

"Stringing in the Rain" Necklace

As seen in the 2008 Spring Supplement
(Updated 11-08)



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Tools: crimping pliers, cutters, split-ring tweezers, flat-nosed pliers



Shown reduced

Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock</u>	<u>Name</u>
1	#39-581	Pearl clasp, sterling silver
5½ft	#40-582-06	0.6mm bead chain, sterling silver
54	#41-556-2030	2mm crimp tubes, sterling silver
2	#41-515	4.9mm split rings, sterling silver
5	#41-520-30	Tiny leaf prong bails, sterling silver
6	#43-544-10	Scalloped briolette caps, sterling silver
6	#41-551-97-13-3	Three-strand center crimp tubes with loop, sterling silver
13	#37-290-135	3.5mm round jump rings, Argentium® sterling silver
1	#06-744-12-02	12mm Swarovski® crystal flower pendant, crystal/aurora borealis
22	#05-301-03-178	3mm Swarovski crystal bicones, light gray opal
12	#05-744-06-00	6mm Swarovski crystal flower beads, color assortment
4	#06-301-06-177	6mm Swarovski crystal bicone drops, palace green opal
17beads	#05-301-04-910	4mm Swarovski Crystal Jams™ bicone assortments, "cry baby"
6	#06-010-11-177	11mm Swarovski crystal briolette pendants, palace green opal

Optional: #41-556-1110 1mm crimp tubes

TIP: If you use the smaller crimp tubes you can just mash them flat, saving the time spent trying to round the 2mm crimps.

To make this design:

Prepare chain and crimps:

- This is a three-strand 3-section necklace (9 chain lengths total). Cut the chain in the following lengths:
 - For the center section of the necklace, cut one 4" length of chain, one 3.75" length and one 2.75" length.
 - For the side sections of the necklace, cut two 5" lengths of chain, two 4.75" lengths and two 4" lengths.
- Attach 3 center-crimp "connectors" (tubes with loop) to sections of chain ends. (Crimp the middle strand last, because otherwise it will kink in the process of attaching the outer chains.):
 - Group your chain lengths as listed above so you have 3 groups, each with a short, middle and long chain length. Start connecting parts with any grouping.

- b. Insert one end of the shortest chain length about 2mm into an outer tube of a center-crimp connector. Crimp the middle section of the tube so the chain is securely in place.
- c. Insert one end of the longest chain length about 2mm into the other outer tube of the connector, and crimp the middle section.
- d. For the center strand, insert an end and pull it all the way through the tube to the loop of the connector. Crimp.
- e. Repeat for the remaining two sections of the necklace. DO NOT attach center-crimp connectors to the other ends of the chain sections yet; we must keep those ends open for beading.

Bead the beading chain:

3. For the side sections of the necklace:
 - a. Start with one of the short chain lengths. String a crimp tube 10mm (3/8") from the edge of the center-crimp connector and crimp it in place. String a flower crystal bead, and then secure another crimp tube. Repeat 3 times, for a total of 4 flower beads, alternating colors to your liking. Space them 10mm (3/8") apart.
 - b. On the medium chain lengths of the same side sections, secure a crimp tube 4mm (1/8") from the connector. Add a 3mm bicone, 4mm bicone, 3mm bicone and crimp tube, again alternating colors to your liking. Crimp. Space over 15mm (5/8") and secure another crimp tube. Add flower bead, secure by crimping. Space over another 15mm and secure another crimp tube. Add a 3mm bicone, 4mm bicone, 3mm bicone and crimp tube. Secure.
 - c. For the long chain length of this side section, secure a crimp tube 2mm (1/16") from the connector. Add a 3mm bicone, 4mm bicone, 3mm bicone and crimp tube, then crimp. Space over 10mm (3/8") and secure another crimp tube. Add 2 differently-colored 4mm bicones and a crimp tube. Leave approximately 1mm between the second bicone and the second crimp tube. Secure crimp. (The extra space allows enough space to add a dangling crystal.) Space over 15mm and secure another crimp tube. Add 2 differently-colored 4mm bicones and a crimp tube, again allowing an extra 1mm of space. Secure crimp. Space over 10mm (3/8") and secure another crimp tube. Add a 3mm bicone, 4mm bicone, 3mm bicone and final crimp tube. Secure crimp.
 - d. Repeat steps a. through c. for the second side section.
4. For the center section of the necklace:
 - a. Start with the shortest chain. 20mm from the edge of the center-crimp connector, secure a crimp tube. Add a 3mm bicone, 4mm bicone, 3mm bicone, and another crimp tube. Secure crimp.
 - b. For the medium chain length, space over 17mm from the edge of the center-crimp connector and secure a crimp tube. Add a flower bead and another crimp. Secure crimp. Space over 12mm (1/2") and secure another crimp tube. Add another flower bead and another crimp tube. Secure crimp.
 - c. For the long chain length, space over 10mm from the connector and secure a crimp tube. Add two 3mm bicones and a crimp tube (allowing 1mm of slack between, for adding a dangle). Secure crimp. Space over 30mm and secure a crimp tube. Add two 3mm bicones and a crimp tube (again with 1mm of slack). Secure crimp.
5. Now that you have all of your "floating beads" on the chain, you can finish the chain ends with the remaining center-crimp connectors. Repeat steps 2b through 2e to finish all 3 necklace sections. Use crimping pliers to help hold each chain end in place.
6. Connect the 3 sections together using split rings. Use split-ring tweezers to open the split rings. First, attach a split ring to each of the 2 loops on the center necklace section. Then, attach 1 connector from each side-section to the center-section's 2 split rings. Make sure to connect the side sections on the appropriate side, so the chains hang nicely with the shortest chains on top and the longest chains on bottom.
7. Attach a tiny prong bail to a 6mm bicone drop. To do this, align the prongs with the bicone's hole, and pinch closed using either non-serrated flat-nose pliers or your fingers. Repeat 3 times, for a total of 4 bicone dangles. Insert a jump ring into each bail loop. Hang 2 of the bicone drops between the 4mm bicones closest to the necklace ends where you've left 1mm of slack (1 bicone on each side). Close jump rings. Attach the other 2 bicone drops between the 3mm bicones of the center section's lowest strand (1 bicone each side, where you left 1mm of slack).
8. Attach a briolette cap to a briolette: align the inner prongs of the briolette cap with the hole of the briolette, and carefully pinch closed with non-serrated pliers until secure. Repeat 5 times, for a total of 6 briolette dangles. Insert a jump ring into the loop of each briolette cap. Attach 1 briolette to each of the 4 connector loops of the side necklace sections (as pictured). Attach the remaining 2 briolettes between the 4mm bicones near the center of each side section (these are 2 of the remaining 3 spots where you've left 1mm of slack).
9. The last dangle to attach is the center flower pendant. Secure a tiny leaf prong bail to the crystal flower pendant, insert a jump ring into the bail loop and hang from the center of the necklace's center section on the lowest chain.
10. Use jump rings to attach the clasp to each end of your necklace.

TIP: For a nicely rounded crimp tube: first, center the crimp in the rounded insert closest to the spring of the pliers. Crimp once, forming the tube into a squished 'U' shape. Then, center the crimp in the insert closest to the tip of the pliers. Squeezing your crimp this second time in the circular insert creates a nice round crimp with no jagged edges.