

Ornate Beaded Earrings Tutorial

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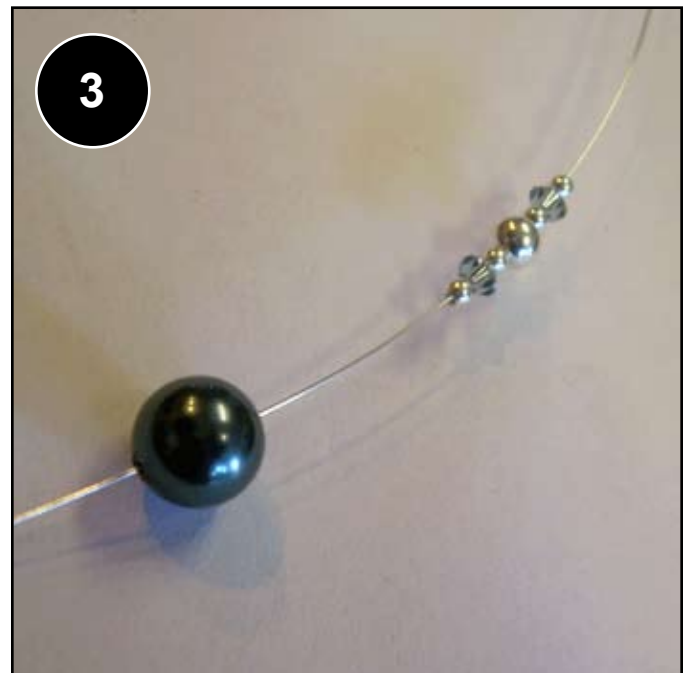
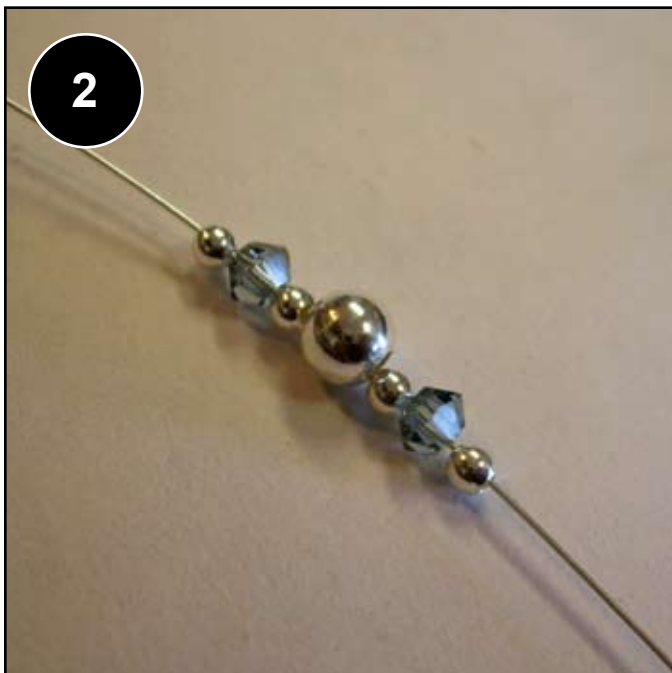
The possibilities with this technique are as limitless as your imagination - stick with classic Swarovski pearls, as I've done in this example, or play around with faceted crystal beads, natural stone beads, seed beads... and let me know what you come up with!



Materials & tools needed:

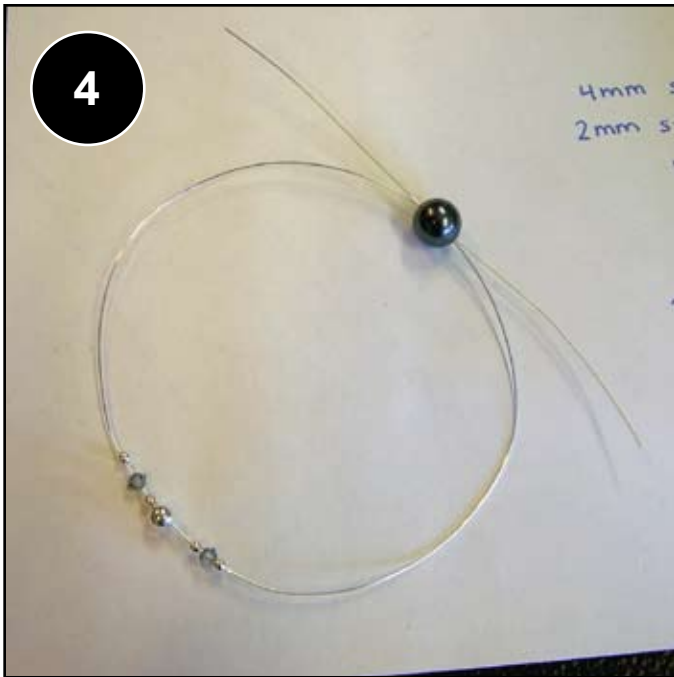
- 24" wire (I used 28 gauge sterling silver, dead soft), cut into two 12" pieces
- 2 x 8mm beads (I used Tahitian Swarovski pearls) *
- 4 x 6mm beads (I used Creamrose Light Swarovski pearls) *
- 8 x 4mm bicone Swarovski crystals
- 4 x 4mm round beads (I used sterling silver) *
- 64 x 2mm round beads (I used sterling silver but a combination of silver and colored seed beads is also nice)
- 2 x earwires, either purchased or handmade
- Round nose pliers, wire cutters

