

## Notes from Kiss Beads Half Doll experiment on Facebook live.

1. remember that all the dolls are hand made (even if you have a antique) the waist of the doll will vary.

2. start the doll dress at the waist - or drop waist most dolls have a slight bevel out so don't go totally straight down even if you want a straight dress.

3. Remember that thread colour will matter in this project but it can be used to your advantage... as it can change the bead colour to more of what you want.

4. Use a 2 bead ladder stitch to make the first rows - (shown in video) using only a single strand of thread on the first ladder row (2 beads high) and the first row of herringbone.

5. Make the count of the ladder row an even number that is dividable by 2 to set up for Herringbone.

6. leave it open for 5-8 rows (after that I suggest working in the round, but remember to step up) so that it can be slipped on doll after and you don't have to work on doll... or slip a baby sock over the doll to protect it while working.

6. think about doll height this will vary from doll to doll and think about how you will stand her up ... think about how you can work out how many rows to would use on each level of increase, remember some form of unity is required to make it look good.

eg: this shown doll has approx 48 rows, 5 rows of just herringbone it then uses just 1 15's at the for 14 rows between the herringbone 11's then 8 rows of 2 15's, then 6 rows of 3 15's and then 6 rows of 4 15's, then 9 rows of 2 15's, 1 11, 2 15's, you might like 10 rows with 1 bead, 10 rows with 2 beads, 10 rows with 3 beads, 10 rows with 4 beads and a border of say 8-10 rows using a combination of 15's and 11's

7. think about the style of dress that suits the doll  
straight - don't use as many increases

full - use more increases - this can be beads between or starts of new herringbone stitches and beads between.

8. add embellishing touches like picots or flowers, a crystal row

9. add a strip of double sides tape to the bevel edge when joining skirt to doll it just helps to stabize it in the correct place.



Resources: a nice site to purchase half dolls if you do not have one in your stash.  
<http://www.halfdollheaven.com>