

# French Beaded Hair Clip



*Difficulty Level:* Intermediate

*Finished Size:* ~ 2 inches wide

*Techniques Required:*

- [Continuous Loops](#)
- Two-Wire Basic Frame\*

The first technique is taught in a free video and PDF lesson on my website - [BeadandBlossom.com](http://BeadandBlossom.com).

\* Two-Wire Basic Frame will be taught in this packet. This is what I am calling a technique that I found in the book "Beadwork" by Donatella Ciotti. I am unsure if this technique is of her invention, or her teacher's (Giovanna Poggi Marchesi), or someone else entirely, or whether it has always been a part of the Venetian set of beaded flower techniques.

Full disclosure: I had a hard time understanding the written instructions in that book. I have a hard time understanding other people's written instructions anyways, and the ones in the book were translated from Italian, which upped the difficulty level for me. The Venetian beaded flowers techniques use different terms to describe parts of the frame. So I'm not 100% sure that what I'm doing in this PDF is what she describes in the book. I just *think* that this is what she's probably doing. There was no technique name given in the book that I could find, and I like specific methods to have names so the exact procedure can be distinguished from other similar-looking techniques. So, hopefully it is okay that I've given it a name even though it is not my technique. I just need an easy way to refer to it.

This technique allows for making multiple basic frame petals that are all connected together in continuous format. The method is similar to both my [Continuous Basic Frame](#) technique in that there are an even number of petals, and [Fen Li's Continuous Split Basic](#) in terms of how it's worked. But it results in no leftover top wires and no bare wires laying behind the petals.

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## French Beaded Hair Clip

### Basic Materials

The materials list and pattern instructions make 1 hair clip.

#### Round Seed Beads (rocailles):

- A. ~6 grams 11/0 petal color
- B. 0.75 grams 11/0 for the flower center bezel loops
- C. 8 pieces 8/0 for the flower center bezel loops

#### Colored Copper Wires:

- 5 ft 24g petal color
- 2 ft 26g flower center color

#### Other:

- 14 mm rivoli (flower center)

#### For a Hair Clip:

- 1 ¼ - 2 inch hair clip with 12 - 18 mm bezel cup or perforated disc attached (see photo >>>)
- 2-part jewelry epoxy if using a clip with a bezel cup
- 6lb crystal Fireline beading thread and beading needle if using a clip with a perforated disc



To find bezel cup and perforated disc hair clip blanks, check on Etsy! Be careful that the clips are not too small, otherwise they might not be strong enough to hold up a clip this size.

**Remember:** Always purchase extra materials, always cut extra wire, and always string extra beads! You might use a little more than me due to differences in personal technique, so it's always best to give yourself a little wiggle room with stringing and cutting lengths.

### Tools

- Wire cutters
- Ruler / tape measure
- A couple small bead spinners
- scissors

### Abbreviations Used

BR = Basic Row  
CL = Continuous Loops  
PB = Pointed Bottom  
RT = Round Top  
TWBF = Two-Wire Basic Frame

### Metric Conversions

Imperial	Metric
1/8 inch	3.2 mm
1/2 inch	1.3 cm
1 ¼ inch	3.2 cm
2 inches	5 cm
3 inches	7.6 cm
5 inches	12.7 cm
8 inches	40.6 cm
20 inches	51 cm
2 feet	61 cm
3 feet	91 cm