* The holes in these beads must be large enough for the wire to pass through twice.



String the following beads onto one of your 12" pieces of wire: 2mm round bead, 4mm bicone bead, 2mm round bead, 4mm round bead, 2mm round bead, 4mm bicone bead, 2mm round bead.

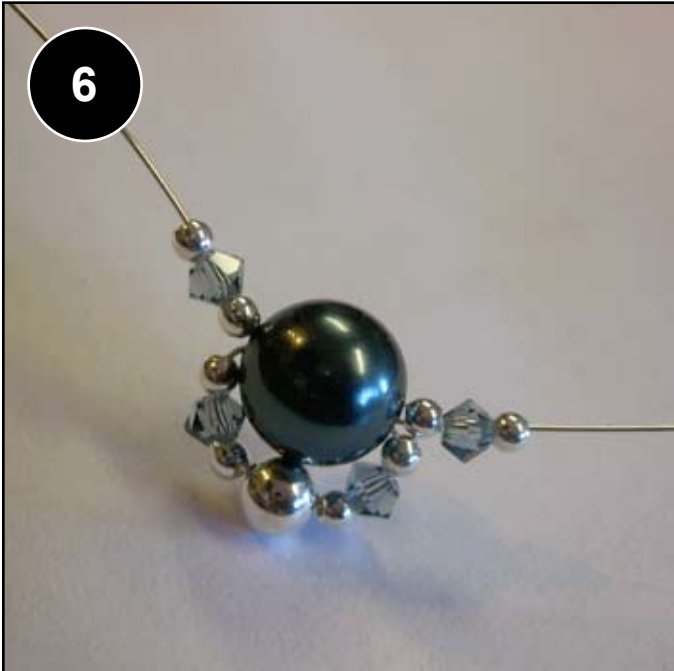
Add an 8mm round bead to one side of your existing strung beads.



Bring the other end of the wire through the 8mm round bead from the other side.



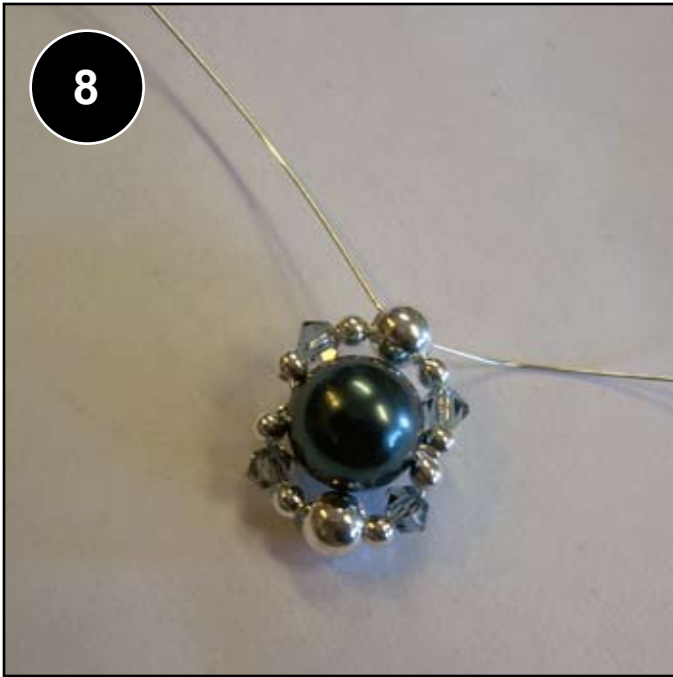
Pull the wire tight, keeping the beads roughly centered on the length of wire.



Onto each end of the wire, add the following beads: 2mm round bead, 4mm bicone bead, 2mm round bead.



String a 4mm bead onto one end of the wire, then bring the other end of the wire through from the other direction.



