

# “Early Spring” Earrings

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## Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock #</u>	<u>Name</u>
2	03-700-10-97	10mm Swarovski® crystal margarita beads, crystal/tabac
2	37-097-B*	1.5" head pins, brass
2	44-461-0*	19x16mm stamped charms of two leaves, raw brass
2	34-563-20*	TierraCast™ plain French hook ear wires, sterling silver

**Tools:** round-nose pliers, chain-nose pliers, flat-nose pliers, oxidizing solution such as liver of sulfur (#86-354) or WinOx™ (#86-343)

1. Prior to assembly, antique the starred (\*) items with an oxidizing solution such as liver of sulfur (#86-354) or WinOx (#86-343). Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the solution.
2. Add a margarita bead and a double-leaf charm to a head pin and make a wrapped loop about ¼" above the double-leaf charm
3. Bend the wire at a right angle closely against the back of the earring adornment. Position the loop so the margarita and leaf charm face forward, and attach the ear wire.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 for the second earring.

**TIP:** Oxidized sterling silver ear wires blend well with vintage-style earrings and are a safe choice for sensitive ears.

## 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 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.

