

Laurel Earrings Pattern: FREE

Intensity: ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

Beginner/Intermediate



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Laurel Earrings

© Melissa Grakowsky Shippee



These petite earrings inspired by the gorgeous Laurel pattern on the original Czech cabochons used in this design. Japanese seed beads and Swarovski crystal are the perfect accents to the focal cabs.

What You'll Need...

Supply

| | Name in Pattern | Count | Weight |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------|
| 18mm Czech glass cabochon or button | cabochon | 2 | |
| 6mm Czech glass firepolished rounds | 6mm firepolish | 2 | |
| 3mm Czech glass firepolished rounds | 3mm firepolish | 12 | |
| Swarovski ellipse pendant | pendant | 2 | |
| Swarovski 8mm pearl | 8mm pearl | 2 | |
| Tierracast Earwires | earwires | 2 | |
| Size 11/0 cylinder bead | cylinder | | 2g |
| Size 15/0 seed bead, color A | 15A | | 2g |
| Size 15/0 seed bead, color B | 15B | | 2g |
| Size 11/0 seed bead | 11/0 | | 2g |

Notions

Size 11 to 12 beading needles, beading thread (nylon or fishing line OK).

Tools

Scissors, flat- or chain-nose pliers, beading mat.

Techniques

Netting, peyote stitch, right angle weave.

Bead Symbols

 cylinder

 15A

 15B

 11/0

 3mm FP

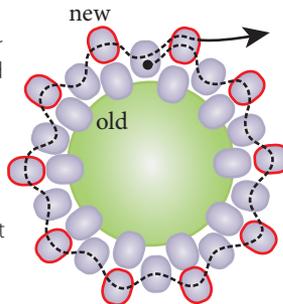
 6mm FP

About the diagrams...

Beads already added when you start a step are shown in the diagram in color with a normal outline. Beads you need to add in the current step are shown with a red outline.

Thread paths going through beads are dashed, and thread coming out of beads is solid. Old thread paths are not shown.

The arrow represents the needle. The dot indicates the start of the thread path.



Glossary

stitch through - *v.* To go through; put the needle through; needle through.

stitch - *n.* A bead or set of beads picked up and added to beadwork and the beads stitched through; one set of a repeat.

pick up - *v.* To put on your needle, ie. “pick up three 11As”.

step up - *v.* To go through without adding beads, usually referring to the first bead(s) in the row being completed.

step down - *v.* To go through the first bead or beads in a previous row without adding beads.

one-drop peyote stitch - *n.* Peyote stitch where one bead is added each stitch. One or multiple beads may be stitched through in each stitch.

multi-drop peyote stitch - *n.* Peyote stitch where multiple beads are added each stitch. One or multiple beads may be stitched through in each stitch, though generally the entire set of beads is stitched through which was added in the last row.

net - *n.* One stitch of netting, comprised of the beads added as a group in any given row.

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Colorway Information

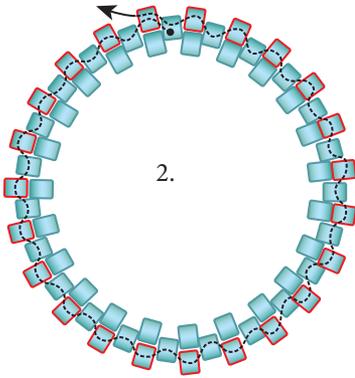
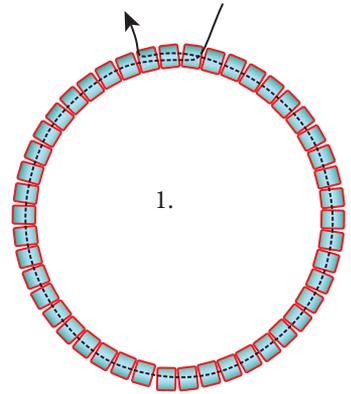
| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cabochon | medium sky blue with gold accents |
| 6mm firepolish | pale pacific blue |
| 3mm firepolish | gold |
| pendant | Swarovski light Colorado topaz |
| 8mm pearl | Swarovski vintage gold |
| earwires | niobium antique bronze |
| cylinder | Delica #29 |
| 15A | Toho #711 |
| 15B | Toho #995F |
| 11/0 | Miyuki #954 |