## French Beaded Hair Clip

### Flower Center:

Wire: 26g

Beads: B = 11/0, C = 8/0, 14mm rivoli

1. Cut about 20 inches of wire off the spool.
2. String 6B, 1C, 6B onto the wire and make a CL about 5 inches from the starting end of the wire.
3. Make two more identical loops. Leave little to no wire space between the loops.
4. Make 3x more loops, but leave a 1/8 inch wire gap between loops 3 and 4. We will fill this space later with an upside-down loop. **(Photo 1)**
5. Twist the two tail wires together just a couple times to close the unit into a circle. These twists need to be short and tight to keep the unit together. You should also pull the two loops on the end as close together as you can so you end up with little to no space between them after you twist. **(Photo 2)**
6. Make a 7<sup>th</sup> loop above the twist using both wires. Add 6B to each tail wire, then cross the wires through 1C **(Photo 3)**. Pull taut **(Photo 4)**.
7. Add 2B to one of the tail wires, then pass through the 1C at the top of the next loop over. **(Photo 5)**
8. Repeat for the next two loops, until you reach the point where you left the 1/8 space in the wire. **(Photo 6)**
9. Switch to the other tail wire, and add 2B between each of the 1C in the other three loops going the opposite direction around the circle. Both wires should meet at the 1/8 inch gap. **(Photo 7)**

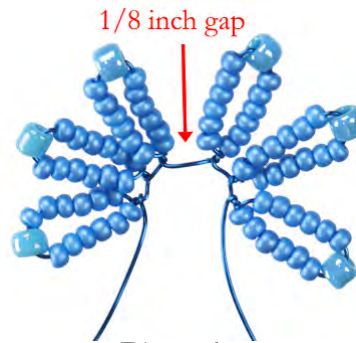


Photo 1

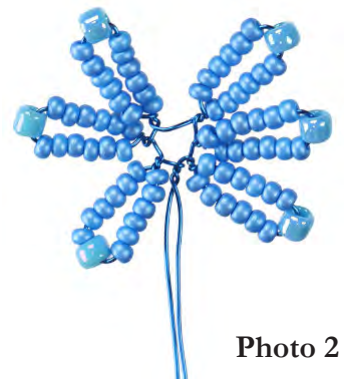


Photo 2

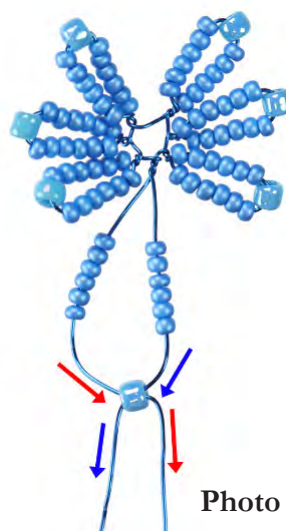


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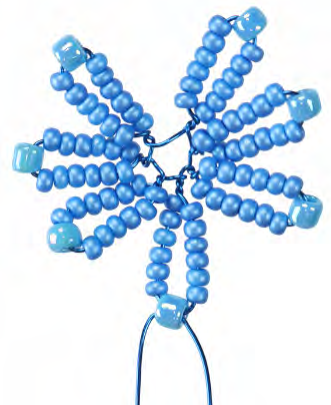


