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Mastering Beadwork
A Comprehensive Guide to Off-Loom Techniques
by Carol Huber Cypher

New beaders seeking to build solid beading foundations plus experienced beadworkers wanting to refine their skills will find a wealth of information in **MASTERING BEADWORK: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO OFF-LOOM TECHNIQUES** (Interweave Press, August 2007, \$24.95) by Carol Huber Cypher, an nationally acclaimed bead instructor and adjunct faculty member in the fashion program at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. This project book plus reference tool in one is based on Cypher's years of teaching experience and introduces more than 16 essential beading techniques, which are then put to use with 63 creative projects that further explore and enhance the beader's skills and confidence.

"These are test-driven beadwork recipes, rich in information and peppered with tips and best practices," says Cypher. "Lessons are infused with knowledge and experience gleaned by working with and teaching hundreds of beaders."

Introductory chapters about "What You Need" and "What You Need to Know" illustrate all the elements beaders need for setting up a beading studio, including materials and tools lists, plus a general beadwork glossary of terms and techniques. After reading the first two chapters, beaders may find it useful to refer to these sections as they progress through projects.

To begin, beaders can choose from one of the five dozen projects, ranging from bracelets, necklaces, rings, earrings, findings, closures, beaded beads, and other beaded objects. Photographs, step-by-step instructions, and illustrations accompany each project. Alternately, Cypher advises beginners to start with the first project and build their skills as each chapter progresses in order to master each technique. Some of the beading techniques covered in **MASTERING BEADWORK** include

peyote, spiral, vertical and horizontal netting, bead crochet, right-angle weave, triangle weave, daisy chain, ladder stitch, Ndebele, brick stitch, and the African helix.

Useful sidebars found throughout the book include:

- “Try This” – tips to create stunning and unique variations on the project at hand
- “Did You Notice” – observations about the project at hand
- “Learn from My Mistake” – insights from the author on specific projects

MASTERING BEADWORK is a classroom in a book, an all-in-one reference guide, and a compendium of beading techniques. It will supplement what beaders have already learned in beading classes and set them on their first steps to beading with confidence.

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About the author:

Carol Huber Cypher is a bead and fiber artist who has taught hundreds of students. She is an adjunct faculty member in the fashion program at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. She has appeared on PBS' *Beads Baubles and Jewels* and is the author of *Hand Felted Jewelry and Beads* (Interweave Press, 2006) and the forthcoming *How We Felt* (September, 2007). Carol lives in Port Ewen, NY.

About Interweave Press LLC:

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Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colo. For more information on Interweave Press, please visit www.interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.