

MARCH 2011 PROJECT OF THE MONTH

STRETCHY CHARM BRACELET

INGREDIENTS

- approx 16 feature beads (4 for dangles and 12 for bracelet)
- 4 charms
- 4 headpins
- 8 jumprings
- seed beads to space main beads - size 8 and/or 6
- 40cm of 0.7mm stretch
- 15cm chain, cut into 3 pieces

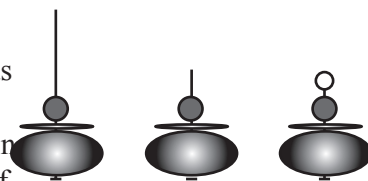
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

- Chain Nose Pliers, Round Nose Pliers
- Wire Cutters, scissors
- A bead mat to work on
- Clear nail polish or glue
- A rubber tipped clamp is handy



RECIPE

1. Take the four feature beads you wish to use for dangles. Slide each one onto a headpin and put a seed bead on top if desired. Cut the headpin 1cm above the last bead and use your round nose pliers to turn a loop. Make sure the loop is fully closed.



2. Attach a jumpring to each bead dangle and charm to allow them free movement on the bracelet.

How to open and close a jumpring

- Face the gap to the sky, hold tight at 9 o'clock with chain nose pliers and 3 o'clock with round nose pliers.
- Turn right wrist straight toward yourself to open the jumpring wide enough to slip bead sets into .
- Hook in the loop of the charm/bead dangle.
- Turn your wrist straight back the other way, with a slight wriggle if needed, to close the jumpring tight. You should see no gaps.

3. Lay the rest of your beads out in a pattern on your mat. Space them with seed beads. Intersperse your charms, bead dangles and chain evenly along the line of beads.

4. Attach your clamp to the end of the stretch magic. Leave a 6cm tail and make sure the clamp is secure.

5. Thread on your pattern of beads, charms, bead dangles (thread through the jumprings) and chain. When it comes to the chain, slide one end on first, then the next few beads, then the second end of chain so that it forms a loop.

6. Check the length of the bracelet. The bracelet needs to fit easily over your wrist. If you make it too tight, it will overstretch every time you take it on and off and is likely to break.

7. When happy with the length, finish the bracelet by tying the stretch together in three to five tight knots. Right over left, left over right then right over left again etc .Make sure that you pull the stretch tight so that the knots don't come open. Paint the knot with clear nail varnish or clear drying glue and trim the ends of the stretch 2 – 3 mm away from the knot.

For images of this months project and projects from past months, visit the Project Page on our website.

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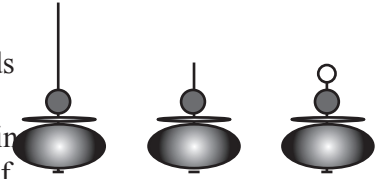
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