

The  
ESSENTIAL  
Om Tara  
BEAD STASH

CHEAT SHEETS

The  
CHECK  
List

The  
RESOURCE  
Guide

The  
PROJECT  
Organizer

The  
CHECK  
List



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# Essential Bead Stash Checklist®

What you need when you Bead!



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## Tools

- Crimping pliers - Try our [Om Tara™ Crimping Pliers](#)
- Round nose pliers
- Cutters/nippers
- Bead Mat
- Chain nose pliers
- Good glasses!

## Findings - a Must!

- Stringing Wire - Beadalon, Soft Flex, Soft Touch - .015 or .012 - medium
- 2mm Tube Crimps (base metal or sterling) often called 2x2 crimps
- Bead Tips or Clamshells for use with fishline or silk thread
- Clasps - toggle, lobster, circle clasps or buttons - your choice of style
- 5mm or 6mm closed (soldered) Jump Rings
- 5mm or 6mm open Jump Rings
- 24 gauge Head Pins - 1.5" - 3" long
- Ear Wires
- 24 gauge sterling, gold filled or craft Wire
- 20 gauge sterling, gold filled or craft Wire
- 28 gauge sterling, gold filled or craft Wire
- Chain - your choice of styles - try a few different styles to mix and match!

## Additional Stringing Materials - to mix things up!

- Griffon Silk Cord with needle attached #2, #4 or #6 - you choose colors
- 1mm, 1.5mm & 2mm round Leather Cord
- 1mm - 3mm Woven Cotton Cord
- Waxed Linen Cord, yarns, hemp, waxed nylon, silk ribbon . . .
- Fishline - fine gauge (no Lead!)

## Bead Suggestions

- Beads

Seed Beads of all shapes, sizes, colors, Glass Beads, Gemstone Beads, Crystals, Wood, Pearls, Metal, Shell, . . .

- Special Focal beads

Czech Glass, Pearls, Gemstones, Crystals, Lampwork, Shells, Bone, . . .

- Spacer Beads

Seed Beads, Bali, Thai, & African Silver, Copper, Brass . . .

- Large Hole Beads

Glass Beads, Pearls, Gemstone Beads, Wood, Metal, Shell, Pearl . . .

## Optional

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hammered Links                 | <input type="checkbox"/> French Wire or Bullion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9mm-12mm Jump Rings            | <input type="checkbox"/> Chandelier Components  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Ball Crimps/Micro Crimps | <input type="checkbox"/> End Cones              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charms                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Crimp Ends for Leather |



*The*  
RESOURCE  
Guide



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# Essential Bead Stash Resource Guide®

Where to buy what you need to Bead!



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## My Top Three

Fire Mountain Gems - [www.firemountaingems.com](http://www.firemountaingems.com) - *Everything!*

Parawire - [www.parawire.com](http://www.parawire.com) - *the best craft wire you can buy!*

Primitive Earth Beads & Chain - [www.pebeads.com](http://www.pebeads.com) - *the best chain & leather!*

## Beads and more

Artbeads - [www.artbeads.com](http://www.artbeads.com)

Beadaholique - [www.beadaholique.com](http://www.beadaholique.com)

Class Act Designs - [classactdesigns.com](http://classactdesigns.com) - silk ribbons

Exim Beads - [www.eximbeads.com](http://www.eximbeads.com)

Garden of Beadin - [www.gardenofbeadin.com](http://www.gardenofbeadin.com)

Goody Beads - [www.goodybeads.com](http://www.goodybeads.com)

Leather Cord USA - [www.leathercordusa.com](http://www.leathercordusa.com)

Lima Beads - [www.limabeads.com](http://www.limabeads.com)

Ornamentea - [www.ornamentea.com](http://www.ornamentea.com)

Shipwreck Beads - [www.shipwreck.com](http://www.shipwreck.com)

The Beadin Path - [www.beadinpath.com](http://www.beadinpath.com)

Vintaj - [www.vintaj.com](http://www.vintaj.com)

## Findings, Wire and Tools

ANDS silver - [www.andssilver.com](http://www.andssilver.com)

Hands of the Hills - [www.hohbead.com](http://www.hohbead.com)

Jewelrytools.com - [www.jewelrytools.com](http://www.jewelrytools.com)

Om Tara - [www.omtara.com](http://www.omtara.com)

Rio Grande - [www.riogrande.com](http://www.riogrande.com)

Thunderbird Supply Company - [www.thunderbirdsupply.com](http://www.thunderbirdsupply.com)

## Magazines, Catalogs, Shows

Art Jewelry - [www.artjewelrymag.com](http://www.artjewelrymag.com)

Bead & Button - [www.beadandbutton.com](http://www.beadandbutton.com)

Bead Style - [www.beadstylemag.com](http://www.beadstylemag.com)

Beadwork - [www.beadwork.com](http://www.beadwork.com)

Fire Mountain Gems - [www.firemountaingems.com](http://www.firemountaingems.com)

Jewelry Stringing Magazine - [www.beadindaily.com/blogs/stringing](http://www.beadindaily.com/blogs/stringing)

Ornament - [www.ornament.com](http://www.ornament.com)

Rio Grande - [www.riogrande.com](http://www.riogrande.com)

Step by Step Wire - [www.interweavestore.com/jewelry-magazines-step-by-step-wire](http://www.interweavestore.com/jewelry-magazines-step-by-step-wire)

About.com beading instructions/projects - [www.beadwork.about.com](http://www.beadwork.about.com)

Beads Baubles and Jewels - [www.beadsbaublesandjewels.com/](http://www.beadsbaublesandjewels.com/)

Jewel School / Jewelry Television - [www.jtv.com/jewelry-making](http://www.jtv.com/jewelry-making)



The  
PROJECT  
Organizer



Om Tara



# Essential Bead Stash Project Organizer<sup>®</sup>

What you need when you Bead!



