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Introduction



One thing that's true about creating beautiful jewelry and objects with beads is that the variety of materials, colors, and styles from which to choose is infinite. Imagination is the bridge between all of the possibilities open to you as a beading enthusiast – and, of course, your imagination knows no bounds.

Whether you choose to work with crystals, pearls, or glass beads, or gemstones, buttons, or seed beads, you'll find inspiring projects presented in *Creative Beading, Vol. 2*. We offer more than 80 projects from the past year of *Bead&Button* magazine, giving you a chance to learn, grow, and excel at dozens of stringing, stitching, and wirework techniques. Make beaded beads, spiral rope necklaces, chain mail bracelets, and bead-crocheted pieces at your own level of enterprise. Whether you have a night here and there to string a saucy bracelet or a weekend to stitch a sophisticated necklace, you'll find a full compendium of techniques and projects here.

The staff of *Bead&Button* magazine is always at your service. The projects we publish have been fully tested. We simplify techniques as needed and supplement written directions with precise how-to photos and illustrations so that you can accurately reproduce each piece.

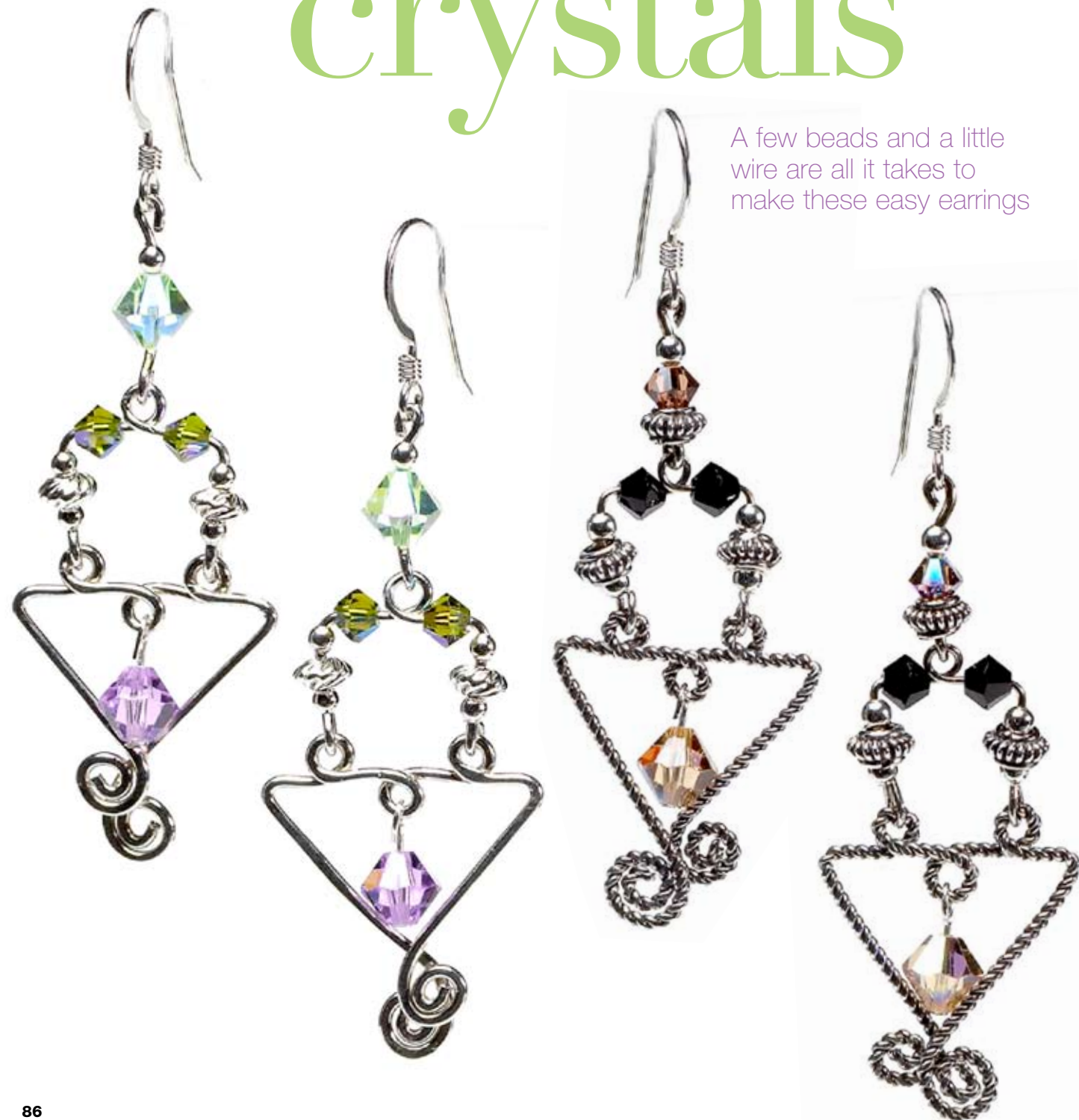
While accuracy is essential, we never forget what leads us to creating new works in the first place. We are drawn to the satisfaction of working with pleasing objects to produce wearable works of art. We may be enamored with the materials, whether that includes all of their attributes – color, texture, finish, dimension – or one in particular, such as hue alone. Or, we are driven to solve the structural and aesthetic puzzles involved in creative, complex projects. We are also inspired to engage our individual kinetic energy in a relaxing process that is calming and pleasing to us. And, for many of us, shopping for beads, clasps, pendants, tools, and other resources offers a singular sense of excitement.

