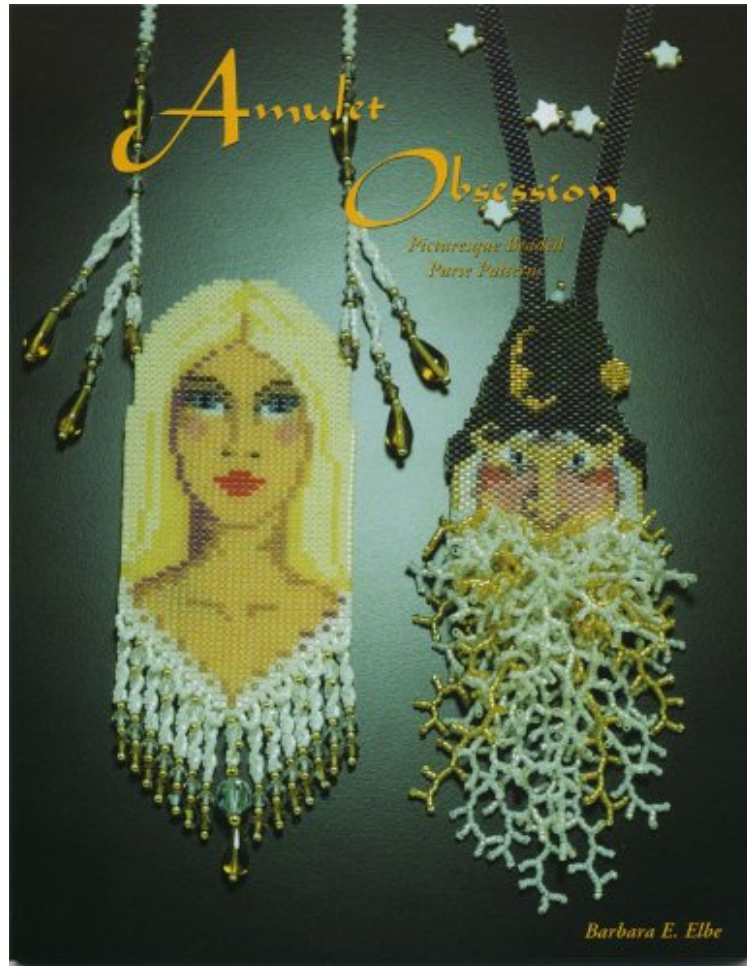


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## Amulet Obsession: Picturesque Beaded Purse Patterns

Barbara E. Elbe

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**Barbara E. Elbe : Amulet Obsession: Picturesque Beaded Purse Patterns** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Amulet Obsession: Picturesque Beaded Purse Patterns:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love This Book!By SilverstoneI am replacing a missing book, lost in a move. That says a lot about what I think of this book. The finished projects are gorgeous--I am presently making my third amulet bag from this book and am enjoying it thoroughly.I am so grateful to Ms. Elbe for sharing her talent. She's taught me a great deal about how one "finishes" an amulet bag via fringe, strap and other embellishment choices based upon the design and size of the bag.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful PatternsBy KaroThis may be an older book, but there aren't many better pattern books for amulet purses. FYI - the patterns are in black and white with color suggestions and Delica Bead numbers, and the photos of the finished products are in the middle of the book and on the front cover. I find it difficult to follow the little black and white pattern symbols while beading, so I like to photocopy the pattern and enlarge it some, then use color pencils to fill in the appropriate colors so I can easily see what color delica comes next. Beginning beaders will benefit from the author's instructions in the

beginning of the book on how to make two different types of fringe for the bottom of the purse, and two types of straps (instructions for a third type of strap is shown after one of the patterns). Although some of the patterns were meant to be done with brick stitch, I sometimes hold the pattern sideways and do them in peyote stitch. The author provides instructions for each type of stitch, and along with each pattern is shown the number of beads in the base row, how many rows are in the bag, the dimensions of the finished bag (with and without fringe), the Delica color numbers and descriptions, the colors and quantity of trim beads used for the fringe, and detailed diagrams for the fringe and strap. Many amulet bead books leave out some of this crucial info. The patterns included under Horizontal Brick Stitch (tubular) are: Iris Bouquet, Girl By the Sea, Crashing Surf, Field of Flowers, White-Tailed Deer, California Quail, Marsh Mallards, Pheasant in Flight, Cardinals in Winter, and Cockatiel (with it's head turned around, preening - which took me a while to figure out even though I have two cockatiels). The pattern shows the front of the bag only, and the number of beads and suggested color for the back are in the instructions. The author suggests starting a base row with ladder stitch 6 rows down into the pattern so that the beadwork will lie flatter and for purposes of thread usage, but I'm not sure I'd do that. I'd probably start with ladder stitch at the bottom of the pattern and work upward in brick stitch, adding the fringe when the main part of the bag is done. Or I'd do the whole thing in peyote stitch and zip the ends together. But that's just me. There are two Vertical Brick Stitch patterns: Saint Nicolas and Merlin. These patterns both have a front and a back pattern shown. There are five Square Stitch patterns: Lady Guinevere (front and back), Colonial Lady, Birch Forest, Shadow Pony, and Peacock in India (one of my favorites). A note to beaders: these patterns call for some Toho Antiques in addition to Miyuki Delicas. Toho Antiques are now called Toho Treasures, and are mostly sold under the new name. The author, Barbara E. Elbe, has a website which has lists of all the supplies needed for each of her patterns, and you can purchase most of the supplies required on her website. (No, I don't know the author - I've just purchased from her website in the past, and since this book was published years ago, some of the beads required are hard to find). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful beadwork By Customer Impressive designs and directions are fairly clear. Definitely worth buying.

Art, nature and tiny glass beads are woven together to create a wonderful mixture of beaded images in picturesque miniature purses. Each pattern is as detailed as a fine piece of art.

About the Author Getting into beading was purely by accident. Like so many, making earrings using size 11/0 seed beads was how it all began. Brick stitch was the first stitch I learned and is still my favorite. Learning how to sculpture shapes, plus the introduction of "Delica" beads, opened a whole new area of creativity. These wonderful beads, available in the US since around 1989, made it possible to make light weight designs with far more detail, in a seemingly endless array of colors. My first two books on beaded earring designs, "Beaded Images" and "Beaded Images II," were published in 1994 1995. Next came designing amulet purses and a newfound love for making tiny pictures in beads. Delica's couldn't have been a better suited bead for this! "Back to Beadin' ", my first self-published book came out in 1996. Two years later "Amulet Obsession" was released, completely dedicated to amulet purses. In 2002 "Forever In Beads" was released. Done in full color with a wonderful mixture of purses, earrings and frameable bead work. Our web site was created in 1997, just two pages about our books. Within the next few years we added the supplies needed for the different projects shown in the books. Because of the many requests for us to carry more Delicto colors, we slowly increased our selection until we reached the inventory we offer today.