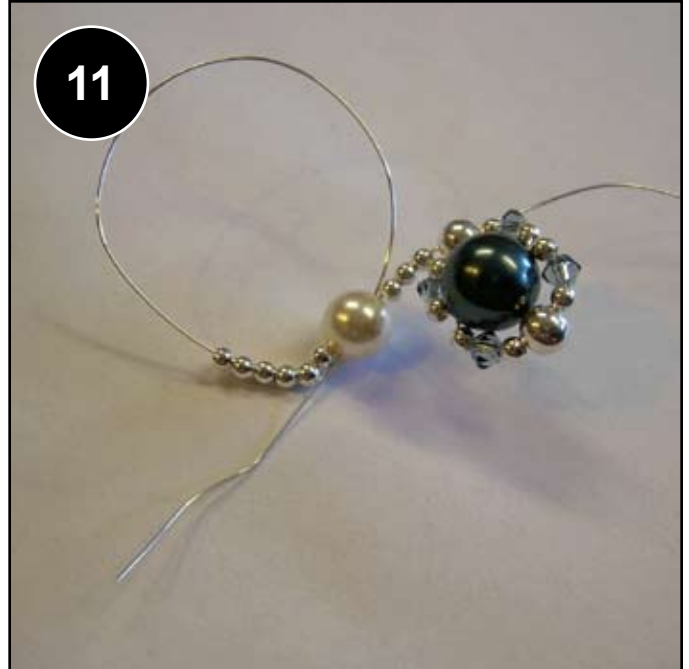
Pull the wire tight.



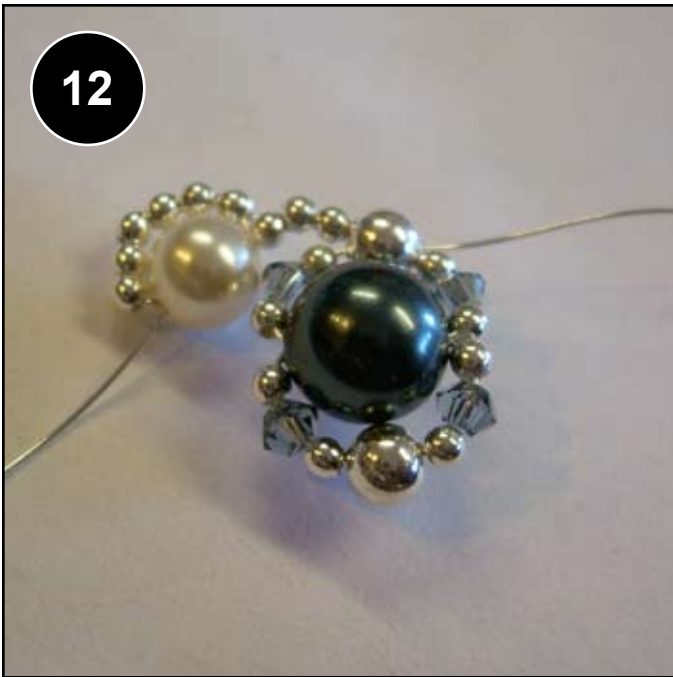
Onto one side, string the following beads: three 2mm round beads, one 6mm round bead.



Continuing on the same side, add six 2mm round beads.



Bring the end of that section of wire back around through the 6mm bead (make sure to only go through the 6mm bead, not any of the smaller ones around it).



Pull the wire tight.



Still working on the same side, add three 2mm round beads.



Continuing with the same piece of wire, bring it around to the 4mm round bead on the other side and string it through (make sure to only go through the 4mm bead, not any of the smaller ones around it).



Pull the wire tight.



16
Onto each side, string three 2mm round beads.



17
Add a 6mm round bead to one side of the wire.



18
Bring the other side of the wire through the 6mm round bead.



19
Pull the wire tight.



Onto each side of the wire, add three 2mm round beads.



Bring the ends of the wire together, bending one straight up from the earring and wrapping the other end around a few times.



Trim the end of the wire that you wrapped around the other section of wire.



Make a loop to attach the earring to your earwire. (When using 28 gauge wire, I loop it twice.)



Wrap the end of the wire around a few more times.



And trim it. If your earring looks out of alignment at all, you can bend and shape it a little bit at this point to fine tune things.



Attach the earring to whatever type of earwire you choose. Here, I've used a handmade earwire (you can find a free tutorial for this on my website), but they also look nice with a commercial post and ball finding.



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial. If you have any questions or feedback, please feel free to contact me at orders@mcfarlanddesigns.com.

~ Tamara McFarland

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