

History of Decorated Veils - Beads and Lace

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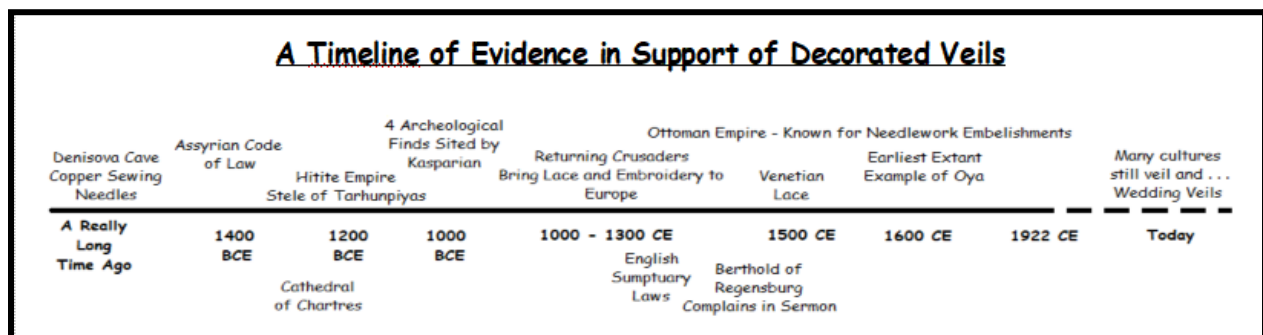
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Thank you for sharing your time with me and allowing me to share my interest and knowledge with you.

Definition

Veil - n. a thin piece of fabric or net worn over the face, head, or shoulders, or over some combination of these; something that hides or separates. v. to hide or cover.

<https://kids.wordsmyth.net>



Sermon Quote (my 1st door down this rabbit hole)

"You may busy yourselves with your veils, you twitch them thither; you gild them here and there with gold thread, and spend thereon all your time and trouble. You will spend a good six-months work on a single veil which is sinful great travail - and all that men may praise thy dress."

~Friar Berthold of Regensburg (c 1220-1272, St Day - Dec 14)

A Very Small History of Beads

Bead making has been a craft since the beginning of humanity. In the beginning, beads were made from materials found in nature (e.g., bone, shell, stone, and teeth). As the industry developed, gemstones and precious metals and other natural materials such as amber, were added to the resources for bead production and desired for clothing embellishment as well as jewelry.



According to archeologists, the earliest known beads were discovered in the Skuhl Cave, Israel. These ancient beads were made from Nassarius shells and are believed to be among one of the first attempts at decorative jewelry in human history.

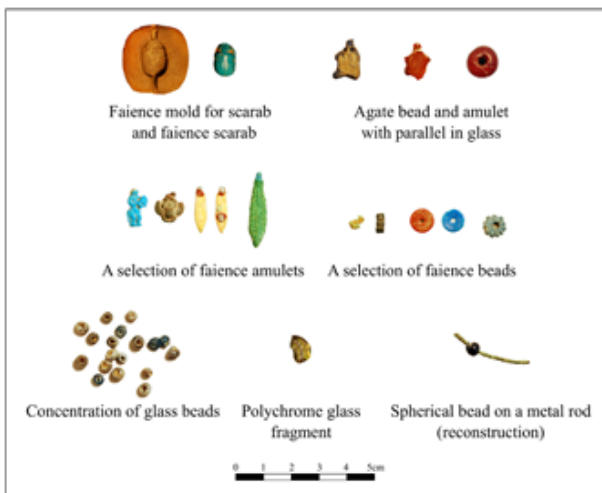
<https://humanorigins.si.edu/2-beads-skahul-israel>

The advent of glass as a bead material marked a significant turning point. Egyptian faience used an early form of glass as a glaze to a clay core.



Beads made from glass, bronze and wood strung up to look like a cluster of grapes. Egypt (Amarna), 18th Dynasty. 1353-1335 BCE. Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

<https://africame.factsanddetails.com/article/entry-142.html>



The city of Tell el-Amarna, approximately 360 miles south of Cairo, was the capital of pharaoh Akhenaten (1352-1336 BC). This excavation site revealed two large glass-making kilns and much evidence to support the processes used. A great deal of cobalt was also found at the site.

