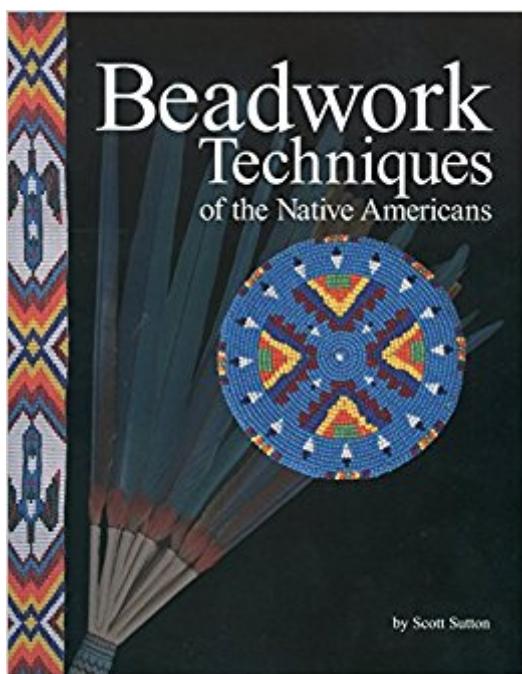


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# **Beadwork Techniques Of The Native Americans**



## **Synopsis**

Here is a book that covers basics, advanced techniques, appropriate supplies, and actual examples, all richly illustrated and easy to follow. This volume covers bead work found among the western Plains Indians both past and present. Styles include loom work, applique, lazy/lane stitch and the gourd (peyote) stick (conventional, brickwork, and loom-variation). Also included are instructions on how to make and bead moccasins. Highly detailed step-by-step color photographs and illustrations complement each project. To help those just getting started, there is a full discussion of appropriate beading supplies with a simple chart to take the mystery out of matching needle and thread sizes. This work also features dozens of first-rate Indian-and-non-Indian made bead work from museums, private collections, and today's marketplace. This book is an artful contribution to the craft of bead working.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Scott Sutton has had a life-long passion for Native beadwork. He beaded his first loom piece when he was six years old. Through the Boy Scouts of America and the California Indian Hobbyist Association, he met great teachers who instructed him in beading. Attending powwows (singing and dancing) and going to museums brought inspiration. Scott is gifted with the ability to look at a piece of craft work and then recreate it as well as being able to design without having to draw things out. His moccasins have graced the feet of many dancers at powwows across the country.

When I was 16, my aunt and I got caught up with a group of Eagle Scouts and we started attending

powwows and learning Native American dancing. We reverently did our homework and made our costumes as authentic as possible. My aunt spent a lot on an antique Sioux or northern plains Cheyenne doeskin dress and we copied it exactly for me using heavy felt. We bought heavily decorated shawls, leather moccasins and whatever jewelry we couldn't afford, I made on a bead loom. I think back and am proud to discern that my simple patterns and colorways were not half bad. I decorated the dress shoulders and edges and fringes with bands of beads. We had a variety of tribes represented and learned the dances, working very conservatively. The Indians (their term) saw our respect and were very kind. I can still smell the fry bread and buffalo burgers! Here is a book similar to this reviewed book but more in line with my Eagle Scout group: American Indian Beadwork (Beadwork Books) Now, the only beading I do is on embroidery projects: I don't make jewelry of any kind. But I giggled when I open this book at the page on the Peyote Stitch gourd handles. At my Embroiderers' Guild just last summer, a member taught us how to make slender scissor keepers using this stitch. As so many reviewers expressed, you just itch to race out and buy the materials and beads to get started...jeez...it's hard to say on what first. A band or rosette as on the cover? First you have buy or make a loom and it's amazing how easily you can do that. I have a small loom like this: Darice 1012-24 Bead Loom and am thinking of getting a larger one. Right after you decide how many rows you want, how long the band will be and your pattern, you will hesitate to make that first row. But follow the book closely and you'll amaze yourself at how quickly you can pick this technique up.

This book provides detailed instructions and pictures for a lot of basic Native bead craft. As a person who is separated from her Tribe it was hard to find resources on pow-wow crafts and traditions. But this book is literally the bedrock of all the beading techniques I can now do. There is a second book called Craft Techniques of the Native Americans that expands on all of the basic concepts in this book for more advanced work. The author is really great at giving you a solid jumping off point to do your own designs with.

This book is amazing, It clearly shows how a novice beader can achieve professional results with just carefully following the excellent illustrations, photos and descriptive text. I had the pleasure of meeting Scott at a Pow Wow in Long Beach California in 2014. He suggested that this is the first book that one should get, since it is about tools and techniques for basic work. With this book alone, you should be able to complete many articles needed for a traditional dance set. His second book is more focused on beading for actual articles and projects, and less on tools/techniques. Buy this

book with confidence.

Another book that I kept checking out the library until I decided it would be easier to buy my own copy than pay overdue fines when I forgot to return it. Everything you need to know about Native American beading, with clear directions and photos. It also gives me ideas that I can adapt to other beadwork.

After buying a wooden bead loom, I discovered I needed more detailed information than was included with the loom or that I was able to find on the internet. This book has detailed instruction with drawings and photographs. In addition there are numerous color photographs of finished work and of pieces from museums and collections. It would have helped me to decide to buy this book if it had shown the table of contents. There are six chapters: 1. Supplies, 2. Loom Beadwork, 3. Applique beadwork, 4. Peyote Beadwork, 5. Lazy Stitch Beadwork and 6. Plains Hard Soled Moccasins. There are detailed instructions for building a wooden bead loom. Chapter six has detailed instructions on how to make a custom pattern and how to construct these moccasins. This is an excellent reference book for techniques and design ideas and was well worth the money.

Again Scott Sutton does an excellent job! Great book & great pics! I bought 2 one for a young beginner friend and she loved the gift!

This is a very informative book about beading techniques. It is hardly all-encompassing, covering several variations of each general type of beading technique, but omitting a few that I was already familiar with. Nonetheless, there are many helpful tips and tricks to build up the efficiency and aesthetics of each project.

Nice pics

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