



The Bead Hold

NEW ZEALANDS PREMIER BEADING SUPPLY STORE

HOW TO: Make Chandelier Earrings

Please Note: Before you start on chandelier earrings, you should have made some basic drop and linked drop earrings. You need to be comfortable handling your pliers, making basic lollipop loops and opening and closing jumprings

Basic Dangles

You will need

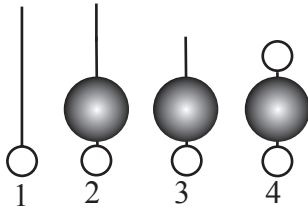
- 2 x medium size feature beads
- 2 x smaller feature beads
- 2 x accent beads
- 2 x 4cm lengths of fine chain or 2 charms
- 2 x jumprings
- 15cm of 22 gauge craft wire
- A pair of earring hooks or studs

1. Cut your wire in half and make a lollipop loop at one end of each piece.

2. Slide a main feature bead down one piece of wire so it sits against the loop.

3. Cut the wire 1 cm above the bead.

4. Turn another loop, making sure it sits right on top of the bead. Remember that your loops should form a figure of 8 – one loop facing upwards, one down. If necessary, twist the loops gently in your pliers to make this happen.



This is a bead set.

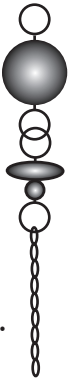
Use a jumpring to connect one bead set to each of your earring fittings.

5. Make a lollipop loop at one end of each piece of remaining wire. On each piece, slide down the smaller feature and the accent bead. Cut and loop, making sure the loops on each bead set are a figure eight.



6. Use your pliers to open the bottom loop of the main bead set part way. Slide in the second, smaller bead set, and use the tips of your pliers to close the loop.

7. Open up the bottom loop of the smaller bead set, and slip in one piece of chain. Close the loop carefully. OR connect a charm here with a jumpring. Repeat for the other half of the pair.



VARIATIONS

Have 2 or 3 lengths of chain dangling from each earring. Make sure they are uneven lengths.

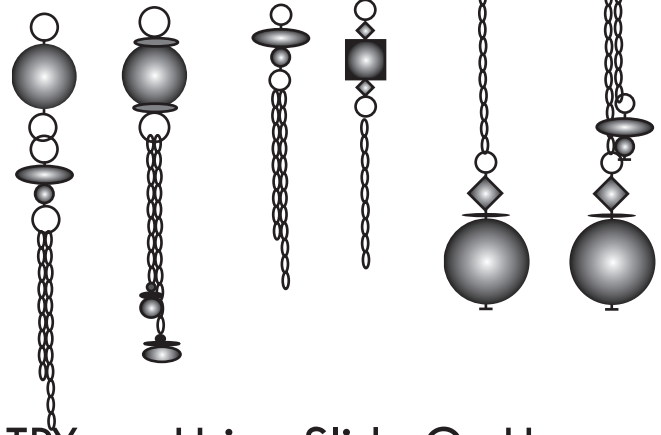
Drop the chain from one top bead set instead of two linked together.

Add a charm or dangle at the bottom of the chain.

Make up two bead sets on headpins, and add them to the bottom of the chain dangles.

Use different types of chain for the dangles.

Have the chain hanging straight from the earring fitting with the beads at the bottom.



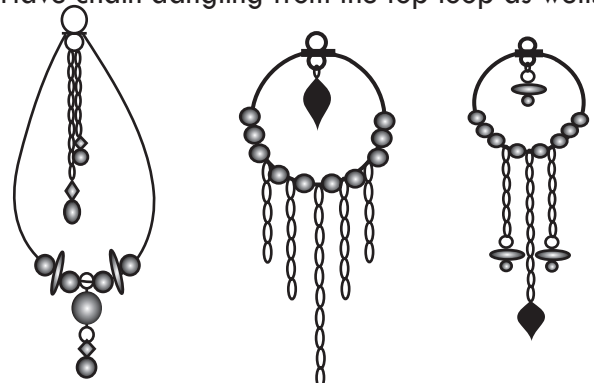
TRY . . . Using Slide On Hoops

Using a hoop, or a pear shaped hoop.

- String beads all the way around the hoop, with chain in the middle.

- Have beads dangling off the bottom of the chain.

- Have chain dangling from the top loop as well.