<https://www.world-archaeology.com/features/egypts-ancient-glass/> (text above)
<Hodgkinson JGS 57 2015 Amarna M50.pdf> (image above)



Arikamedu, India, became known for its bead-making around 1100 BC. Beads identified to have originated in Arikamedu have been found throughout the Mediterranean and as far afield as Africa, China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand and Japan. (Francis)

Glass beads with intricate designs such as mosaic (image to left, 1st century CE) and millefiori patterns (below right, Roman), emerged predominantly in the Middle East. [Glass mosaic bead - Roman. Egyptian. Alexandrian - Early Imperial - The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

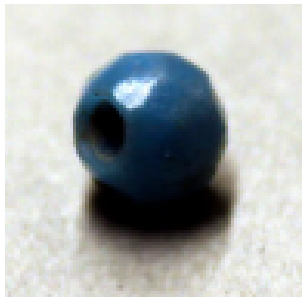


Vikings also created a great variety of glass beads, including millefiori, often using recycled materials from the remnants of the Roman Empire.

[Millefiori bead rods. 15 - The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

There is evidence of glassmaking in Venice as early as the 8th century. After the sacking of Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade in 1204

CE, Byzantine glassmakers sought refuge in Venice.



By the mid-1200s, glass seed beads began to be mass-produced for export. By the end of the 13th century Venice had made a name for itself as a flourishing trade center and as a source for fine luxury glass products. The majority of glassworks in Venice were moved to the island of Murano by order of law in 1291 to mitigate the fire risk of glass production in an urban area and a strong Venetian Glass Guild had formed which fiercely protected the secret recipes and techniques.(Toso)

[Beads - The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

Resources

Francis Jr, Peter. Beadmaking at Arikamedu and beyond. World Archeology, Vol 23, Issue 1. June 1991.

https://os.pennds.org/archaeobib_filestore/pdf_articles/WA/1991_23_1_Francis.pdf

Toso, Gianfranco. Murano: A History of Glass. Arsenale, 2000. p. 191. ISBN 8877432152, 9788877432155 <https://search.worldcat.org/title/1415202434>

Fire Mountain Gems. The History of Glass Beads.

https://www.firemountaingems.com/learn/tags/jewelry-material-crystal-glass/QG2A-article.html?srsId=AfmBOophLyO_Wm3OjLxe8zgpFyeZvlpoWvrEdB-keqoSABOtKpH09d0UEdging+Techniques

