

# Navigating Early Medieval Europe

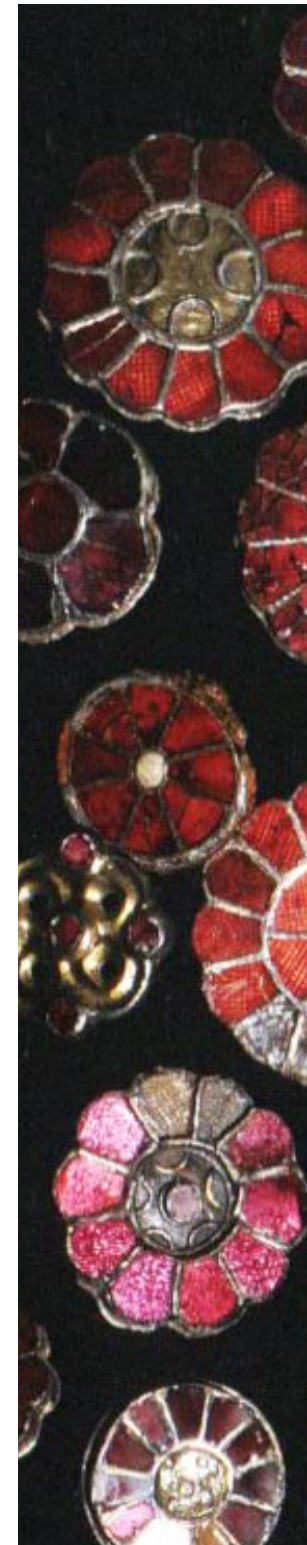
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*The Rural Riches Database Manual*

Appendix 1a: Beads, general

Information related to recording beads (techniques, dating, types, colours, decorations, etc.)

RURAL RICHES  
**RR**





In this appendix you find some documents which are of help when recording beads.

The following documents are provided:

1. an illustration with beads made in various techniques.
2. two tables concerning the chronology of beads. One on the chronology as established by Pion and one with a comparison of bead types in various typo-chronologies of beads (Mette Langbroek).
3. a sheet with the type of beads that have to be recorded in the Bead Counts form of the site form of the database. We collect data on these beads on every site. When not present record 'none' in every field of the bead counts form. It is important to record explicitly the absence of specific bead types in the excavated material.
4. a sheet indicating the various shades (Light, Middle, Dark) of the colours Red, Yellow, Orange, Purple, Green, Green-Blue, Blue, Blue-green) as well as examples of Amber, White, Black, Silver, Gold and Colourless beads.
5. a sheet with examples of various types of decoration to be recorded for beads.
6. a sheet with various forms of beads.
7. a chart to determine the Leiden type of monochrome beads

**Appendix 1b:** a document showing the typology of beads by Pion/Vrielynck/Mathis.

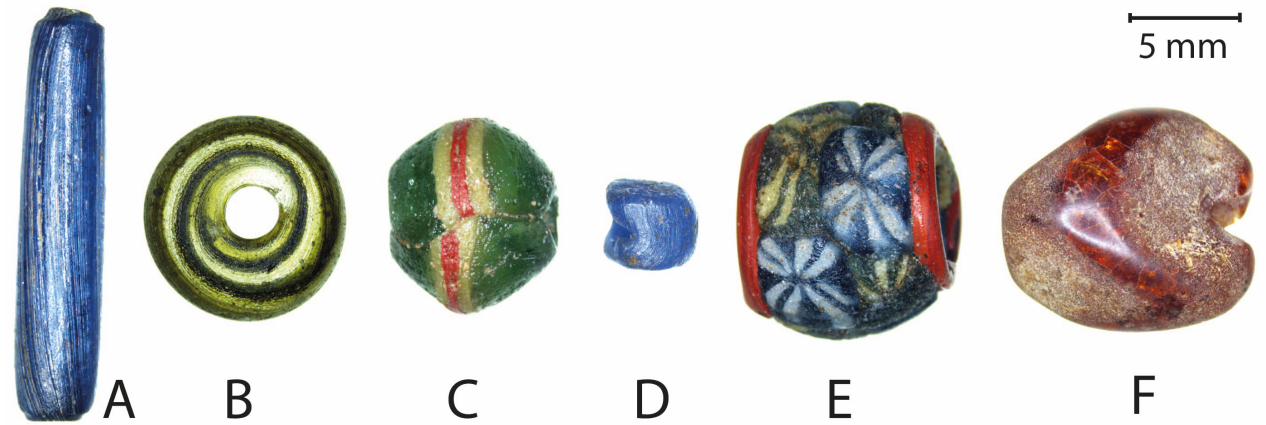
**Appendix 1c:** a document showing the typology of polychrome beads by U. Koch.

