

“Summer Breeze” Earrings

As seen in the 2009 Spring Supplement



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Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock #</u>	<u>Name</u>
2	24-975-24	6.5mm tip-drilled triangle beads, sterling silver
4	20-421-03	Small gemstone nuggets, turquoise
4	24-990-03	3mm round beads, sterling silver
2	37-512	2" thin head pins, sterling silver
1 pair	34-590	French hook ear wires with rope-edge domed disk, sterling silver

Tools: side cutters, round-nose pliers

To make this design:

1. Cut the heads off the head pins.*
2. Add the beads as pictured and make wrapped loops on each end, and attach the ear wires.
(Use techniques for making earrings on the back as a guide.)

* **NOTE:** Instead of using head pins, and cutting off their heads, you can use 22-gauge sterling wire (#64-528).

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™.**

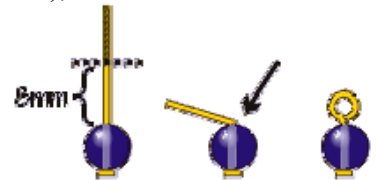
Jump-ring hint:

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.