Photo 4

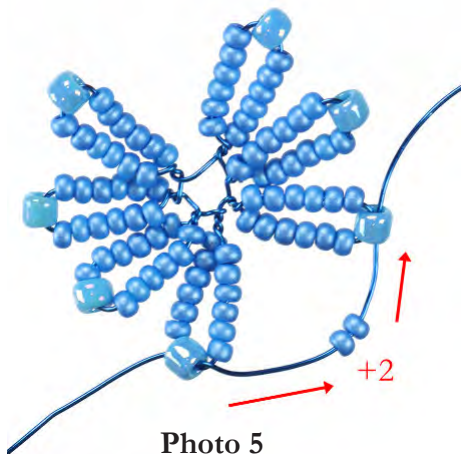


Photo 5

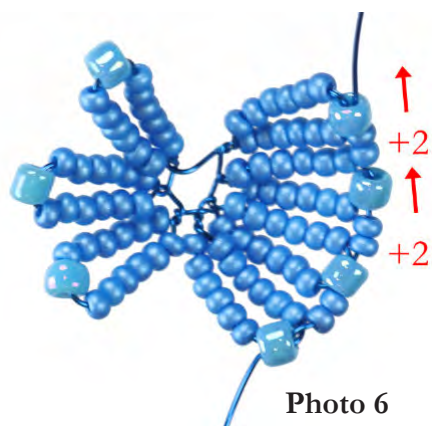


Photo 6

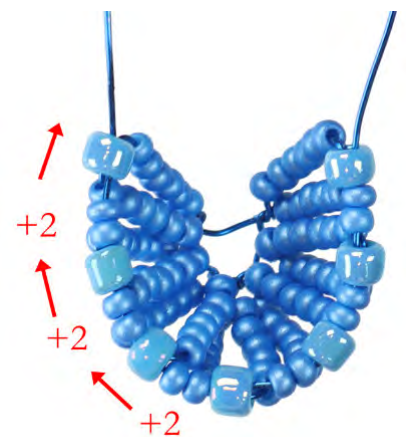


Photo 7



## French Beaded Hair Clip

10. Add 2B to each wire. Cross the two wires through 1C. This will be the top bead in the 8<sup>th</sup> loop, which we will add to the unit upside-down. **(Photo 8)**
11. Before pulling it all the way taut, insert the 14mm rivoli. Start mold the loops so they form right around the rivoli. This is an important step. You can mold it more later, so it doesn't need to be a perfect fit yet, just enough to get it centered and held securely in place. **(Photo 9)**
12. Pull taut, then add 6B to each of the tail wires **(Photo 10)**, then twist the two wires below. **(Photo 11)**
13. Loop the two tail wires around the 1/8 inch gap of wire that was left between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> loops **(Photo 12)**. Now this 8<sup>th</sup> loop should take up that empty spot.
14. Take one of the tail wires to the opposite side of the component by bringing it across the underside of the rivoli, and wrap around a wire gap between two loops on the opposite side. Do not twist the two wires together below. We need them on opposite sides for assembly. **(Photo 13)**
15. Take the time to mold the loops better around the rivoli.

**Photo 14** shows a finished Flower Center.



**Photo 8**



**Photo 9**



**Photo 10**



**Photo 11**



**Photo 12**



**Photo 13**



**Photo 14**

## French Beaded Hair Clip

### Petals:

Wire: 24g petal

Beads: 11/0 petal

5x 8 row TWBF - 5 bead BR - PB RT

For the purpose of the tutorial images and instructions, I will be using two colors of wire so they can be more easily distinguished in the photos. You should use the same color wire for your finished flower petals.

I am using two separate lengths of wire, but you can actually set this up as a regular basic frame with a loop at the bottom, and make the top wire the same length given for wire 2.

1. String about 2 feet of beads onto the spool. This will be wire 1 (blue in the photos), which we will use to wrap rows 2-7. Cut a 1 ½ foot length of wire off the spool and string about 8 inches of beads. This will be wire 2 (red), which we will use for the basic row and row 8.
2. Leave a 2-3 inch tail on both wires, then twist them together about ½ inch. **(Photo 15)**
3. Bring 5 beads down on wire 2 for the first basic row. Coil the rest of wire 2 up a little so it's short and easier to wrap around. **(Photo 16)**
4. Use wire 1 (blue) to wrap rows 2 through 7 around the basic row with a pointed bottom and round top **(Photo 17)**. Wrap wire 1 once around the bottom wire.
5. Un-coil wire 2 (red). Bring down enough beads to wrap row 8 down the side of the petal **(Photos 18 - 19)**. Row 8 should be on the opposite side from row 7, not the same side. I wrap clockwise around the basic frame, so row 7 is on the right and row 8 is on the left.
6. Twist both wires together about ½ inch (long enough to make the bottom wire for the second petal). Bring down 5 more beads on wire 2 (red) for the basic row of the second petal. Make sure the spool wire (blue) is in position to wrap the direction you like to wrap. I wrap rows clockwise around the basic row, so mine is coming over the front of the red wire pointing left of the basic row. **(Photo 20)**

