

# AURORA BOREALIS Loom Woven GemDuo Cuff

**By Leslie Rogalski** www.leslierogalskibeadworks.com





Shimmery "Summer Rainbow" colors of GemDuos are loom woven in a cuff that illuminates your style at any time of the year!

Technique: Weaving two holed beads on a loom

Skill level: Intermediate

**To know**: Basic loom warping and weaving, ending and adding thread, making square knots, square stitch.

**Size**: Bracelet width fits a 29mm BeadSlide clasp, with length as desired. The last row at each end is made only with size 11°s to slide within the BeadSlide tubes. Make your beadwork to fit your wrist, minus 12mm to allow for the girth of the clasp with those rows enclosed.

## **MATERIALS FOR THIS DESIGN:**

3g size 11° Japanese galvanized gold seed beads 4g each of four colors of GemDuos (See photo page for list of colors) BeadSlide clasp 29mm Loom of choice S-lon Fire
Beading needles size 11°
Scissors or Thread Zap
Hypo Cement to glue knots
Pliers to close clasp tube ends

#### TIPS:

Check all holes of multi holed beads to make sure they are clear and well-formed before using them.

Keep the domed side of the GemDuos facing up. Choose the correct bead hole as indicated in text and illustrations.

Make sure to attach the two pieces of the BeadSlide clasp to close with it facing up.

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## Warping

**Step 1.** Working from your spool of Fireline, warp your loom doubled on the first and last warp for sturdy side edges. String six warps spaced with 3 notches between. Tie off the thread securely. Trim from spool. **PHOTO 1** 

#### Weaving

**Step 2**. Cut a comfortable length of working thread, about one arm's length. Tie a half hitch with one end of the thread to a side warp, leaving a four inch tail to weave in later. Tie this hitch on the left warp if right-handed, on the right warp if left-handed, about 2 inches from one end coil. **PHOTO 2** 

**NOTE**: The warp ends will be knotted off and dabbed with Hypo Cement, with knots ultimately hidden inside the BeadSlide tubes. Leave enough warp thread to be able to manage secure square knots.

- **Step 3.** String a needle on the long working thread.
- **Step 4.** Rows 1 and 2: Bring your needle and thread UNDER the warp threads. String 20 size 11°s. Pop up four beads between each warp, and hold them in place with your non dominant hand index finger. Press down with your thumb to help pop up the beads. Sew back through the beads carefully so your needle passes OVER the warp threads. **PHOTO 3**
- **TIP**: DO NOT miss any beads and DO NOT pierce the warp threads as you sew back through any beads. Sew through just a few beads at a time.
- **Step 5.** Secure the first two rows together with square stitch. Exit out the non-dominant side of Row 2, in position for stringing the third row.
- **Step 6.** Row 3: String one 11°, one GemDuo, and one 11° to fit in the first warp space. GemDuos must face up. Repeat for a total of five GemDuos across, flanked by 11°s. Bring beads under the warps. Pop the beads up between each warp so each space has one 11°, one GemDuo and one 11°. **PHOTO 4**
- **Step 7**. Row 4: String new 11°s but use the second holes of the GemDuos instead of stringing new GemDuos. After sewing back through Row 3, string one 11°. Pivot the first GemDuo down with the open hole under the warp threads, and sew through. Keep your needle below the warps and string two 11°s. Pivot the second GemDuo down, sew through the GemDuo open hole, and string two 11°s. Pivot the third GemDuo down, and sew through the GemDuo's open hole. String two 11°s. Pivot the fourth GemDuo down, string two 11°s, and sew through the GemDuo's open hole. Pivot the fifth GemDuo down, sew through the open hole, and string ONE 11°. **PHOTO 5**
- **Step 8.** Hold the beads in place with the index finger of your non-dominant hand pushing up on the beads. Sew back through the beads just strung. NOTE: Make sure to sew through the 11° on each end of the row with your thread OVER the side warp. Those end 11°s should sit next to the GemDuo holes. **PHOTO 6**
- Step 9. Row 5: Weave one row of 20 size 11°s. PHOTO 7
- **Step 10**. Repeat from Step 4 to Step 9 for your desired length. Remember to account for the row at each end that slides into the clasp tube and the width of the clasp itself. As in Step 2, square stitch the last rows of 11°s together at each end. Weave in the thread to secure, and trim.

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#### Remove from loom

Check the length. Massage the beadwork while it is still on your loom to flatten and smooth the strip woven, keeping rows snug but not overlapping. Add rows of 11°s equally at each end as needed to lengthen the cuff. Square stitch them together. Leaving warp ends as long as possible, carefully cut your work from the loom.

**Step 12.** The beauty of the BeadSlide is not needing to weave in those warp ends. On one end of your cuff, knot two warp ends together securely, close to the row of beads. Do not tie knots so snug that the row buckles. Repeat across the row making a total of three knots for this design. (Take care not to pull those warps out of your beadwork!) Dab knots with Hypo Cement, let dry, and trim close to knots. Repeat for the other end.

## Clasp

**TIP**: Keep the top side of the BeadSlide facing the same way as your GemDuos. Make sure to attach both clasp parts facing properly to face up when closed.

**Step 13**. Wiggle one tube of a BeadSlide over the row. If the tube channel opening is too snug, GENTLY use a slim but sturdy tool such as a micro-pliers, awl, or bead scoop to slide along the channel, widening it slightly. Slide the tube over the whole row including knots. Carefully use a pliers to close the little flaps at each end of the BeadSlide tubes. **PHOTO 8** 

Leslie Rogalski is the Creative Director for The BeadSmith.

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This photo shows a 5.5 inch of beadwork on the **BeadSmith LoomEEZ**. The pattern repeats a row of GemDuos alternating with a row of 11°s: Color A (dk blue), Color B (dk violet), Color C (pink), Color D (orange), then in reverse C, B, A. This pattern repeats as long as needed to end with color A, then rows of 11°s. To lengthen, add

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the same number of rows of 11°s at each end, and square stitch the last two rows together at each end before sliding on the clasp.