I. Bezel

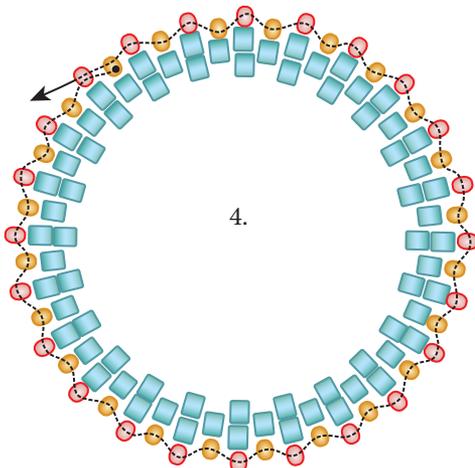
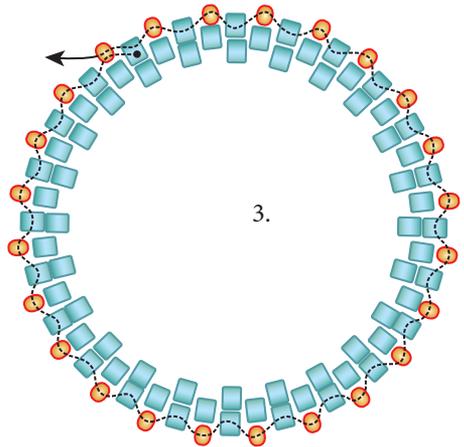
The 18mm Czech glass cabochon has a bezel that can also fit an 18mm Czech button or even an 18mm Swarovski rivoli.

1. Needle up a wingspan of thread and pick up forty-six cylinders. Stitch through the first few again to form a loop, leaving just enough of a tail to weave into the beadwork later and trim.



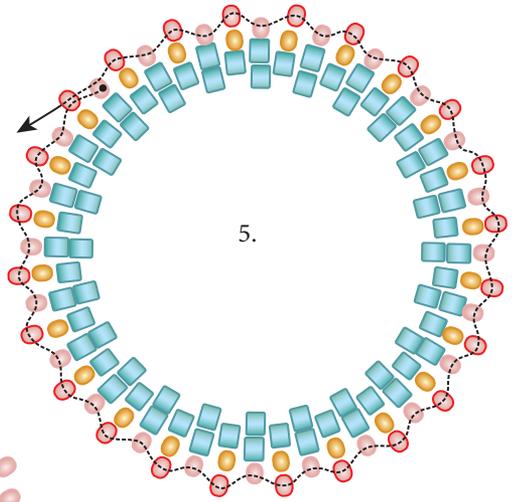
2. Peyote stitch one round of cylinders; step up at the end of the round.

3. Peyote stitch one round of 15Bs; step up at the end of the round.

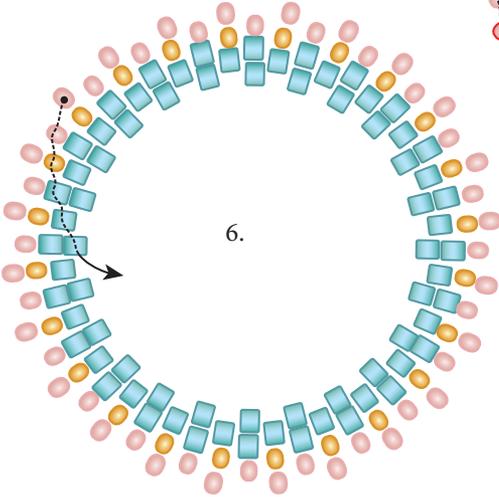


4. Peyote stitch one round of 15As; step up at the end of the round. **Note: the diagram shows the beads spaced apart for clarity, but you should pull tightly to take up the slack in the thread and the bezel should be cupping in at this point.**

