

“Day at the Seashore” Earrings

As seen in the 2008 Summer Supplement



Created by: Amy Mickelson

Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock</u>	<u>Name</u>
4	#28-327-012-904	16x12mm Venetian-style blown glass rondelle beads, clear/blue
1 pr.	#34-599	French hook ear wires with ball end, sterling silver
8	#24-980-04	4mm round SmartBeads, sterling silver
2 pr.	#53-502-5	5" ear threads with 3.5mm open jump ring, sterling silver
2	#37-295-240	4mm round jump rings, sterling silver

Tools: flat-nose pliers

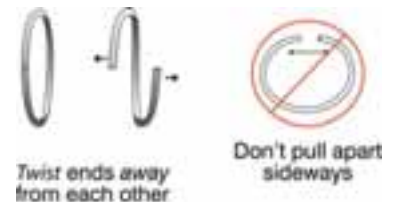
To make this design:

1. Thread two ear threads, in opposite directions, through the holes of a glass bead.
2. String one SmartBead on each ear thread.

TIP: Each SmartBead has a Bead Positioning System™ (BPS), a gripping rubber gasket, inside that allows the bead to be positioned or repositioned. This design is easy to modify – just add or subtract glass beads and/or slide the SmartBeads into a different position.

3. Thread the ear threads through a second glass bead, again in opposite directions.
4. String one more SmartBead on each ear thread.
5. Using a jump ring, attach ear threads to a French hook ear wire.
6. Repeat steps 1-5 for second earring.

TIP: When opening and closing jump rings, twist sideways instead of “ovalling” them. This keeps their shape better, which makes them easier to close all the way (as shown on the left.) To prevent marks on the ring use non-serrated flat-nose pliers.



Techniques for making earrings

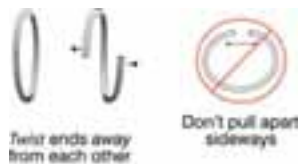
Basic earrings: Gently open the loop on the earring component, (see jump ring hint) and insert the earring dangle loop. Close the loop.

Chandelier Earrings: Attach charm or connector to earring component (see jump ring hint). Attach dangles by attaching beaded head and eye pins to charm or connector before closing the loop on the dangle.

Ear threads: Ear-thread designs can be changed every day. Just slide beads on and wear. The next day re-arrange yesterday's beads or slide on a whole new design! To keep beads in place use SmartBeads or Bead Bumpers™.

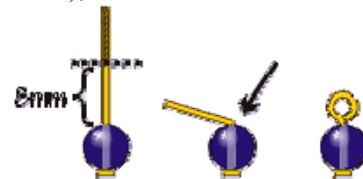
Jump Ring Hint:

When you open and close jump rings, twist sideways instead of "ovalling" them. This keeps their shape better, which makes them easier to close all the way.



To make nice loops on head or eye pins:

1. String selected beads on the head or eye pin.
2. Keep about 8mm (1/3") of wire. Cut off any extra.
3. Use round-nose pliers to grasp the wire just above the bead (at the arrow), and bend sharply away from you.
4. Now use small round-nose pliers to grasp the tip of the wire, and bend it smoothly around the pliers down close to the beads.



To make nice wire-wrapped beaded head and eye pins:

(For best results, use both chain-nose and round-nose pliers.)

1. Use chain-nose pliers to grasp the wire just above the top of the bead.
2. Use your fingers to bend the wire sharply over the top of the pliers, at a 90° angle. You should have 2-3mm of straight wire between the bead and the bend (less for fine-gauge wire, more for heavy wire or more wraps).
3. Use round-nose pliers to grasp a spot just above the bend, and use your fingers to smoothly bend the wire all the way around the tip of the pliers. (For different sizes of loops, bend the wire around thinner or thicker portions of the pliers' tip.)
4. Now use round-nose pliers to grasp the wire firmly across the loop. Use your fingers or chain-nose pliers to carefully wrap the wire around the stem. For best control, experts recommend you break this step into a series of half wraps.
5. Trim excess with flush cutters.

