

Wedding Bloom Earrings

Designed by Tatiana Van Iten

Inspiration:

These delicate earrings are the perfect match to the “Anastasia” necklace in the Spring 2010 issue (p. 42).

Econo-tip:

Use any flat-back bauble as your focal point! Find something sentimental to make these earrings even more special.

Tip:

• The most difficult part is making two earrings exactly the same. As you work on the first earring, carefully count the number of beads you use for the fringes. Try to place the leaves on the second earring just like you did on the first one.

Materials:

- 10 g TOHO™ size 11/0 Seed Beads—off-white
- 15 g Miyuki Co., Ltd. size 15/0 Seed Beads—white
- 2 4mm Flat-back (round or oval) pearls—white
- 15 3mm Round pearls—white
- Size B Nymo—White
- 2 15mm x 15mm pieces of *Lacy's Stiff Stuff* beading foundation
- 2 15mm x 15mm pieces of leather—white
- 2 Earring studs

Additional Supplies:

- Basic beading supplies, glue, scissors, size 12 beading needle

For product information, see *Sources of Supply* at the end of this project.

Advanced project

Glossary: PT=pass through; PBT=pass back through



Instructions (for one earring):

1. Glue the flat-back pearl onto the beading foundation; let dry.
2. Measure and cut a comfortable length of beading thread and backstitch a row of size 11/0 Seeds around the pearl (see Technique Guide). Sew through all beads a second time to reinforce the circle. (This is the base row.) Backstitch a second row of beads around the pearl.
3. Trim the beading foundation as close to your beadwork as possible.
4. **Bead loops.** Sew up through the foundation between the backstitched rows. Pick up five size 15/0 Seeds and PBT the foundation (**Fig. 1**). Continue around the pearl.
5. **Finishing the back.** Apply a thin layer of glue to the ear post and press it onto the center of the beadwork. Let dry.
6. Pierce a tiny hole for the post at the center of the leather piece. Apply a drop of glue over the base of the post and place the leather over the post, pushing the stem through the hole. Press it carefully and let dry.
7. Trim the leather close to the beadwork and sew the foundation and leather together.
8. **Finishing the edge.** For covering the edge, we can make one or two rows of loops around the pearl: Pick up one size 11/0 Seed, one size 15/0 Seed, and one size 11/0 Seed. Skip one bead on the last row and PT the next one (**Fig. 2**). Continue around the cabochon.
9. Make another row of bigger loops around the edge: Pick up two size 11/0 Seeds, one size 15/0 Seed, and one size 11/0 Seed. PBT the size 15/0 Seed and add two size 11/0 Seeds (**Fig. 3**). Skip two beads on the base row around the edge and PT the next bead. Continue around the edge.
10. **Branch fringe.** Thread the needle with a comfortable length of beading thread and secure it to the pearl's bezel. Pick up 25–30 size 11/0 Seeds, one pearl, and one size 15/0 Seed. Skip the last bead; PBT the pearl and 15 size 11/0 Seeds. Pick up eight size 11/0 Seeds, one pearl, and

one size 15/0 Seed. Skip the last bead and PBT the pearl and 15 size 11/0 Seeds. Make several branches on the fringe. (Do not cut thread; you will create a leaf on one of the branches.)

Leaves

1. Base: Rows 1 and 2. Pick up four size 11/0 Seeds, one size 15/0 Seed, and one size 11/0 Seed; PBT the third bead (**Fig. 4**).

2. Row 3. Pick up one size 11/0 Seed, skip one bead, PT the next one, and turn (**Fig. 5**).

3. Row 4. Work two stitches.

4. Row 5. Pick up two size 11/0 Seeds, one size 15/0 Seed, and one size 11/0 Seed. PBT the first bead just strung (**Fig. 6**). Pick up one size 11/0 Seed, PT the next "upper bead," and turn (**Fig. 7**).

5. Rows 6 and 7. Repeat Rows 4 and 5.

6. Row 8. String two size 11/0 Seeds, one size 15/0 Seed, and one size 11/0 Seed; PBT the first bead just strung (this will be the tip of the leaf). Work two stitches.