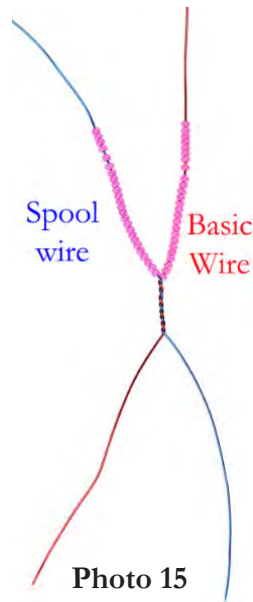


Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17

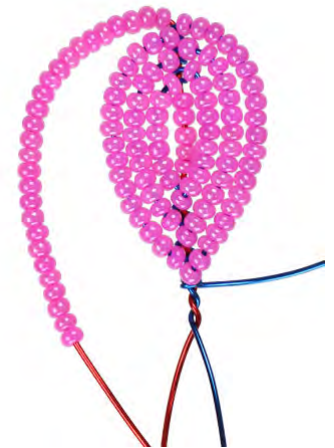


Photo 18

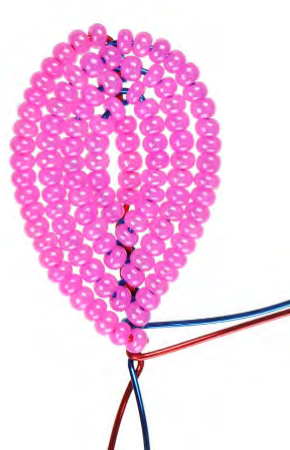


Photo 19

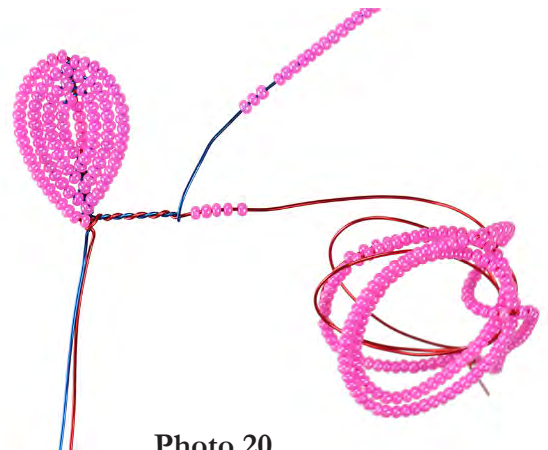


Photo 20



## French Beaded Hair Clip

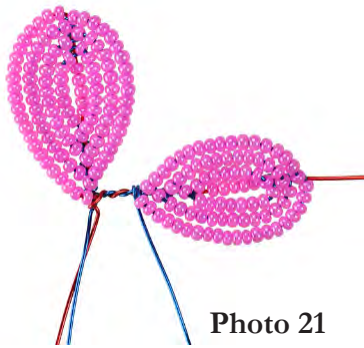


Photo 21

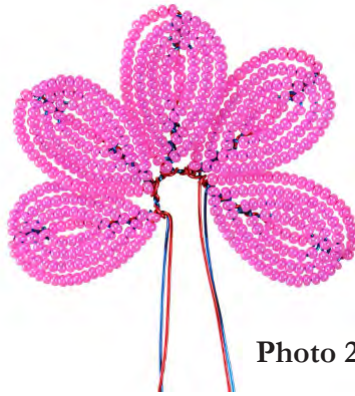


Photo 22



Photo 23

7. Wrap rows 2-7 for the second petal with wire 1 (blue). Wrap once around the bottom wire. (Photo 21)
8. On wire 2, bring down enough beads to wrap row 8 to the bottom wire. Wrap just once at the bottom wire.
9. Repeat until you have five total petals. After the last petal, double wrap the top wire below the petal. (Photo 22)
10. You should end up with four total tail wires, two on each end of the unit.
11. Reduce to one wire on each end by carefully cutting one of each pair off just below the last row of beads. (Photo 23)
12. Wrap the starting wire around the base of the last petal twice to close the unit into a circle. Then trim that wire off completely right at the base of the petal. Wrap the ending wire around the base of the first petal twice to secure the end of that wire. Then trim that wire off completely. You should end up with zero tail wires left and zero top wires to cut and fold.



Photo 24

Photo 24 shows the back of the petal unit.

### Petals with Edging:

For petals with an edging, we just need to make a few simple changes to the procedure explained in the previous section.