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Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Inspiration Who is this piece for? What energy do I want to express?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Colors  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Technique  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tools I'm using  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Findings I'm using  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Beads I'm using

**Beads**      Seed Beads, Glass Beads, Gemstone Beads, Crystals, Wood, Pearls, Metal, Shell, . . .

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**Special Focal beads**    Czech Glass, Pearls, Gemstones, Crystals, Lampwork, Shells, Bone, . . .

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**Spacer Beads**    Seed Beads, Bali, Thai, & African Silver, Copper, Brass . . .

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## Stringing Material

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**Notes**      What worked? What would I change next time?

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# How to Use the *Essential Bead Stash Project Organizer*®

## Project Name

Choose a name that will describe your piece - it can be utilitarian or symbolic. For example, *Leather and Pearl Cluster Necklace* describes the design, materials and technique used in your piece - basic, but useful for keeping a record of your designs.

"*The Pursuit of Happiness*" is symbolic, and describes more the feel of the piece, hinting at the colors and materials you might choose to include.

You can name your piece before you start beading or when your piece is finished. Creating a project name is essential as you move into selling and marketing your work.

 One thing to think about if you want to sell your work: Names can evoke emotion in buyers and can be a very effective marketing tool. If you are drawn to assigning symbolic names to your pieces, take a moment to jot down the story behind the name - a few words about what you were feeling or what the piece/symbol means to you. Much research has been done around the emotional connection buyers make to jewelry, and the name and story behind each piece can add significantly to its appeal.

## Inspiration

For many of my students, knowing where to start is often the hardest part of creating a piece of jewelry. Writing down the inspiration behind your piece,

- Who is this piece for?
- What energy do I want to express?

can help enormously in terms of getting started. Taking the time to find your inspiration helps to call in your creative energy - your muse - and makes the decision making that comes with designing easier and laser-focused.

## Colors

Our relationship to color is highly personal and emotional. Do not **think** too hard about colors!

If you are making a piece for someone you know, your direction is fairly clear: What colors do they like? What colors do they wear most often?

Write that down.

If you are making a piece that is more symbolic - from an energy, a feeling, an archetype, a quality - take a moment to imagine what that quality feels like:


What colors do you see in your mind's eye?

Write that down.

## Technique

Choose a technique you enjoy or one you want to learn. If you take on a new technique, be nice to yourself!! Give yourself the space to learn and experiment. Beading is (supposed to be) fun!

- Yes, you are allowed to take your piece apart.
- Yes, you are allowed to change your mind midstream.
- Yes, you are allowed to take time to get it just right - the way you want it!

 My personal beading rule is this: I finish what I start. Even if I don't like it. Beading is like cooking - it's a messy business. We don't always know what the piece will look like until it is finished. More often than not I end up with a piece that is better than what I first imagined. When it isn't, I cut it up and try something different.

## Tools I'm using

List your tools for future reference.

## Findings I'm using

Note here information about your clasp, crimp and jump ring size, and any other finding you might be adding to your piece.

## *Beads I'm using - Be a Crow!*

When it comes to gathering beads and materials for my pieces, I do not think too hard about what I want to choose. In fact I try to do the opposite!

Here's my suggestion for you:

Look at your materials with "soft eyes", and gaze over your bead stash.

I like to call it "Being a Crow"!

What beads, materials . . . do you notice first?

What catches your eye?

Choose those beads, and put them on your bead mat.

You can go through this gathering process as many times as needed, for beads, spacers, clasps and more. I don't always use every bead I choose for a piece, but that's ok! If I don't use a supply, I scratch it off my list for that particular project.

Approaching color and choosing materials this way lets your intuition and creativity lead the way. This simple but effective process can help us jump over the hurdle of feeling stuck when our mind can't decide what to pick.

## *Stringing Material*

Stringing Material is related to the technique you choose. Jot down what stringing material you use so you have a record for later projects. Note the type of material, size in mm or diameter, and color if relevant.

## *Notes*

This is the spot to write down what worked for you, what didn't, what you might change next time to make it easier, better . . . You can also write down any variations on this theme you might want to try in the future. This section is a great place to make note of any "story" elements you might want to add to the description of this piece.

Keep Creating  Stay Inspired  Share your work



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial. If you like my work, please visit my website, [www.OmTara.com](http://www.OmTara.com), to learn more about my beading classes, tools, books and programs. Sign up to receive my newsletter featuring bead-related tips, news and more! Stop by my facebook page at [www.facebook.com/omtarabead](http://www.facebook.com/omtarabead) and give me a **Like!**

*Laura*

## About Laura Gasparri

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Laura Gasparri, M.A., is an artist, writer, educator, counselor and inventor. She has been teaching the Art of Beadwork for over 15 years and creating jewelry since childhood. She is the principle designer and owner of Om Tara™. Laura is the inventor of the Om Tara™ Crimping Pliers and the developer of Om Tara™ precision beading tools.

Laura offers classes in beautiful Santa Barbara, California, and at beading trade shows across the country. She is available for individual consulting in beadwork and jewelry design. Laura is currently developing Om Tara™ Jewelry Arts Academy - an online classroom that offers instruction in beadwork and jewelry design, ranging from beginning beading skills to over 100 project-specific workshops.