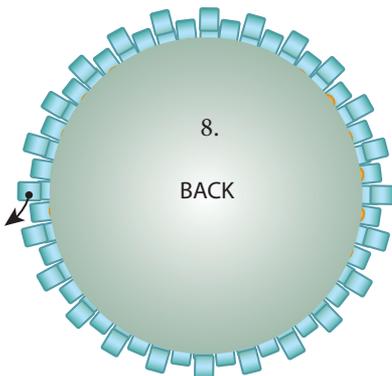
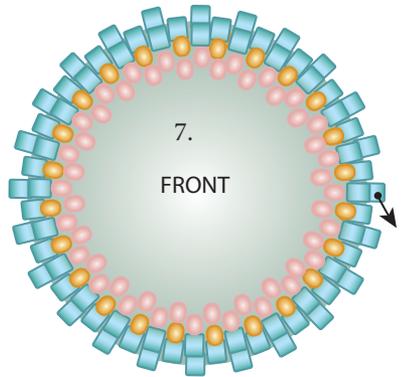
5. Peyote stitch another round of 15As. You can choose to step up or not at the end of this round, as the step-up is not necessary.



6. Weave through the beadwork to the other side of the first round of cylinders, bringing your thread out of an "up" bead in the round.

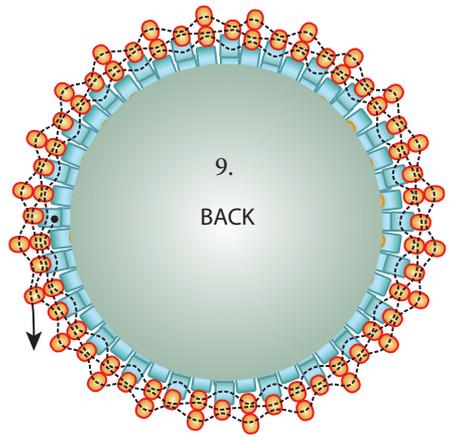


7. At this point you can check the fit of your bezel by putting your stone face up against the rounds of 15/0s just completed. This will be the front of the bezel.

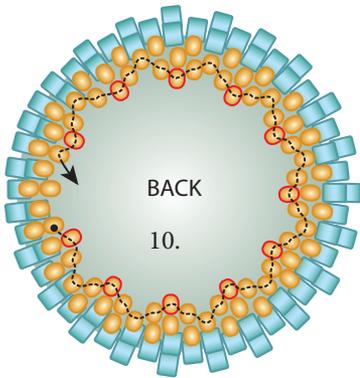


8. Turn your beadwork over to the back. If you like, you can hold the cabochon/button in place while you work the back rounds, or you can put it in later after you finish one round of 15/0s.

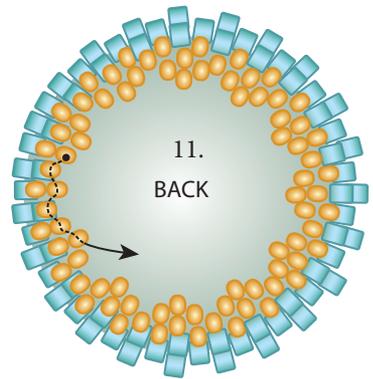
9. Peyote stitch three rounds of 15Bs, stepping up at the end of each round. **Note: the diagram shows the beads spread out for clarity, but you should be pulling tightly to cinch the bezel in and hold the cabochon in place.**



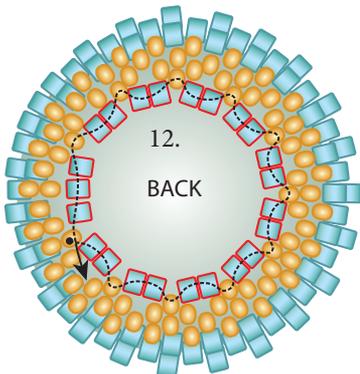
10. Peyote stitch one 15B. Skip the next space by stitching through the next 15B in the previous round, then up through the next 15B, so you've essentially passed through three 15Bs total after the newly added 15B. Repeat all the way around the row until you end up in the last space (eleven new 15Bs total) and notice there are two spots left in the round.