1. Measure and cut about 3 feet of wire to use as wire 1. This wire will make rows 2-7. But only string a few inches of the inner petal color - enough to make rows 2-6. Wire 2 will still be about 2 feet long, but only string 5 beads for the basic row
2. Construct the basic frame just as before, then wrap rows 2-6 with wire 2. If there is any of the inner petal color left on the wire, remove it, then string the edging color and wrap row 7. (Photo 25)
3. On wire 2 (top wire), string the edging color. Then wrap row 8 to the bottom wire.
4. Repeat until you have five petals, then finish off as described in the previous section so you end up with 0 tail wires. (Photos 26-27)



Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 27

## French Beaded Hair Clip

### Assembly:

We will be using the flower center's tail wires to sew multiple attachment points between the flower center and the flower petals. This way the attachment will be very secure and the flower center will not shift at all.

1. Position the Flower Center in the middle of the Petals. There should be two wires underneath the flower center, one on each side. Also note the wire spaces between petals. These are the wires we will be sewing the flower center to.
2. Take one tail wire down between two petals and wind around the space in the wire between the two petals, then up *inside* the flower center between the rows of beads in one of the loops. This action will catch both the wire between flower petals, and the wires between loops in the flower center to sew them together. (**Photo 28**)
3. Repeat to take that same tail wire down between the *next* two petals. Take the wire down and around the wire spacing between the petals, then back up through the flower center between the rows in a *different* loop. This way you will be moving around the circle so you can more easily move over between the *next* petals.
4. Repeat at least once more with that tail wire.
5. Repeat the entire process with the second pair of tail wires to sew the other half of the flower center down to the wires between petals on the other half of the unit.

Photo 28



Photo 29



Photo 30



**Photo 29** shows the front of the finished flower.

**Photo 30** shows the back.

You can use beads and buttons as flower centers as well!

When using a bead, like the coin pearl in **Photo 31**, you will add it before cutting the Flower Petals tail wires!

1. Close the flower petals into a circle by winding the ending tail wire once around the first petal.
2. Add the flower center bead and bring it over the center of the flower (**Photo 31**). Then double wrap the wire around a petal on the opposite side.
3. At this point you will double wrap the starting tail wire around the last petal, then trim off both tail wires completely.



Photo 31

For a button, you will do something similar to the bead, but having a larger hole means that they are a little more wiggly and need a couple extra passes with the wire to keep them steady. I didn't take photos of the flower I used a button for, so hopefully I can explain it well enough. Just like the bead center, close the unit, then add the button in the center and wrap once around a petal on the opposite side of the unit. Then take the wire back through the button, and wrap around a different petal. Repeat a couple of times to secure the button and make it less wiggly. Then tie off the wires.



## French Beaded Hair Clip

### Attaching to a Bezel Cup Hair Clip:

1. Mix the 2-part epoxy according to the product instructions.
2. Add a little to the bezel tray, and to the underside of the flower.
3. Set the flower upside-down on a table or flat surface with the hair clip on top while it cures overnight. Sometimes I use a couple of extra hair clips to clamp the flower down to the clip so it stays tightly in place while it dries. (Photo 32)



Photo 32



Photo 33

Photo 33 shows the finished clip.

There are a multitude of hair accessory blanks that you can attach these flowers to. Many have bezel cups like the alligator clip I showed before, so the attachment method would be the same.

Some have perforated discs or decorative filigrees attached to them. With blanks like these, I use Fireline and a needle and thread to attach the flowers to the bases. Use a similar method to how the flower center was attached to the flower petals. Sew up around around the wires between petals. You can skip sewing up and through the flower center, though. I would sew multiple times between each set of petals, not just once. I do not recommend using wire (either a separate wire or the flower petal tail wires) to secure the flowers to the flower accessory blanks. Wire has a harder time bending and curling and passing through tight places without forming kinks, and it leaves a lot more bulk behind. Thread is more flexible so you can go in and out of the flower components much easier, with less frustration.

If you happen to have any soldering skills, you may be able to attach bezel cups, filigrees, and perforated discs to all kinds of accessory blanks. This is what I did in my early years of making beaded flower accessories before these types of accessory blanks could be purchased already made.