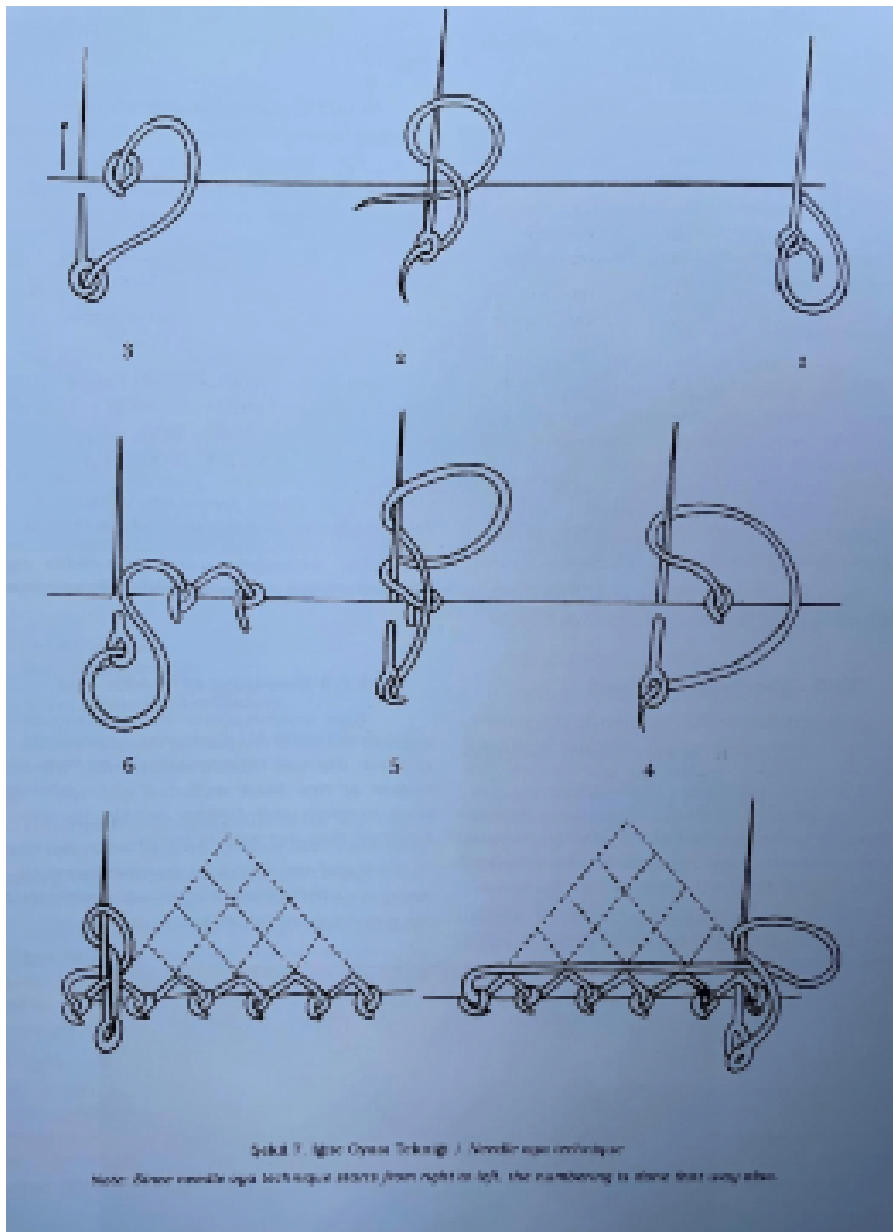
Edging Techniques



- Squaring Fabric:** 1) Pull 1 or 2 threads
2) Cut through pulled thread line to remove excess



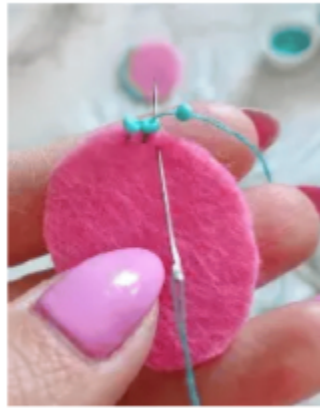
Rolled Hem Stitch



Oya - Traditional Knot Base (Note pictures read from right to left; just like oya is made)



Pre string beads in pattern for use as a decorated edge.



Adding beads to the edge of fabric as you go.

Some Examples of Decorated Edges



Some Decorated Veils Made by Me



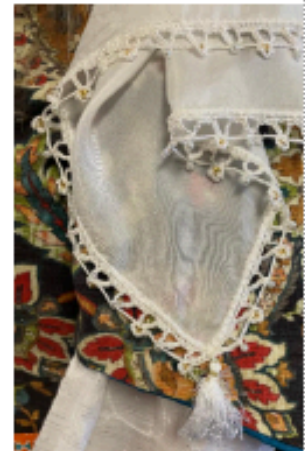
My 1st Finished Decorated Veil



2nd Oya Veil - 1st Time Using 24K Glass Beads



Gift for Baroness Katryn (2022)
(original design)



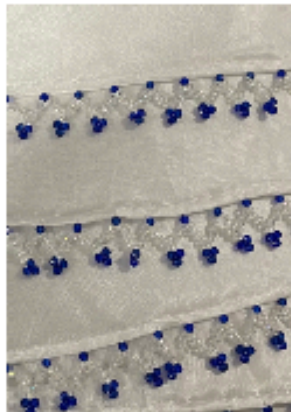
Gift for Baroness Zubaidah (2023)
On her stepping down as Territorial
Pansies in Community
(original design)



Gift for HRM AnneMarie, 2023
Dragon Scales and Treasures
(original design)



Veil made for TRM Kilian & Jalida's Fundraiser Winning Bid



Veil made with Czech Cobalt beads for TRM Wigthean & Neassa's Fundraiser Winning Bid



Straight needle Oya - my veil and my original design
Climb Every Mountain

Materials Sources

Fire Mountain Gems - Silk threads and beads (<https://www.firemountaingems.com>)

Dharma Trading Company - Silks and dyes (<https://dharmatrading.com>)

Cherry Tree Beads (<https://cherrytreebeads.com>)

