



Girl Power Trio

by Michelle Mach

Lampwork beads are always a great source of inspiration and Kandice Seeber's signature pink-and-khaki combination is no exception. These three sets of earrings show you just how different beads from the same set can look.

FLIRTY FLORAL

Follow the floral theme of the lampwork beads by add some flirty resin flowers and pink crystals.

 **FINISHED SIZE:**
3/4"

 **MATERIALS:**
2 pink/khaki 12mm floral lampwork beads
2 resin 18mm 5-petal pink flowers
2 silver ear wires
2 silver 22-gauge 2" eye pins
2 pink 4mm crystals
2 pink size 11 seed beads

 **TOOLS:**
Round nose pliers
Chain nose pliers
Wire cutters

 **TECHNIQUES**
Wirework



Ann Swanson

Tip:

Use the flat-nose pliers to open and close the loop on the ear wire. Using the round-nose pliers will mar the wire

Step 1: On an eye pin, string 1 crystal, 1 resin flower, 1 lampwork bead, and 1 seed bead. Form a simple loop using round-nose pliers. (Trim wire if necessary.) Open loop and attach to ear wire. Close loop.

Step 2: Repeat step 1 for second earring. 



PINK COPPER RIPPLE

Using non-matching lampwork beads adds to the free-spirited look



FINISHED SIZE:

1 3/4"



MATERIALS:

2 copper ear wires
2 pink/khaki striped lampwork 12x6mm beads
4 copper 3mm corrugated rounds
4 brown size 11 seed beads
2 copper 22-gauge 2" eye pins
3" of copper chain



TOOLS:

Round nose pliers
Chain nose pliers
Wire cutters



TECHNIQUES

Wirework

Step 1: On an eye pin, string 1 copper round, 1 seed bead, 1 lampwork bead, 1 seed bead, and 1 copper round. Form a simple loop using round-nose pliers. (Trim wire if necessary.) Open loop and attach to ear wire. Close loop.

Step 2: Cut the wire into 4 pieces: 2 pieces 1" each and 2 pieces 1/2" each.

Step 3: Open the bottom loop and string two pieces of chain (1" and 1/2"). Close loop.

Step 4: Repeat steps 1-3 for second earring. 



SWEET SIXTEEN

These prom-worthy earrings were inspired by the lampwork color palette. You can substantially change the look of these earrings from sweet to dramatic simply by changing the size of the loops.



FINISHED SIZE:

1 3/4"



MATERIALS:

12 brown 6x4mm glass teardrops
4 light rose 4mm crystal bicones
4 fuschia 4mm crystal bicones
4 rose 4mm crystal bicones
2 pink 8mm lampwork spacers
2 gold-filled ear wires
2 gold-filled 2mm crimps
1' of clear brass .014 7-strand beading wire
5" gold craft wire



TOOLS:

Flat-nose pliers
Crimping pliers
Wire cutters



TECHNIQUES

Wirework

Tip:

Instead of wrapping wire over the crimp, consider using crimp covers or crimp beads (not tubes) that look more like a round bead when finished.

Step 1: Cut the beading wire into two pieces. On one piece, string 1 pink crystal, 1 brown teardrop, 1 rose crystal, 1 teardrop, 1 fuschia crystal, 1 teardrop, 1 lampwork spacer, 1 teardrop, 1 fuschia crystal, 1 teardrop, 1 rose crystal, 1 teardrop, 1 pink crystal.



Step 2: Pinch the ends of the beading wire together and slide a crimp onto both wires, being careful not to cross the wires. Slide the wires through the bottom loop of the ear wires and back through the crimp. Slide the crimp up or down to create the correct size loop. Crimp the wires and trim the ends.

Step 3: Cut the craft wire in half. Beginning at the bottom of the crimp, wrap the wire over the crimp. Trim ends if needed.

Step 4: Repeat steps 1-3 for second earring. 

Special thanks to Kandice Seeber (Earth and Air Designs) for the lampwork beads.

RESOURCES:

Lampwork beads: Earth and Air Designs, www.lampwork.net; Resin flowers: Dee's Place, www.beadsbydee.com; Crystals, ear wires, eye pins: Artbeads.com; Teardrops: Beadin' Path, www.beadinpath.com; Beading wire: Fire Mountain Gems, www.firemountaingems.com; Craft wire: Michael's, www.michaels.com; Crimps: Byzantium, www.bigbead.com; Copper chain: Lady Bug Beads, www.ladybugbeads.net.

MICHELLE MACH is the editor of *Beading Daily*. She loves making earrings, especially ones that don't match exactly!



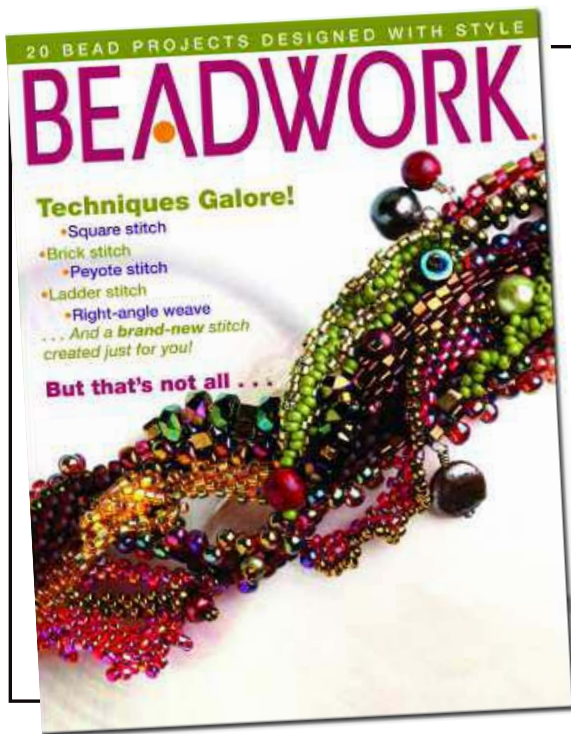
Crimping

String a crimp tube and the connection finding (i.e., the loop of the clasp). Pass back through the tube, leaving a short tail. Use the back notch of the crimping pliers to press the length of the tube down between the wires, enclosing them in separate chambers of the crescent shape. Rotate the tube 90° and use the front notch of the pliers to fold the two chambers onto themselves, forming a clean cylinder. Trim the excess wire.



Simple Loop

To form a simple loop, use flat-nose pliers to make a 90° bend at least 1/2" from the end of the wire. Use round-nose pliers to grasp the wire after the bend; roll the pliers toward the bend, but not past it, to preserve the 90° bend. Use your thumb to continue the wrap around the nose of the pliers. Trim the wire next to the bend.



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