**Appendix 1d:** a document showing the typology and '*Perlenkombinationsgruppen*' by F. Siegmund.

**Appendix 1e:** a document with the bead types of the Franken AG.

# 1. Beads made in various techniques

- A Drawn
- B Wound
- C Folded
- D Perforated
- E Mosaic
- F Cut
- Modelled (such as Faience melon bead)
- Other
- Unknown





## 2a Chronology scheme Pion/Vrielynck/Mathis

Periode	Legoux/Périn/Vallet 2004	Calendar years (approximation)
P <sub>0</sub>	PM	440 - 480
P <sub>1</sub>	MA <sub>1</sub>	480 - 530
P <sub>2</sub>	MA <sub>2</sub>	530 - 570
P <sub>3</sub>	MA <sub>3</sub>	560 - 610
P <sub>4</sub>	MR <sub>1</sub>	600 - 640
P <sub>5</sub>	MR <sub>1</sub> /MR <sub>2</sub>	620 - 670

In the near future a Period P<sub>6</sub> might be defined which corresponds with MR<sub>3</sub> (660 – 710) (Langbroek 2023).

P? means that it is not possible to assign a Pion phase.

X/not applicable means that the object looks like a bead but is actually not a bead.

## 2b Comparative chronology scheme by Langbroek (2023)

	Pion Belgium	Sasse & Theune Southern Germany	Koch/Stauch Southern Germany	Franken AG German Rhineland	Siegmund Nordrhein-Westfalen	Brugmann England	Hines & Bayliss England
450					B		
460			A	I II	B	A1	
470			A	I II	B	A1	
480			A	I II	B	A1	
490	P1		A	I II	A/B	A1 A2	
500	P1	B	A	I II	A/B C D	A1 A2	
510	P1	B	A	I II III	A/B C D	A1 A2	
520	P1	B	A	I II III	A/B C D	A1 A2	
530	P1	B	A		A/B C D	A1 A2	a
540				II III	A/B C D E	A2 A2b	a
550	P2			II III	A/B C D E	A2 A2b	a
560					B F D E	A2 A2b	a
570	P3			III	B F D E	B1 A2 A2b	a
580	P3	D		III	B F D E	B1 A2 A2b	a
590	P3	D	C2	IV	G F D E	B1 B2	b
600	P3	D	C2	IV	G F	B1 B2	b
610	P3	D	D	IV	G F	B2	b
620			D	IV	G F H I	B2	b
630	P5		E	IV	G F H I	B2	b
640	P5	F	E	IV	G F H I	B2	b
650	P5		E	IV V	F H I	C	c
660	P5	F	E	V	F H I	C	c
670	P5	F	E	V	F H I	C	c
680	P6		G	V	H I	C	d
690	P6		G	V	H I	C	d
700	P6		G	V	H I	C	d
710	P6		G		H I	C	
720			G			C	

Bead phases from Merovingian bead typologies from Germany and England compared to Pion's bead phases from Belgium.

**Green:** beads from Pion's phase P1.

**Orange:** beads from Pion's phase P2.

**Red:** beads from Pion's phase P3.

**Yellow:** beads from Pion's phase P4.

**Blue:** beads from Pion's phase P5.

**Pink:** beads that do not occur in Pion's typology, but do occur in the latest phases of other typologies, referred to as 'P6'.

**No colour:** no parallels found in Pion's typology. Some phases have multiple colours, and contain beads from two or more of Pion's bead phases.

*Based on Pion 2014; Koch 1977; Sasse/Theune 1997; Siegmund 1998; FAG; Koch 2001; Stauch 2004; Brugmann 2004; Hines/Bayliss 2013.*

### 3. Beads to be counted in the bead count

**P1**

Tiny India  
  
 Aluminium glass

Confetti  
  
 Confetti

Black doughnut white wave  
  
 Black doughnut white wave

Large Cologne  
  
 Large Cologne

Black doughnut > 6 mm  
  
 Black doughnut > 6 mm

**P2**

Red cylinder white spiral  
  
 Red cylinder white spiral

Millefiori  
  
 Millefiori

Reticella  
  
 Reticella

Pentagonal yellow  
  
 Pentagonal yellow

**P3**

White-blue-red  
  
 White-blue-red

Dice  
  
 Dice

White biconical  
  
 White biconical

Amber P1-P5  


Meerschaum 6th century  




















Rock Crystal P1-P2  


Shell disc beads 2nd half 7th century  


Amethyst 7th century  


Segmented metal foil beads P1-P3  


- Amber beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Millefiori beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Reticella beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Confetti beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Shell disc beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Meerschaum beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Amethyst beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Rock crystal beads<sup>1</sup>:
- Tiny beads made from aluminium glass<sup>1</sup>:
- Black doughnut white wave beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Large cologne beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Black doughnut < 6 mm beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Red cylinder white spiral beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Pentagonal yellow beads<sup>2</sup>:
- White blue red beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Dice beads<sup>2</sup>:
- White biconical beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Segmented metal foil beads<sup>2</sup>:
- Total beads:
- Status:

	Cemetery		Settlement	Other
	Beads	Graves	Beads	Beads
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<b>Total beads:</b>	<input type="text"/>	in <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Status:</b>	<input type="text"/>			

