

Fixer Dangle Earrings by LESLIE ROGALSKI





Fixer beads float on hoop earrings, dangling an easy Superduo component.

TECHNIQUE: Sewing small beads, half hitches, ending thread, using pliers.

SKILL: All

MATERIALS for one pair of earrings

16 SuperDuos 74 size 8° seed beads 48 size 11° seed beads main color (A) 8 size 11°s accent color to match 8°s (B) 2 vertical hole FIXER beads 2 size 20, 30, or 40mm beading hoop w/hole One pair ear wires Fireline or Wildfire 6 lb. #10 or 12 beading needles Chain nose pliers Scissors or Thread Zap

Make sure all holes are clear in multi-holed beads before use.

SUPERDUO DANGLE

FIGURE 1

Step 1. String two Superduos and an 11°A four times. Knot tail to working thread leaving enough tail to weave in later.

Step 2. Sew away from the knot through two Superduos. Reverse direction and sew through the open hole of the SuperDuo being exited. You should be between two Superduos without an 11° between them in the inside ring.

FIGURE 2

Step 3. String an 11° A and sew through the next SuperDuo. String two 8°s and sew through the next SuperDuo. Repeat three times around the ring, and sew through the beads to exit between two 8°s. Turn the component so the thread is exiting at the top.

FIGURE 3

Step 4. String an 11°B that matches the 8°s and sew through the next 8° in the pair. The new 11° will form a little "peak" between the two 8°s. Sew through the next SuperDuo, 11°, and SuperDuo. Exit between the next pair of 8°s.

Step 5. Repeat Step 4 around the dangle three more times.

Step 6. Sew through the beads again (not shown in the illustration) to exit the top 11° in the dangle

NOTE ON STRINGING FIXERS:

- The smooth side is the top, and the grooved side is the bottom or underside. Sew through from top to bottom or bottom to top as directed.
- The Fixer will sit inside the hoop, with the groove parallel to it. The SuperDuo dangle will be suspended under the hoop. Always keep the Fixer groove parallel so you sew through its correct holes, which keeps the SuperDuo dangle facing straight out.
- Once situated like this, the four holes will be labeled: back left, back right, front left and front right.

BACK LEFT

FRONT LEFT

BACK RIGHT GROOVE DIRECTION FRONT RIGHT

CONNECT DANGLE TO THE FIXER

FIGURE 4

Step 7. String an 11°A, an 8°, and an 11°A. Sew up through the Fixer from bottom to top through the back right-hole.

Step 8. String two 11°As, an 8°, and two 11°As. Sew down through the Fixer from top to bottom through the back left-hole.

Step 9. String an 11° A, an 8° , and an 11° A. Sew through the top 11° first exited in the dangle, following the same thread direction previously sewn.

NOTE: If you have hoops that do not open, you must complete Steps 10-11 with the hoop in place between the back two strands (of an 11° , an 8° , and an 11°) already added and the front two strands to be added. If using this method, you will skip Steps 14-17 and will not be able to string more beads on your hoop.

FIGURE 5

Step 10. String an 11°A, an 8° and an 11°A. Sew up through the Fixer from bottom to top through the front right hole of the Fixer.

Step 11. String two 11°As. Sew through the previously strung 8° on top of the Fixer. String two 11°As. Sew down through the Fixer from top to bottom through the top front left hole. String an 11°A, an 8°, and an 11°A. Sew through the top 11° in the dangle following the same thread direction previously sewn. Make sure beads are pulled snug.

Step 12. Weave the thread into the beadwork following the thread path through the SuperDuo dangle. Make a half hitch around existing thread after sewing through an 11°. Sew through a bit more to secure and trim.

Step 13. String the tail on a needle and repeat Step 12 to weave in and secure tail. Trim.

HOOP

Step 14. Hold the hoop on the left side of the ear wire housing with the back side of the ear wire housing facing you. *Carefully* use chain nose pliers to pull the *right* side of the hoop wire from the top housing. Gently flex open the hoop the way you would to open a jump ring so the hoop is not bent out of shape, and string twelve 8°s on the hoop wire itself.

Step 15. Keeping the hoop wire parallel to the groove on the Fixer, guide it through the component from left to right below the Fixer bead between the two front and two back strands of beads which connect to the Fixer.

Step 16. String twelve more 8°s on the hoop wire. **NOTE**: You can string more but it may become awkward getting beads to fill the hoop entirely and still have room to reinsert the wire into the housing. Just remember to string the same number of beads on each side of the dangle.

Step 17. Using chain nose pliers to gently guide the hoop wire end back into the top housing until it touches the other end of the wire within the housing.

Step 18. Open an ear wire and string onto the housing hole of the hoop so the front of the housing faces front. Make the other earring, unless you're a pirate!





Leslie Rogalski (aka Sleepless Beader) is the creative director for The Beadsmith and a Beadsmith Inspiration Squad designer. She has been an editor for leading bead magazines, a Swarovski ambassador, and a designer for several bead companies. Widely recognized for videos and TV appearances in the US and UK, Leslie is also a Master Artisan of her local chapter of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen. See more of her work, kits and tutorials at www.leslierogalskibeadworks.com and find her online class Essential Seed Bead Techniques on bluprint.com.

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