

“First Frost” Earrings

As seen in the Rings & Things Wholesale Catalog 2009-10



Created by: Amy Scalise

Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock #</u>	<u>Name</u>
2	24-990-02	2mm round beads, sterling silver
2	37-515	1.5" thin head pins, sterling silver
4	37-815	1.5" thin eye pins, sterling silver
1 pair	34-598	French hook ear wires with ball end, sterling silver
4	43-129-AS	5x3mm tiny leaf-shaped TierraCast™ bead caps, antiqued silver
4	43-147-07-3	10mm five-petal flower bead caps, silver plate
4	43-147-06-3	8mm five-petal flower bead caps, silver plate
2	21-880-019	10mm round gemstone beads, picasso marble
2	21-888-010	8mm round gemstone beads, silver leaf jasper †
2	21-884-004	4mm round gemstone beads, black onyx



Tools: round-nose pliers, chain-nose pliers, cutters

To make this design:

1. Add beads and corresponding bead caps to head and eye pins as pictured.
2. Using the techniques on the back, make loops or wrapped loops – the 10mm beads use a wrapped loop – and attach as shown.

NOTE: † Silver leaf jasper is not always available. To find another gemstone in this same shape, visit our website at www.rings-things.com and type **21-888** in the search box. Or call us and our friendly sales staff will help you find another option.

Techniques for making earrings

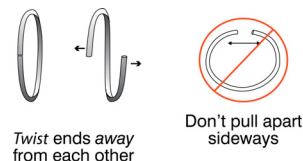
Basic earrings: Gently open the loop on the earring component, (see jump ring hint) and insert the earring dangle loop. Close the loop.

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™.

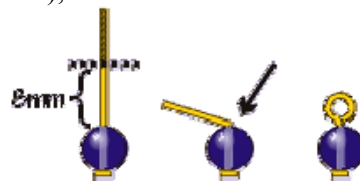
Jump-ring hint:

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.