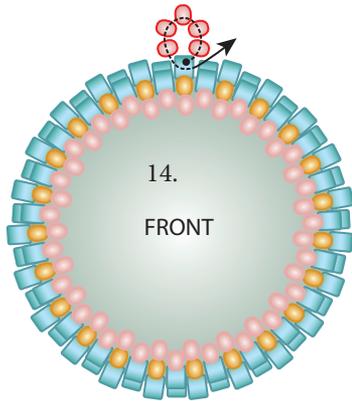
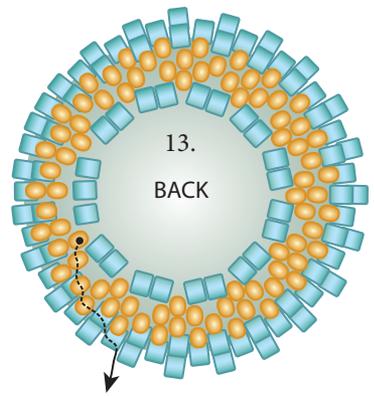
11. Skip the next two spaces by weaving through a total of six beads, bringing your thread out of the first 15B added in the previous step.



12. Pick up two cylinders and stitch through the next 15B added in the previous round. Repeat nine times, then in the last space, pick up three cylinders instead of two and stitch through the first 15B in the previous round. This row helps cinch in the bezel back and firmly hold the cabochon in place.

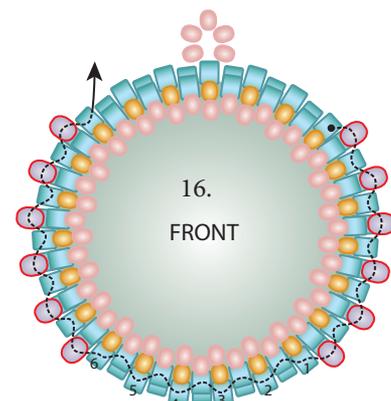
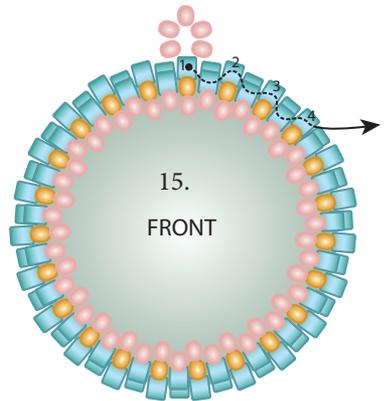


13. You can weave in, secure and trim your tail thread at any time. Weave your working thread to a cylinder in the middle round along the outside edge of the bezel.



14. Pick up five 15As and stitch through the same cylinder again in a circular fashion to add the earwire loop. If you like, you can place the earwire loop on the loop of beads before you tighten it. Retrace the thread path at least once to reinforce.

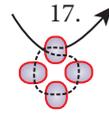
15. Weave through six cylinders to bring your thread out of the fourth cylinder in the middle round, from where the earwire loop is attached.



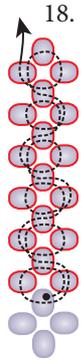
16. Pick up one 11/0 and stitch through the next cylinder in the same round to stitch the 11/0 “in the ditch”. Repeat five times for a total of six 11/0s. Stitch through the next ten cylinders, bringing your thread out of the sixth 11/0 away from the one to which the last 11/0 is attached. Stitch six 11/0s in the next six ditches. Then weave in, secure and trim your thread.

