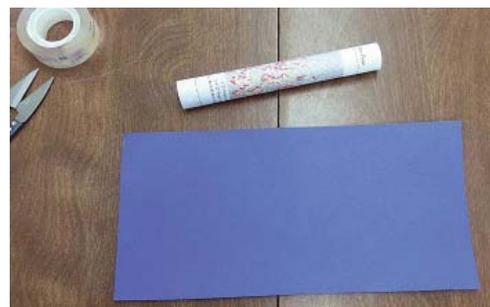

STEP 4: Cut a piece of tape long enough to tape the whole edge. Place the tape on the edge that overlaps the other side.

Gently press the tape flat in the middle first, make sure you don't overlap the pattern on the cut edge. Then press tape down to the outer edges.

STEP 5: Cut a sheet of card stock a couple of inches longer and wide enough to overlap itself at least once.
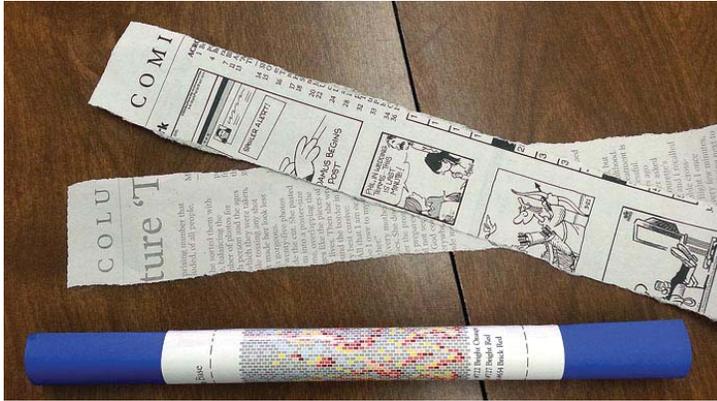

Roll it up small enough to slide into your pattern.

Work roll so that it fits snug against the pattern.

STEP 6: Tear LONG strips of newspaper just a little WIDER THAN THE TUBE. You can also use shredded document paper, the spaghetti like strips pack very well.

You can crumple the end of the paper to get it into the tube, but don't ball up all the paper first, it will create air pockets that won't pack down.

FOR A NARROW DESIGN LIKE THE ONE SHOWN

STEP 7: Pack paper into both ends and use a chopstick, pen, pencil, or sharpie, to compress it TIGHTLY.

Remember to pack from BOTH ENDS alternately so you don't create an air pocket.

Keep packing until you reach the ends.

The tube should feel like a STICK with NO SQUISHY BITS!

FOR A FULL SIZED AMULET BAG:

STEP 7: Pack FIVE strips into the tube, compressing them towards the middle. This will give the tube enough body to close one end.
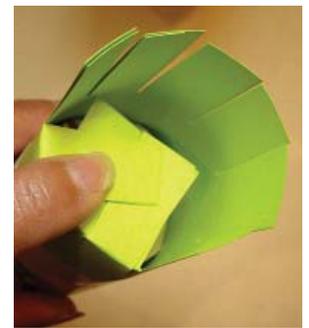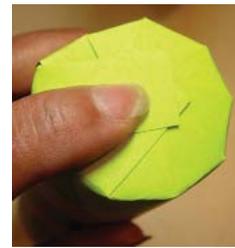
STEP 8: Cut tabs on one end, 3/8" of an inch apart and about 1" down the tube. Try to cut them all the same depth, otherwise when you go to fold them down it will not give you a straight edge.

Make sure you don't cut deeper than the tube is wide.

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STEP 9: Fold the tabs down one at a time.

Once you fold the last one down, tape over the end to keep it closed.

Step 10: Now pack the paper inside DOWN TIGHTLY to the taped end. Repeat every 4 strips, you'll end up creating an air pocket if you wait to long. Really PUSH DOWN as you pack. I use a dowel or firm stick like object to push the paper in. If you did it correctly it should feel like a solid stick, NO SQUISHY spots!

Pack all the way to the end, then pull out the last few so you can cut that end into tabs (**Step 9**) then push the paper you pulled out back in and tape shut.

Step 10: Place a layer of CLEAR tape over the whole form, this will protect the form and your pattern.

You're ready to start beading!

Getting Started Tips:

Step 1: Pull 12" extra thread to leave as a tail after your stop bead.

Step 2: String row one and two.

Step 3: Run your needle through all the beads again creating a circle.

Step 4: Slide onto the form. Make sure your beads match the pattern.

Step 5: Hold your stop bead just under the pattern on the seam you taped together.

Step 6: Wrap the tail around the form just under the pattern. Tape down close to the stop bead and over the threads with 1-1/2" of tape, fold over a little bit of the tape end so you can peel it up again later.

Now your beads won't spin as you add your third row!

Step 7: Keep the loop snug as you work but not over tight. After the first few beads of the third row, pull the thread snug and make sure your beads are stacking nicely and the loop is snug against the form.

NOTE: The space you see in the loop will disappear as you FINISH the third row.

Step 8: As you add the third row, every 1/4 of the way around, make sure the beads are snug and align them perfectly over the chart. You will see the space slowly disappear.

If there is still a gap when you finish the third row. Align the first bead over the first bead on the pattern, then PUSH the space closed and work backwards making sure the beads align directly over the pattern, any left over space should disappear as you even out the spacing.

NOTE: As you continue beading, you will have to UNTAPE the tail thread and retape it to keep the beads aligned to the chart. The chart is 20% TALLER than the finished piece.