

Easy-Peasy Earrings

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Supply List

- Size 11° seed beads – 1 gram
- 4mm Czech Firepolish beads, Swarovski bicones or other 4mm bead
 - For shorter earring – 16 beads
 - For longer earring – 24 beads
- Earring finding (hook or leverback)
- 4mm closed jump ring
- Size 10 or 12 beading needle
- Fireline - 6lb

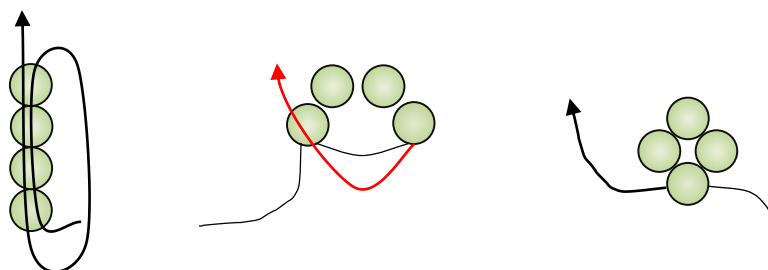
Optional

- Drop beads – 2
- 24 or 26 gauge wire – 6"



Make the Firepolish Units

1. Cut a length of Fireline about one yard long. Blunt one end with your fingertips, and thread your needle.
2. Pick up four size 11° seed beads and bring them down your thread until there's about 6-8" of thread below them for a tail. I am leaving a longer tail than usual here because we're going to use it later to attach the earring finding.
3. Pass through all the beads from the tail end back up. This will turn them almost into a circle, but not quite. To finish the circle, pass through the first bead one more time. This will leave your tail coming out one side of the bead and the working thread coming out the other.



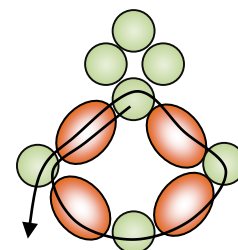
4. Now we'll make the inner circle of beads.

Pick up:

- 4mm firepolish
- 11° seed bead
- 4mm firepolish
- 11° seed bead
- 4mm firepolish
- 11° seed bead
- 4mm firepolish

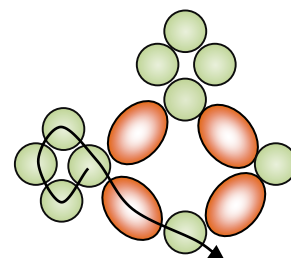
(So 4 firepolish with 3 seed beads between them)

Pass back through the 11° bead the working thread is exiting.



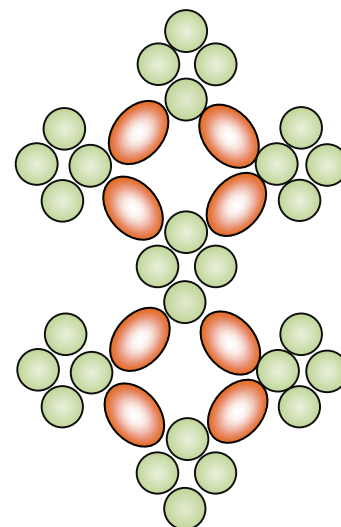
5. To add a picot off every seed bead, pass through the firepolish and 11° bead directly ahead. Pick up three more 11° beads, and pass through the 11° the thread is exiting. Repeat two more times so all four seed beads in the center ring have picots attached.

6. Work your thread down the unit so it exits the bottom 11° in the bottom picot opposite the tail thread.



7. Repeat steps 4 and 5 to create a second unit.

8. If desired, repeat steps 4-6 to create a third unit.



Create the Dangle (optional)

- Using a 3" piece of wire, poke the wire through the dangle bead.
- Make one side of the wire a little longer than the other (about ½") and bend each end upward, crossing the wires into an X above the bead.
- Using flat nose pliers, bend the short wire into a 90 degree angle so now the long wire is vertical and the short wire is horizontal. Then wrap the short wire around the base of the longer wire at least 1.5 times.
- With the tip of your flat nose pliers, grasp the vertical wire directly above the previous wire wrap. Bend the wire (above the pliers) into a right angle. You are leaving a short vertical length below the bend as a place to put the wire wraps.
- Position your round nose pliers in the bend, and bring the wire over the top jaw of the pliers. Then reposition the pliers' lower jaw snugly in the curved wire. Wrap the wire down and around the bottom of the pliers.
- Grasp the loop with flat nose pliers. This will be awkward because you've got the clasp to maneuver around too, but you can do it!
- Wrap the wire tail around the wire stem, covering the stem between the loop and the top of the previous wire wrap. Trim the excess wire, and press the end close to the stem with flat nose or crimping pliers.

Attach the Dangle

With your thread exiting the bottom 11° bead of the bottom picot, pass through the wrapped loop of the dangle, and then back through the 11° bead the thread was exiting. Reinforce this thread path at least 3-4 times, and then end off your thread.

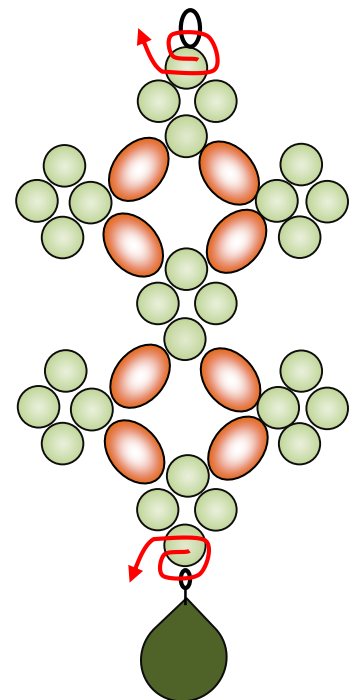
Attach the Earring Finding

Thread the needle on the tail and work through the beads so the thread exits the top 11° bead on the top picot.

Pass through the 4mm closed jump ring, and then back through the 11° bead the thread was exiting. Reinforce this thread path at least 3-4 times, and then end off your thread.

Using flat nose pliers, carefully open the earring finding (ear wire) and put the jump ring inside. Then close the finding.

That's it! Make another matching earring – and wear them happily!



I hope you love your new bracelet, and had fun making it. If you have any questions, please e-mail Jill Wiseman Designs at jill@jillwisemandesigns.com.

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