USING CHANDELIER FITTINGS

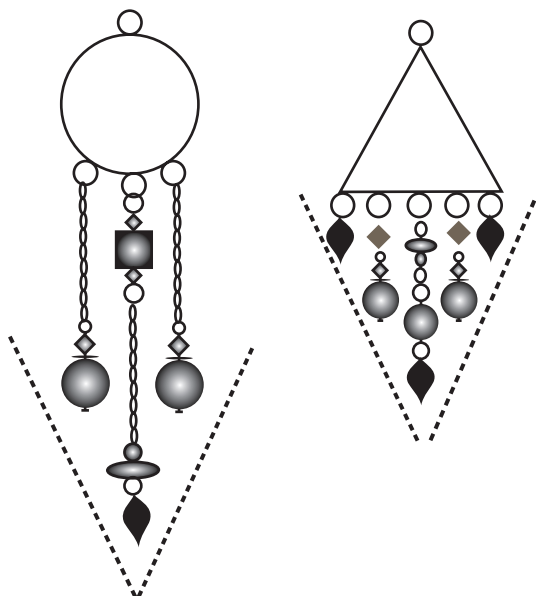
You will need:

- 2 x chandelier tops,
- 8 - 14 x head pins
- A pair of hooks or studs
- OPTIONAL: 10 - 20cm of fine chain
- 10 - 20 x 3mm jumprings
- a selection of small feature beads, 4mm and 6mm, 10 - 20 of them, spacers and or bead caps, seed beads.

Planning

1. Take your chandelier piece and lay it flat on your mat. Place your beads underneath in different patterns and lengths to see what they will look like. Remember that chain gives a lovely swinging look to chandelier earrings without being over beaded.

TIPS:



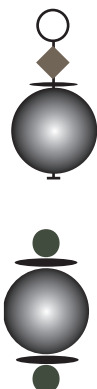
Visually, an inverted pyramid design tends to look the best. This means:

- Longest and heaviest bead sets should be by the bottom of your pattern.

- Make sure your beads are off set from each other - see in the examples how they fill the gaps, rather than line up straight across in rows.

- Smaller beads are often better than larger - stack them together in their own small pyramids for best effect, especially at the bottom of a drop e.g. 6mm bead, spacer, 4mm bead.

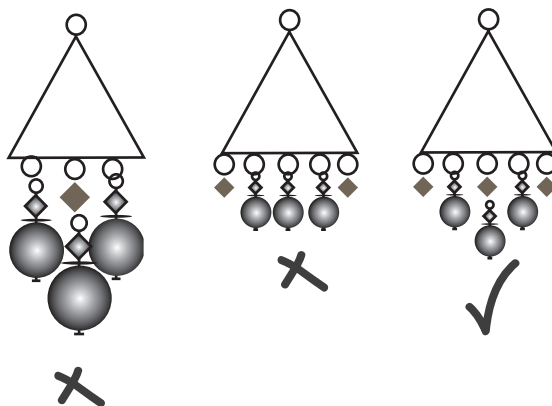
- Beads in the middle of a section are generally best as an 'eye' shape. E.g. 4mm or seed bead, spacer, 6mm bead, spacer 4mm bead or seed bead.



My Chandelier Earring Doesn't Look Quite Right . . .

- Your beads sets may be too short., and you have your main beads sitting all in a row. Lengthen the middle bead set to offset the main beads and get an inverted pyramid shape.

- Make sure your beads are not too big . . .



- Use chain to lengthen bead sets without having to use more beads. This can help give a much more delicate look.

My links between beads are too big when I join my drops together . . .

- link your beads sets directly into each other (without a jumpring). BUT: make sure that you still connect to the chandelier with a jumpring so that everything hangs well

- use 3mm jumprings instead of 4mm jumprings - this makes for a much finer join

- remember that chain can link straight into a bead set, no jumpring needed. Use a 3mm jumpring to join to the chandelier so that it just looks like a piece of chain, not an obvious join.

I have joined my stud/hook to my completed chandelier but they are hanging the wrong way . . .

- open up the hook/stud directly and link straight to the chandelier top without a jumpring.

- use two jumprings to attach to your hook/stud.

Remember - you can be asymmetrical!

- have a very long middle dangle

- use different coloured beads that tone together, but the bead sets don't exactly match

- have one chandelier long and dangly, the other simpler

ALSO: Remember that a single chandelier looks lovely as a pendant hanging from a chain, ribbon or beaded strand :)

For more tips, tricks, inspiration and tutorials and all your beading supplies visit us at

www.thebeadhold.co.nz

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