7. Row 9. Work two stitches.

8. Row 10. Pick up one size 15/0 Seed and one size 11/0 Seed; PBT the last bead of the previous row. Work one stitch.

9. Row 11. Pick up three size 11/0 Seeds and PBT the first bead just strung (**Fig. 8**). Work one stitch.

10. Rows 12 and 13. Repeat Rows 10 and 11 (**Fig. 9**).

11. Leaf middle. (Note: For the smaller leaves, you can leave the middle part open if you like—**Fig. 10**.) Pick up two size 11/0 Seeds, one size 15/0 Seed, and two size 11/0 Seeds on the needle. Sew through the inner part of the base, adding size 15/0 Seeds between the beads if necessary.

Finishing

Continue your fringe. Make four leaves on three branched fringes. Secure the thread.

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

Email: editors@beaduniquemag.com

Website: www.beaduniquemag.com

Sources of Supply

Lacy's Stiff Stuff

(575) 623-1544

www.lacysstiffstuff.com

Miyuki Co., Ltd.

www.miyuki-beads.co.jp/english

TOHO™

www.tohobeads.net



Tatiana Van Iten, a native of Russia, graduated from Leningrad State University with a Master of Arts in photojournalism, then married an American citizen and moved to the US. Her grandmother taught her beading, knitting, and jewelry design starting at age six. Besides designing with freshwater pearls, gemstones, lampwork glass beads, wood and leather, she incorporates fossils collected with her husband, a paleontologist. Tatiana teaches classes on beading in Indiana and Kentucky, and exhibits in local art fairs. In addition to being an avid beader, she is a freelance photographer and Kung Fu instructor with a second-degree black belt.

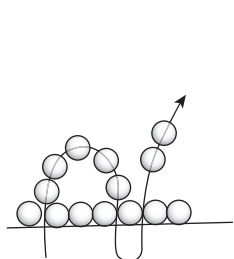


Fig. 1

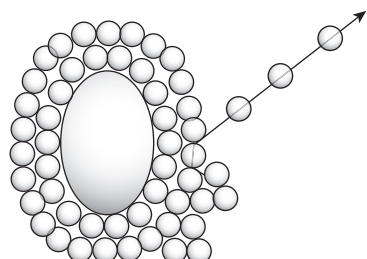


Fig. 2

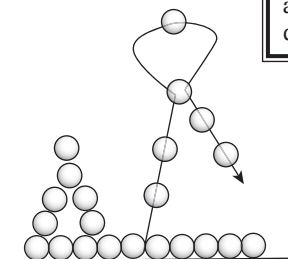


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

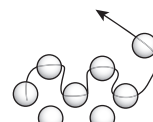


Fig. 5

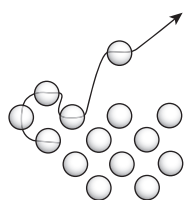


Fig. 6

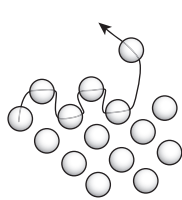


Fig. 7

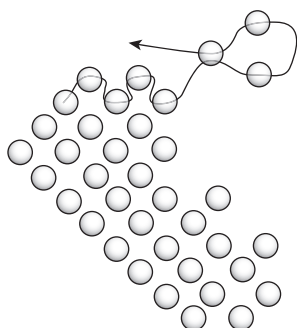


Fig. 8

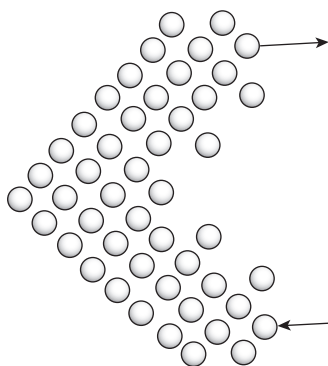


Fig. 9

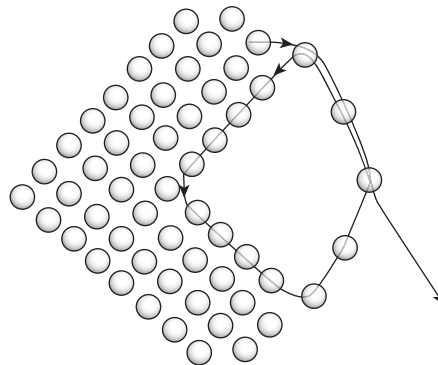


Fig. 10