II. Crescent Component

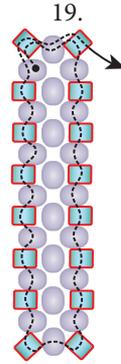
17. Needle up a half wingspan of thread and pick up four 11/0s. Slide them down toward the end of the thread, leaving an approximately 12" tail for use later. Pick up three 11/0s and stitch through the first one again to form a right angle weave (RAW) unit.



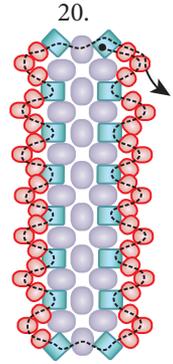
18. Pick up three 11/0s and stitch through the same 11/0 in the first unit again in a circular fashion to form a second RAW unit. Stitch through the next two 11/0s. Repeat five times for a total of seven RAW units including the first done in Step 1. On the last unit, stitch through only one 11/0 after forming the unit.



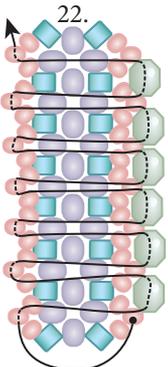
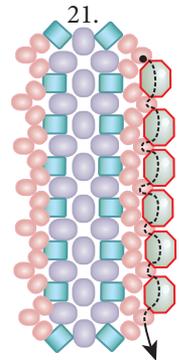
19. Pick up one cylinder and stitch through the next 11/0 (on the end of the RAW strip). Pick up one cylinder and stitch through the next 11/0, heading down the length of the RAW strip. Add cylinders between every 11/0 on this edge of the strip. Add cylinders between the 11/0s on the end, and the 11/0s on the other edge. Step up through the second cylinder added.



20. Pick up three 15As and stitch through the next cylinder. Repeat six times. Then stitch through the next 11/0 and next cylinder. Add groups of three 15As between each cylinder on this second edge. Then stitch through the next 11/0 and cylinder, and step up through the first two 15As in the first group of three added.

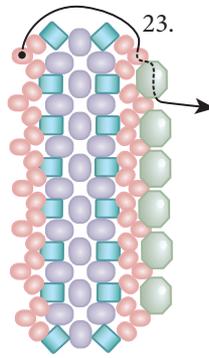


21. Pick up one 3mm firepolish and stitch through the middle 15A in the next group of three. Repeat five times for a total of six.

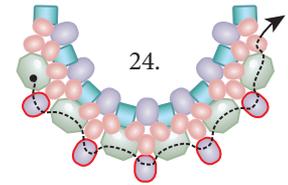


22. Zip the strip into a three-dimensional crescent shape by reversing direction and stitching through the middle 15A in the group of three opposite the one from which your thread is emerging. Then stitch through the next 3mm firepolish. Then stitch through the middle 15A in the next group of three, then the next firepolish, and repeat as you work your way toward the start of the strip. **Note: pull tightly to make the piece solid and take up the slack in the thread. The diagram is drawn with the beads spaced apart for clarity.**

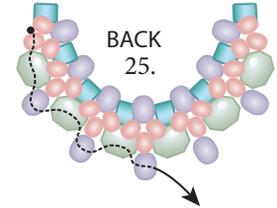
23. Reverse direction and stitch through the adjacent 15A that's the middle bead in the adjacent group of three, then stitch through the next 3mm firepolish.



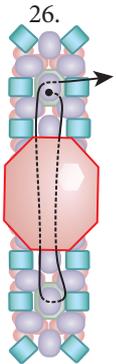
24. Pick up one 11/0 and stitch through the next 3mm firepolish. Repeat four times, then stitch through the next 15A.



25. Turn the beadwork over to the back. Reverse direction and stitch through the adjacent 15A, then back through the firepolish and through the next 11/0, firepolish, 11/0, firepolish, and next 11/0.

