French Beaded Cornflower

Difficulty Level: Beginner

To make your French Beaded Cornflower you will need to know the following French Beading Techniques:
• Continuous Loops
• Fringe
• Lacing
You can find free tutorials for each of these on my website: BeadandBlossom.com

Tools:
• Wire cutters
• Bead spinner (optional)

Materials for one Cornflower:
Beads:
• Approx. 10 grams size 11/0 seed beads in petal color
• Approx. 8 grams size 11/0 seed beads in leaf color
• 10 pieces size 11/0 seed beads in stamen color 1
• 24 pieces size 11/0 seed beads in stamen color 2
• 24 pieces size 11/0 seed beads in stamen color 3

Wire:
• 28 gauge copper core wire in petal color
• 28 gauge copper core wire in leaf color
• 1x 16 gauge florist stem wire

Other:
• Floral tape

Sepal Pattern:
1. Make 1 per flower: 8x Continuous Loops using 17 beads per loop (Figure 1)
   • Use 28 gauge leaf colored wire and size 11/0 leaf colored seed beads
   • Leave a 1-2 inch tail of wire on both sides of your piece.

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2. Using another length of 28 gauge wire, *Lace* all of your loops together, approximately 3 beads from the tip of the loops. Do not cut the lacing wire tails just yet. (Figure 2)

3. Form your Continuous Loop piece into a cup shape, with the lacing wires facing inward. Twist the two construction tail wires at the bottom of your loops together. Twist the two *lacing* tail wires together to secure the two sides together, then clip it short and tuck the stub inside your cup shape. (Figure 3)

4. To shape your cup, bend the tips of your loops outward. (Figure 4)

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**Leaf Pattern:**

1. Make 5 per flower: 1x Loop using 18 beads, with a 3 bead Fringe in the tip.
   - Use 28 gauge leaf colored wire and size 11/0 leaf colored seed beads.
   - Leave a 1-2 inch tail of wire, then string on 12 of your size 11/0 leaf colored beads.
   - Skipping the last bead, string the working end of your wire down through the next 2 beads, creating a 3 bead Fringe. (Figure 5)
   - Add 9 more beads onto the working end of your wire. (Figure 6)
   - Twist the two end wires together. (Figure 7)
Flower Pattern:

Make 7-8 per flower: 5x Fringe with center Loops.
- Use 28 gauge petal colored wire and size 11/0 petal colored beads and follow the patterns below for each Fringe.

Fringe 1:
1. String 8 beads, then skipping the last bead, string your working wire down through the second bead to create a 2 bead Fringe. (Figure 8)
2. Add 2 beads to your working wire to create a loop in the middle of your Fringe, then pass down through the bottom 4 beads to create a 4 bead Fringe below the loop. (Figure 9)

Fringe 2: Repeat Fringe 1. (Figure 11)

Fringe 3:
1. String 10 beads onto your working wire. Skipping the last bead, pass your working wire back down through the second bead to create a 2 bead Fringe. (Figure 12)
2. Add 4 beads to your working wire to create a loop in the center of your Fringe. Then pass down through the bottom 4 beads to create a 4 bead Fringe below the loop. (Figure 13)
Fringe 4:
1. Add 11 beads to your working wire. Then, skipping the last bead, pass your working wire back down through the second bead to create a 2 bead Fringe. (Figure 14)
2. Add 5 beads to your working wire to create a loop in the middle of your Fringe. Then pass your working wire down through the bottom 4 beads to create a 4 bead Fringe below the loop. (Figure 15)

Fringe 5: Repeat Fringe 3. (Figure 16)

Form your Fringe piece into a flower shape by looping the end wire over the first Fringe and twisting both tail wires together. Bend the loops outward slightly, while pinching the inner Fringes together to make a cone shape. (Figure 17 – 18)

Your longest Petal (Fringe 4) should be at the top of your flower, with the 2 shortest Petals (Fringes 1 and 2) at the bot-

Stamen Pattern: Use 28 gauge petal colored wire and size 11/0 petal color, and Stamen colors 1, 2, and 3.

Make 1 per flower: 6 x Fringe using 3 beads each.
- For each Fringe use 2 of Stamen color 1 (light blue), and 1 of your Petal colored beads at the tip. (Figure 19)
• Curl your Fringes into a circle, positioning 1 of the Fringes in the very center. Loop your end wire over the last Fringe then twist the end wires together. (Figure 20)

Make 1 per flower: 8x Fringe using 4 beads each.
• String on 3 of Stamen color 2 (purple) and 1 of your Petal colored beads at the tip of each Fringe. (Figure 21)
• After completing all of your Fringes, form your piece into a circle by looping the working wire over the last Fringe. To center your stem wire beneath your piece, fold the working wire over the center of your circle, and pull both end wires to the middle of the bottom side of your piece and twist the wires together. (Figure 22)

Make 1 per flower: 12x Fringe using 4 beads each.
• Alternate making Fringes in your petal colored beads, and in Stamen color 3 beads (dark blue). (Figure 23)

• After completing all of your Fringes, form your piece into a circle by looping the working wire over the last Fringe. To center your stem wire beneath your piece, fold the working wire over the center of your circle, and pull both end wires to the middle of the bottom side of your piece and twist the wires together. (Figure 24)

Insert the stem wire for the smallest Fringe piece into the center of the second Fringe piece. Then both of those stem wires into the center of the third Fringe piece. Twist all the stem wires together. (Figures 25-26)
Assembly:

1. Wrap your 16 gauge florist stem wire with floral tape.
2. Cut another length of floral tape in half lengthwise (Figure 27) (This helps keep stem bulk to a minimum) Use this half-width of floral tape to wrap the stem wires of each little flower. Leave about 1/8 inch of stem wire below the flower, and bend. Remember that the longest petal should be positioned at the top of the flower. (Figure 28)
3. Using another half-width of floral tape, attach your stamen to your 16 gauge stem wire. (Figure 29)
4. Use another half-width of floral tape to add in your flowers. These can all be added in at the same time as you make a single wrap around the stem wire with the floral tape. (Figure 30)

5. Wrap your floral tape down the stem to cover your flower stem wires. (Figure 31)
6. Insert the end of your 16 gauge stem wire into the center of your sepal cup, and slide the sepal all the way up so it presses against the underside of your flower. Use a half-width of floral tape to secure the sepal stem wire to the 16 gauge stem wire. (Figure 32)
7. Using the same length of floral tape add in your leaves one at a time, leaving about an inch between them on the stem. Add them in on all sides, not just the right or left. (Figure 33)
I do hope you have enjoyed this French Beaded Cornflower tutorial. You can find more of my flower patterns and French Beading technique tutorials on my website - BeadandBlossom.com