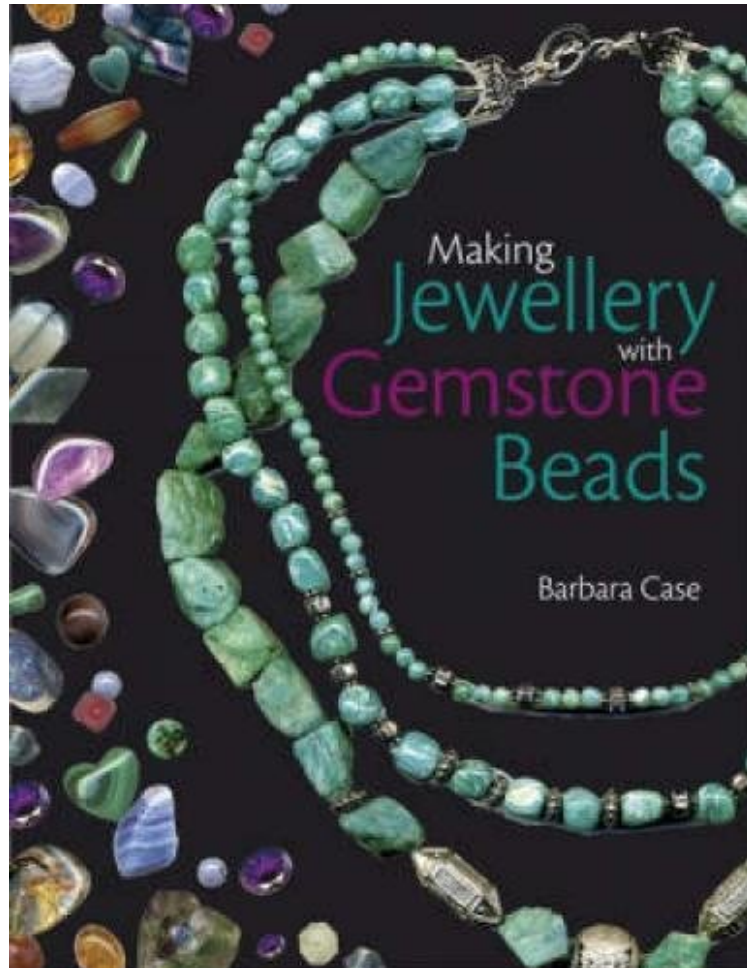


(Download) Making Jewelry with Gemstone Beads

Making Jewelry with Gemstone Beads

Barbara Case

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Barbara Case : Making Jewelry with Gemstone Beads before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making Jewelry with Gemstone Beads:

45 of 45 people found the following review helpful. Images superb...but need more substance in other areas
By CLG
Author Barbara Case brings out the beauty of selected gemstones (my favorites to use in my own work) by using beads of various sizes, shapes, and types and the book images reflect that. However, the danglers are all laid out (spread apart) to see their components - great, I grant you - but I would have liked to see how they actually look when hung around a neck for that will show the true appeal of the danglers. So good images reflect the beading design, yet in terms of how it may look around your neck is another matter. The chart on pages 10 and 11 is a plus as many 'common' stones (wish more were included) are systematically categorized into the typical sizes of round beads, other common shapes seen in the stone type (important as some stones are not cut in specific ways due to the chemical and structural composition), the relative costs of these stones (from very low to very high -- allows for jewelry designers to better

evaluate a sale price if an item is sold and/or giving one an idea as to what they can expect to spend if they wanted to use such a stone in their personal designs), placing the gemstone into the birthstone category, and lastly the various attributes often associated with each stone (e.g. LAPIS = wisdom, truth, awareness and JADE = protection on journeys, luck). Additional information can be gathered on the various stones (e.g. hardness/softness of the stone and recommendations on how to properly utilize it - e.g. some stones are 'softer' than others) in the descriptions on various stones along with designs in the second part of the book -- wish this information would have been in the chart, too. This would come in handy and if such information is all tabled together, it would make a great "mini-poster" to the gemstone designer. Maybe I missed it, but one of the greatest pieces of information when working with gemstones is the weight of some of the stones. This is really important when designing a piece, especially earrings. Also it is important when determining the type of wire, cord, thread to use when designing, for you don't want the necklace to fall apart if the stringing material does not work well with the type of stone used. So the good things - amazing images of the stones and design projects (some of the designs are very different from those seen in other books, which is always a plus when one wants to get out of a design rut), recommendations/tips, tidbits of historical facts regarding the stones and their 'mystical' or 'cultural' value, ranking of difficulty for nearly every design shown, and the decent chart made it a great reference chart. The bad things - lack of info regarding weight of some stones, not including newer products available (published in 2007 so one would have expected a few of the newer innovations to improve jewelry designs e.g. wire guardians), my personal desire to see how the design looked when hung on the neck or ear, and a wish that more of the gemstones used today were included. Therefore, with this being said I would have given the book a 3.5 star rating, but the images pushed it up to a solid 4 in comparison to other like books. I would also recommend this book to BEGINNERS (and even though some designs are ranked above 5, beginners can still do these as the images really provide clarity on how the piece is put together) and TO INTERMEDIATE jewelry designers. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not as helpful as I had hoped. By KZ This is a beautiful book that is fun to read and browse through. I'm disappointed that there is not more useful information about the gems - like the hardness and durability, and how to use them most effectively with that in mind, maybe color variations, etc. It is more about traditions and superstitions and the author's talent. Beautiful photography and artwork, but not much helpful information. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A lot of information. By A Hungarian in Texas This is a very good introduction to gemstones for beginners. The description of various stones is well-laid out, easy to take in, and the visuals are eye-pleasing. The designs chosen for each piece are gorgeous, and, although some of them are definitely not for complete beginners, are nevertheless described clearly and thoroughly. Ideas in each design, once picked apart and understood, are fun and easy to implement in one's designs. The findings for each piece are easy to replace with more expensive ones, if so desired--but clearly the author didn't wish to discourage beginners with the price of vermeil or sterling silver. Recommending for those past the total beginner stage who want to expand their range beyond basic stringing.

Combines the popular craft of beading with beautiful semi-precious stones, which are collected by many. Features a variety of versatile ideas which can be adapted for any type of gem or bead. Readers will learn to create beautiful gemstone jewelry with this dazzling collection of over 100 projects, ranging from eye-catching earrings and accessories to exquisite necklaces and bracelets. This beautiful book offers an impressive range of 28 beautiful semi-precious stones (including birthstones) and a glimpse into the fascinating history and mythical properties behind them. Projects range from the simplest stringing to more detailed beadwork to cater for all levels of ability. Clear artworks, beautiful photographs and easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions ensure flawless results.

About the Author Barbara Case has adored beads for over 30 years, eventually establishing a successful mail order business, Beads Exclusive, and designing for UK retail stores. Barbara has sold the business, but continues to design and make beautiful jewellery.