

Crystal Pumps

Designed by Keri Osczepinski

Inspiration:

Replace conventional shoe straps with chains dripping in crystal for a perfectly glitzy look.

7. Open a second jump ring and slide on each chain's free end. Close the jump ring. (This jump ring will attach to the lobster clasp—see Fig. 2.)

8. To add a dangle to the chain “straps,” slide a bead onto a head pin and begin to create a wrapped loop at the top, stopping after the loop is made and before wrapping. Attach the open loop to the chain, close the loop, and complete the wrap. Trim excess wire. Repeat to attach dangles along all three chains as desired.

If you have questions concerning this project, contact the editors of *Bead Unique Magazine*.

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Keri has been designing jewelry for her sister Tammy's company, T-Beads, for five years. The two sisters are the perfect pairing: Tammy makes the beads and Keri designs the jewelry. Keri started working with jewelry by wire wrapping a pair of earrings, and then she was hooked. She loves art and fashion, and designing jewelry with artist beads allows her to combine her two passions. Keri believes that an outfit is only as good as what you accessorize it with.



Econo-tip:

Embellish a plain or neutral pair of pumps with mixed beads from your stash.

Materials (for one shoe):

- 1 Pump shoe of choice
- 20–25 in. Chain
- 35–40 Head pins
- 2–4 Eye pins
- 2 6mm Jump rings
- 1 Lobster claw clasp
- 40–50 Assorted beads, freshwater pearls, crystals, and accent beads/charms

Additional Supplies:

- Basic beading supplies, chain nose pliers (2 pairs), round nose pliers, wire cutters

Dimensions: vary
Beginning project

Instructions (for one shoe):

(Note: Before beginning, remove the existing straps from the shoe. You will need a hole on each side of the shoe back approximately 5–6mm in diameter. If the holes don't already exist, you can create them yourself and set a grommet in each. You just need a way to attach the chain securely to the shoe!)

1. Slide a bead onto an eye pin and begin to create a wrapped loop at the top (see **Technique Guide**), stopping after the loop is made and before wrapping. Slide the lobster clasp onto the wire and into the open loop, close the loop, and then complete the wrap. Trim excess wire.

2. Cut a small piece of chain (about 1 in.) and loop it through the hole on the inside of the shoe. Gently open the eye pin loop on the component made in Step 1, slide

each chain end into the open loop, and then close the loop to attach the ends together. Set shoe aside.

3. Create a decorative dangle (which will hang on the side of the shoe) by sliding a few beads and/or components onto a head pin and creating a wrapped loop at the top. Set aside. Slide a bead onto an eye pin and create a simple wire loop at the top. Attach one eye pin loop to the loop at the top of the decorative dangle. Set aside.

4. Cut a small piece of chain (about 1 in.). Open the empty loop at the top of the dangle created in Step 3, attach the end of the chain, and then close the loop. Set aside.

5. Cut three lengths of chain for the decorative straps. The lengths will depend on how you would like the chain to hang over your ankle.

6. Open a jump ring and slide on one end of all three chain lengths. Pick up the dangle component from Step 4 and pass the small piece of chain through the hole on the outside of the shoe. Pick up the open jump ring with chains attached, attach the jump ring to the end of the chain on the inside of the shoe, and then close the jump ring (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1



Fig. 2