

# Try it yourself

by Diane Fitzgerald

In the February 2009 issue of *Bead&Button*, I challenged you to identify the four principles of design at work in the jewelry shown on page 47. Let's see if we came up with the same answers!

Each necklace exhibits the principles of design to one degree or another, so it's okay if your answers vary from mine. The purpose of this exercise is to practice looking for the principles of design. You have already succeeded at this!

Now, here are the principles I see at work in the jewelry:

**1. Crystal geometry necklace:**  
*Variety* and *unity*

The beads demonstrate the principle of variety in that one of the shapes is rounded and the other angular.

On the other hand, the beads reflect unity in their geometric shapes, their faceted and highly reflective surfaces, and their two-hole connections, which allow the beads to lie flat.

**2. Braided garland necklace: Proportion**

The principle of proportion is shown in the relative size of the flower beads in the necklace. Varied sizes of beads lend interest and allow larger flower beads to stand out in the design.

**3. Celtic trefoil necklace: Rhythm, repetition, and emphasis**

The principle of rhythm is established by the curvilinear shapes and the movement they create as the eye moves from one to the next. The trefoil shapes are repeated with the center trefoil accented with a tassel for emphasis.

**4. Wild flowers necklace: Balance**

While this necklace is not perfectly symmetrical, it shows the principle of balance in that the visual weight is equal from side to side. This is achieved by using the same beads in each element, but not placing them in the exact same location within the element. ●



1. Crystal geometry necklace



2. Braided garland necklace



3. Celtic trefoil necklace



4. Wild flowers necklace

*Diane Fitzgerald is an internationally recognized teacher, designer, and author. She received the 2008 Excellence in Bead Artistry Award at the Bead&Button Show and taught one of the show's Master Classes in 2007. Diane has written nine beading books. Her next book, Shaped Beadwork, will be published in March 2009. Diane teaches classes at many locations, which are listed on her Web site, [dianefitzgerald.com](http://dianefitzgerald.com). You can read more about Diane at [BeadAndButton.com/15](http://BeadAndButton.com/15).*



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