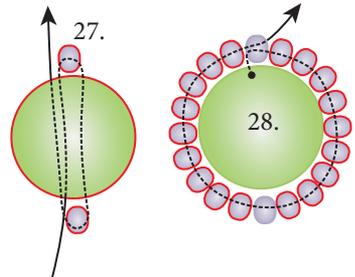


26. Needle up the tail thread and pick up one 6mm firepolish. Working on the inside of the crescent shape, stitch through the 11/0 on the opposite end of the firepolish strip that is the second away from the very end. Stitch back through the 6mm firepolish and into the original 11/0. Retrace the thread path at least once to reinforce, then weave in, secure and trim this thread.

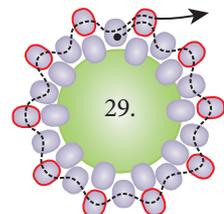


III. Pearl Component

27. Needle up a half wingspan of thread and pick up one 8mm pearl. Bring it down toward the end of the thread, leaving just enough of a tail to hold onto while your working, and weave in and trim later. Pick up one 11/0 and stitch back through the pearl. Pick up another 11/0 and stitch back through the pearl.

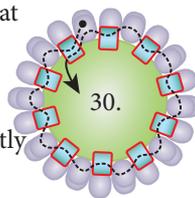


28. Stitch through the 11/0 again. Pick up nine 11/0s and stitch through the 11/0 on the opposite end of the pearl. Pick up nine 11/0s and stitch through the first 11/0 again, so there is a continuous ring of 11/0s around the pearl.

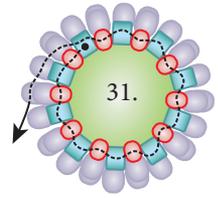


29. Peyote stitch one round of 11/0s; step up at the end of the round.

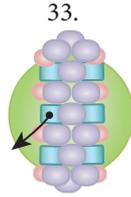
30. Peyote stitch one round of cylinders; step up at the end of the round.



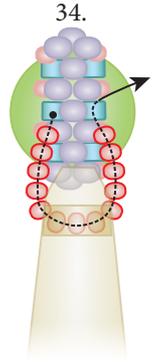
31. Peyote stitch one round of 15As; you do not need to step up at the end of the round. Pull tightly to cup the beadwork around the pearl. Weave to the opposite edge of the peyote stitch and bring your thread out of an “up” 11/0.



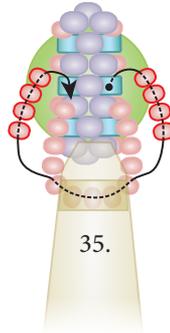
32. (No diagram) Repeat Steps 30-31 to add a round of cylinders and 15As to the other side of the peyote strip and bezel the pearl.



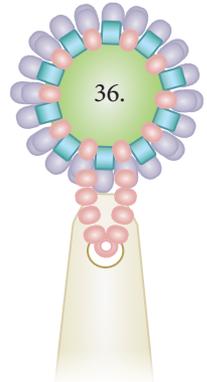
33. Looking at the side of the bezel, bring your thread out of a cylinder on either side.



34. Pick up thirteen 15As (this number may need to be adjusted to fifteen depending on your brand of 15/0s) and the crystal pendant. Stitch through the cylinder directly opposite the first. The beads should slide easily through the pendant’s hole.



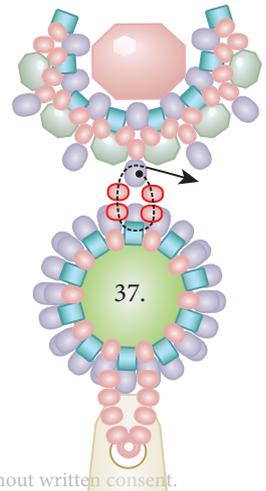
35. Pick up four 15As, skip the last four 15As in the group of thirteen, and stitch through the next five (they’ll be the middle five 15As in the group of thirteen). Pick up four 15As and stitch into the original cylinder, into the other side opposite where your thread first emerged so there’s thread on both side of the bead.



