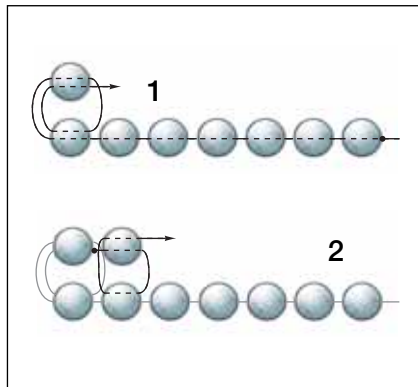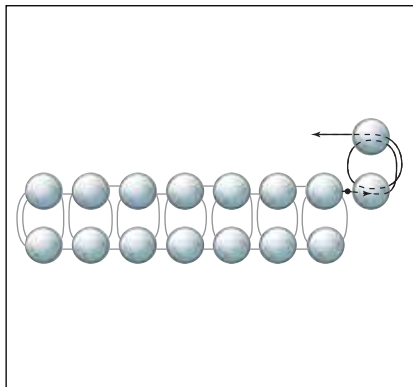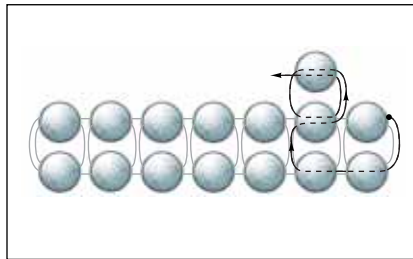# Square Stitch Basics

Square stitch

1 Pick up the required number of beads for the first row. Then pick up the first bead of the second row. Go through the last bead of the first row and the first bead of the second row in the same direction as before. The new bead sits on top of the old bead, and the holes are horizontal.

2 Pick up the second bead of row 2, and go through the next-to-last bead of row 1. Continue through the new bead of row 2. Repeat this step for the entire row.
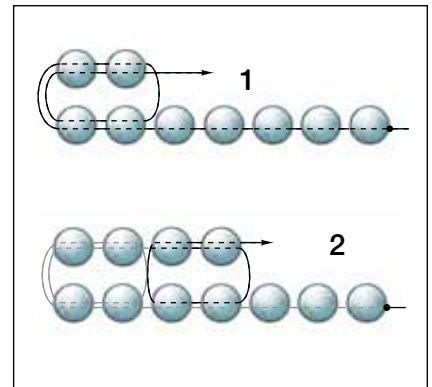
Increasing in square stitch

To increase the width of your work by one bead, pick up two beads before starting the next row. Go back through them both in the same direction, then resume working across the established row.

Decreasing in square stitch

To decrease the number of beads in a row, go back through the two beads on the next-to-last row, and exit the bead below where the new row will start. Pick up a bead, and continue in square stitch across the row.

Two-bead square stitch

1 Pick up an even number of beads for the first row. Then, pick up two beads, go through the second-to-last bead of step 1 and back through the new beads.

2 Pick up two more beads, go down through the next two beads on the first row, and back through the new beads.