

Cosmic Crystal Drop Earrings

Simple bead-drop earrings are especially easy to make. This design uses handmade eye pins, pre-made hooks, and funky Cosmic-shaped crystal beads for a high-fashion, designer look.



Tools and Materials

TOOLS

- Side cutters
- Round nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers
- Flat nose pliers (or a second pair of chain nose pliers)
- Chasing hammer
- Bench block

MATERIALS

These materials make one pair of earrings.

- 1 pair of sterling-silver lever-back earring findings
- 2 sterling-silver jump rings, 18 gauge (4.5mm OD)
- 2½ inches of dead-soft sterling-silver wire, 20 gauge
- 2 Cosmic crystal beads in indicolite (16mm x 14mm)



How to Make the Crystal Drop Earrings

The tasks required for this project are covered in Chapter 6.

- 1 Cut the wire into two equal, blunt-cut lengths, each about 1¼ inches long.
- 2 Use chain nose pliers to fold-over one end of each wire length to create simple head pins.
- 3 Place a bead onto each head pin.
- 4 Use round nose pliers to create a simple loop at the top of each bead.
- 5 Use both pairs of pliers to open the jump rings.
- 6 Place a bead drop and earring finding on each jump ring and close it securely.



TIP

Experimenting with Bead Drop Earring Designs

The earrings in this project are simple yet striking. You can alter this basic design theme by using more elaborate head pins, like the paddles and spirals covered in Chapter 3. To add more beads to your design, use an eye pin instead of a head pin, and attach one or more additional bead drops to its loop.