



500 BEAD WEAVING PATTERNS FOR BRACELETS

by Emilie Ramon

Stackpole Books, Guilford, Connecticut.

2017. Softcover. 177 pages. \$24.95.

This is a book of very few words. With just three pages of text, it remains true to its title; readers will find *many* designs for weaving bracelets on a bead loom. I would suggest the ideal reader would have prior knowledge of warping, weaving, and finishing a flat bead-woven band.

The number 500 is a bit misleading because many of the graphs are different colorways of the same design, some with variations. The designs are not your run-of-the-mill flowers and geometrics. They run the gamut from abstract geometric designs that remind me of oriental carpets, to large, bold motifs used singly or duplicated for an intricate overall effect. There are wavy lines and zig zags, plaids and patterns inspired by Native American designs. The section containing picture designs includes ladybugs and carrots, butterflies and

flamingoes, guitars and Russian nesting dolls.

While the designs are intended for loom-woven bands, the designs are adaptable for other techniques such as beading square stitch, cross stitch, in-lay, and pick-up weaving. Even Inkle weavers may find inspiration here.

One final thought: the photos of finished bracelets show them glued to a metal blank or with the ends finished with a crimp. I completed one of the designs and then had difficulty in finding crimp ends that fit. My recommendation is to procure the findings first so you can adapt the size of the weaving to that of the cuff or clasp.

*Reviewed by Catherine Marchant
Alpine, Utah*

