



## Prayer Mala Instructions

Prayer beads have a place in many cultures, from the Roman Catholic rosary to New Age affirmation beads. This particular pattern is a Buddhist Prayer Mala, traditionally used while chanting or saying mantras. Buddhist malas have 108 beads. The goal is to repeat the mantra or prayer perfectly 100 times, but there are eight extra beads in case we mess up a few times!

### Project Requirements:

- 108 beads (6mm to 8mm work best)
  - Approx. 36 inches of Medium SoftFlex beading wire
  - 2x2mm sterling silver crimps (2)
  - 3 way bead or 2 to 1 divider bead
  - tassel
  - 5mm crimp cover
  - Needle nose pliers
  - Wire cutters
1. Slip one end of your SoftFlex through the tassel. Add a 2x2mm crimp to both sides of the wire, forming a loop (as shown below left). Use your needle nose pliers to close the crimp (as shown below right).



2. Use your wire cutters to cut off the extra SoftFlex just above the crimp. Insert the remaining SoftFlex into the single side of the 2 to 1 divider bead (as shown below left). Begin stringing on your beads (as shown below right).



3. String on all 108 beads, being sure you've counted them carefully (as shown below left). Pass the SoftFlex through the opposite side of the 2 to 1 divider bead, exiting out the single side near the original loop. Add a crimp, pass the wire through the tassel again and string the wire back through the crimp (as shown below right).



- Using your needle nose pliers, flatten the crimp (as shown below left). Cut off the excess SoftFlex directly above the crimp (as shown below right).



- Place a 5mm crimp cover over BOTH crimps and gently tap it closed (as shown below left). Be cautious, as it's easy to dent or break crimp covers. The finished prayer mala is shown below right.