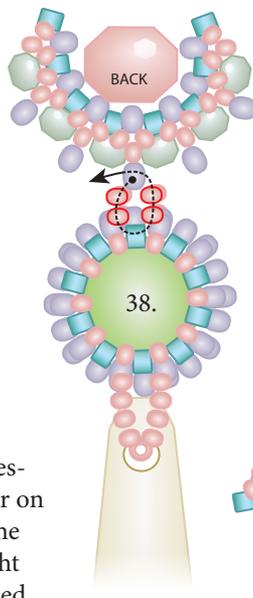
36. Cinch up the thread and pull tight so the pendant hangs evenly. Then retrace the thread paths at least once to reinforce, then weave in, secure and trim your working thread and tail thread.

IV. Assembly

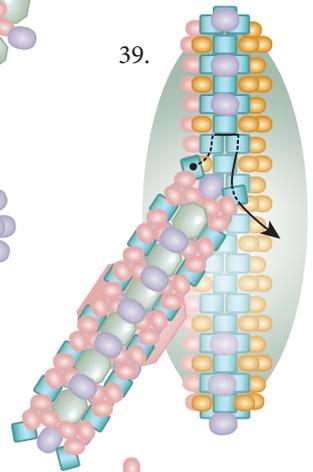
37. Go back to the hanging thread on the crescent component. It should be hanging from the middle 11/0 on the outside edge. Pick up two 15As and stitch through a cylinder on either side of the pearl component bezel that’s directly opposite the attachment point of the pendant. Pick up two 15As and stitch through the original 11/0 again.



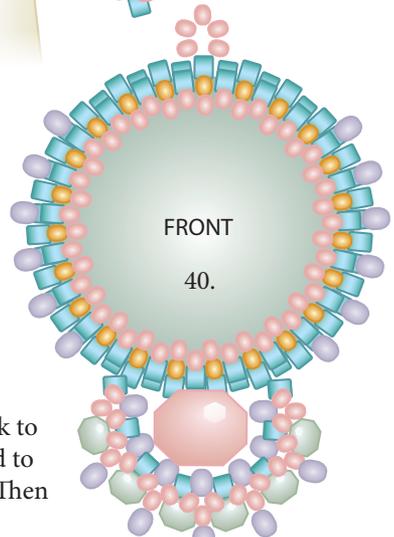
38. Turn the beadwork over to the back. Pick up two 15As and stitch through the cylinder in the same position as the previous one but on this side of the bezel. Pick up two 15As and stitch through the original 11/0 again. There should now be two pairs of 15As connecting that center 11/0 to the pearl component. Retrace the thread path at least once to reinforce. Leave the thread hanging for the next step.



39. Bring the working thread on the crescent component out of the first cylinder on one corner of the component. Locate the pair of cylinders sitting side by side right next to the one to which the last “stitched in the ditch” 11/0 is attached, in the area of the bezel opposite the earwire loop. Stitch through the first of the two cylinders, toward the 11/0, then reverse direction and stitch through the adjacent cylinder. Stitch into the next cylinder on the next corner of the crescent component. Weave around through the beadwork so you can retrace the thread path once.



40. Weave through the crescent component beadwork to the opposite end and follow Step 39 to attach this end to the cabochon bezel in mirror image to the first side. Then weave in, secure and trim any hanging threads.

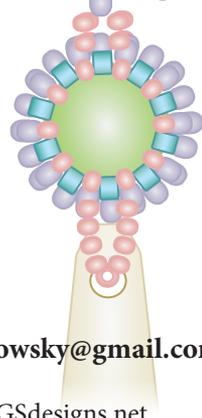


41. Repeat all steps for the 2nd earring.



You did it!

Throw yourself a party!!



Questions? Comments? Please email me at grakowsky@gmail.com

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Laurel Earrings

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