# 4. Colors of beads

Light	Middle	Dark	
Red			Amber 
Yellow			White 
Orange			Black 
Purple			Silver 
Green			Gold 
Green-Blue			Colourless 
Blue			
Blue-Green			

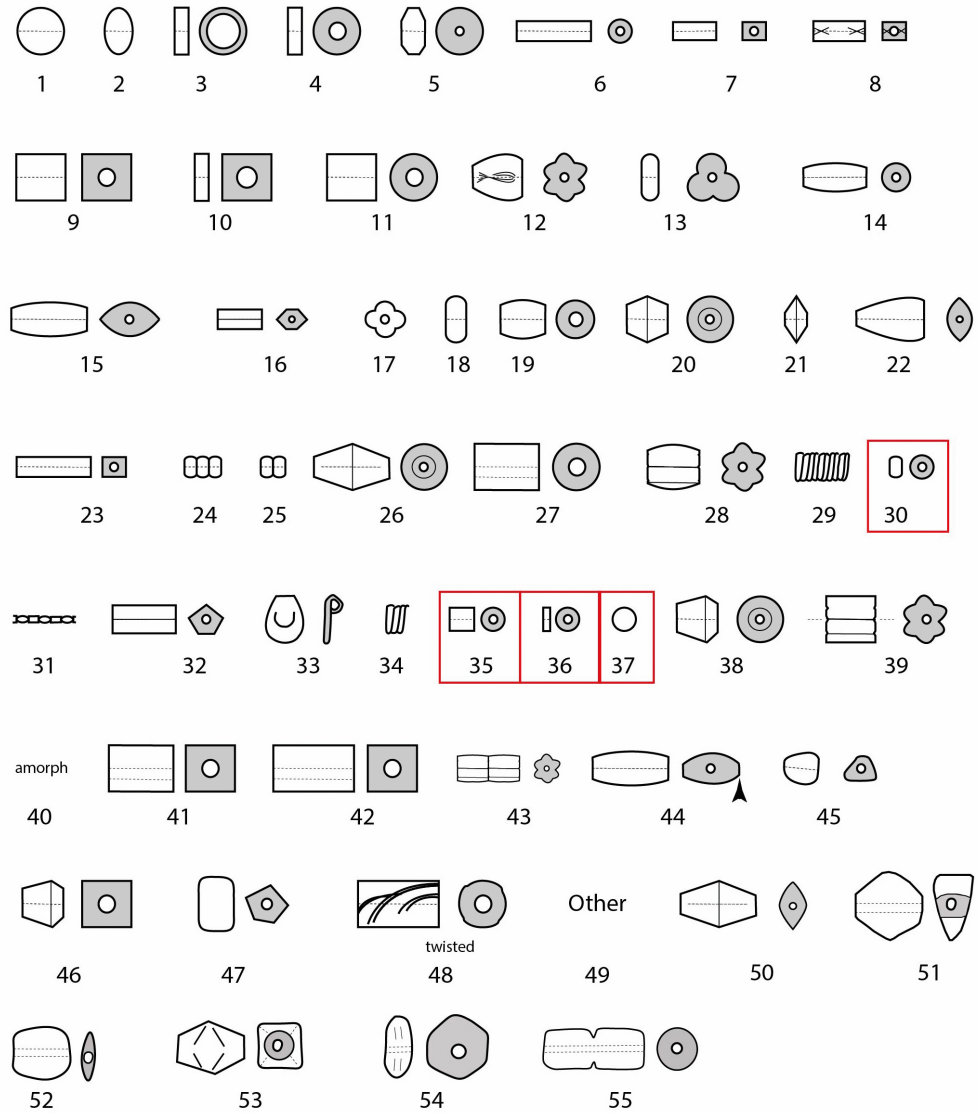
## 5. Types of decoration

It was chosen to simplify the number of choices in order to be able to record beads in a large area. It is always possible to indicate greater detail by referring to the type by Koch (Appendix 1c), although most of her decoration types can be found in the figure to the right.





# 6. Forms of beads



= small beads ≤ 5 mm

# 7. Scheme Leiden types monochrome beads

Choose a color (columns) and a form from the sheet above (lines) and combine the color code with the form code. For instance: a red opaque biconical bead is RO20.

Shape Colour	Red opaque	Red translucent	Green opaque	Green translucent	Yellow opaque	Yellow translucent	Blue opaque	Blue translucent	Orange opaque	Orange translucent	Black opaque	Black translucent	Brown opaque	Brown translucent	White opaque	White translucent	Colorless transparent	Überfang perle	Überfang perle	Cristall	Amethyst (various)	Shell discs	Opaque general	Translucen t general	Amber	Total	
	RO	RT	GO	GT	YO	YT	BO	BT	OO	OT	BLO	BLT	BRO	BRT	WO	WT	CT	SU	GU	C	AM	S	OG	TG	A		
1																										0	
2																											0
3																											0
4																											0
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