Regardless of your own motivation for making jewelry and beaded objects, the experimentation involved in creating a piece of beadwork and the feeling of accomplishment you earn by completing a treasured project are alluring. As our fast-paced world becomes more demanding, beauty and creativity become even more important. The process of making jewelry stimulates your intellect as well as your emotions and your visual and tactile responses. At *Bead&Button*, we encourage you to use your imagination to adapt the ideas presented in *Creative Beading, Vol. 2*. Your satisfaction will be your own, well-deserved reward.

Ann Dee Allen
Editor
Bead&Button magazine

Coils & crystals

by Wendy Witchner



A few beads and a little wire are all it takes to make these easy earrings



Coiled wire components give these earrings an ethnic flair. Crystals give them sparkle and verve.

stepbystep

[1] Cut a 4½-in. (11.4cm) piece of 20-gauge round or 22-gauge twisted wire. Grasp the tip of the wire with roundnose pliers and roll the end of the wire into a small loop (photo a).

[2] Hold the loop with flatnose or chainnose pliers as shown in photo b. Place your index finger on the straight wire next to the loop, and add pressure with your finger while turning the loop with the pliers. Continue wrapping the wire around the initial loop until you have a flat coil (figure 1).

[3] Refer to the template in figure 2, and, working from the bottom left coil to the right, bend the wire into the triangular shape.

[4] Place the triangular shape between two steel blocks, and hammer the top

block to flatten and stiffen the wire. Adjust the shape of the form with your pliers as needed.

[5] Cut a 2-in. (5cm) piece of 22-gauge wire, and make a loop at one end (see Basics, p. 10). String a 2mm round silver bead, a 4mm decorative silver bead, and a 2mm round bead. Working just above the beads, make a bend in the wire that is perpendicular to the loop (photo c).

[6] String a 4mm color A crystal. With roundnose pliers, hold the wire next to the crystal, and bring the wire up and over the top jaw of the pliers. Reposition the pliers, and continue forming the wire around the bottom jaw (photo d).

[7] Work the second half of the component as the mirror image of the first: String a 4mm A, and make a bend in the wire just past the crystal.

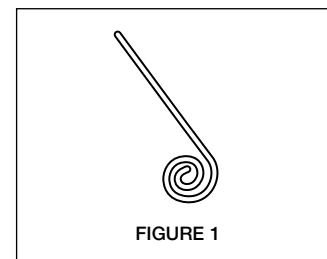


FIGURE 1

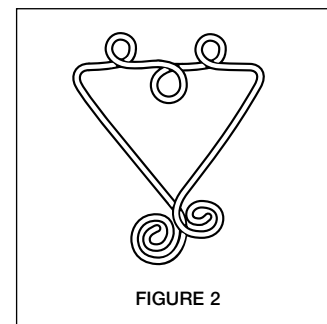


FIGURE 2

String a 2mm round bead, a 4mm decorative silver bead, and a 2mm round bead. Make a loop perpendicular to the bend and parallel to the first loop (photo e).

[8] Cut a 1-in. (2.5cm) piece of 22-gauge wire, and make a loop at one end (Basics). String a 4mm decorative silver bead, a 4mm color B crystal, and a 2mm round bead. Make a loop above the

Sumptuous *but simple* peyote necklace

Deep, lustrous colors pair with sparkling dangles in this embellished peyote stitch necklace

by **Aasia Hamid**

The traditional clothing and gold jewelry worn in Aasia Hamid's native country, Pakistan, are rich in both color and texture. This sparkling combination of faceted drops with hex-cut cylinder beads in metallic and pearl finishes recalls those gorgeous visuals. This necklace is a piece that's perfect for any special occasion.

step**by**step

Garnet necklace

Peyote band

[1] Thread a needle on 1 yd. (.9m) of Fireline, and attach a stop bead (see Basics, p. 10) about 6 in. (15cm) from the end.

[2] Pick up one color A and two color B 8° hex-cut beads. Go back through the A in the opposite direction (**figure 1**,

a-b). Pick up an A, and go through the last B added (**b-c**).

[3] Continue stitching in flat, even-count peyote (Basics) until your band is approximately 15 in. (38cm). Use an even number of Bs, and end with a B.

[4] Remove the stop bead, secure the tails in the peyote band with a few half-hitch knots (Basics) between beads, and trim.