Mandala
Earrings

DESIGNED BY NEALAY PATEL

"I love using Trinity beads because it's quick and easy to create unusual and detailed components for all kinds of accessories!"
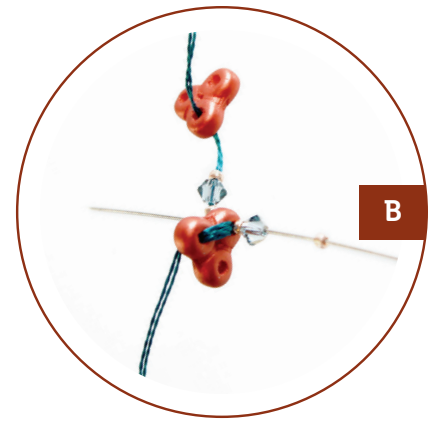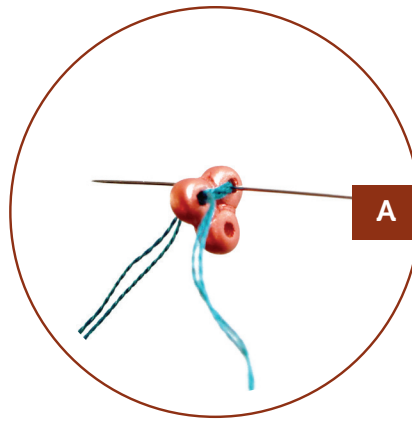
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Intermediate Skill Level

Materials:

Earrings: 2in. (5cm)

- 1g 15º seed beads, gold
- 12 – 11º seed beads, opaque turquoise
- 6 – 6x6mm Trinity beads, matte antique copper
- 2 – 6º Matubo 3-cut, transparent amber-lined turquoise
- 2 – 6mm round beads
- 12 – 3mm bicone crystals
- 2 – 6mm bicone crystals
- 6 – 4mm jump rings
- 2 – 1in (2cm) head pins
- 2 – 1in (2cm) eye pins
- 4 – 1in. (2cm) 1.5mm link jewelry chain
- a pair of ear wires
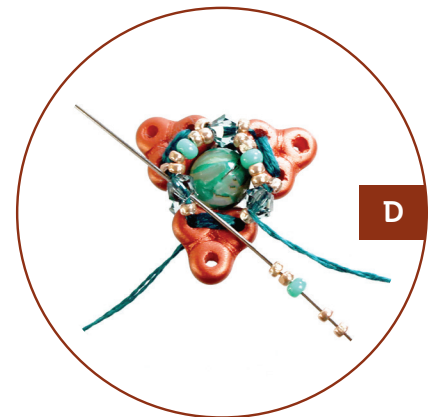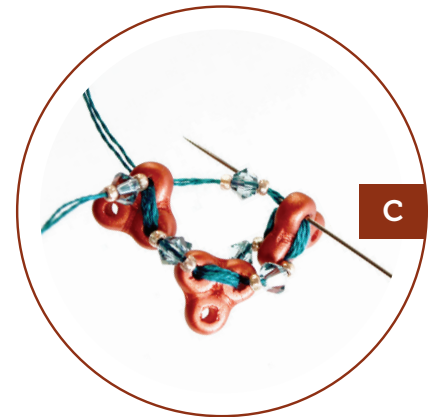- colored beading thread

BEADED EARRING COMPONENT

1. Cut a 4-yds. (3.6m) piece of colored beading thread. Thread a beading needle and double-up the thread. Place a bead stopper near the end. Sew up through a hole of a Trinity bead and down the next hole. Repeat the stitch four more times so that the thread path becomes dense **(A)**.

2. Pick up one 15°, one bicone and one 15°. Go through a another Trinity bead and pick up one 15°, one bicone and one 15°. Go through the hole of the previous trinity bead to finish the stitch so that there is a bicone on each side **(B)**.

3. Go through the first set of sewn beads and down through the hole of the second Trinity bead. Repeat steps 1–2 to sew three Trinity beads together. To finish the triangle base, go through the first hole of the first Trinity bead and the set of seed beads and crystal and pull thread tight **(C).**

4. To make a beaded bezel for the 6mm round bead, go through a bicone and pick up two 15°, one 11° and two 15° and go through the next bicone. Repeat this stitch all three bicones, except place the 6mm round bead before pulling the thread tight **(D)**. Repeat the bezel for the other side, except do not add another 6mm bead.

5. To complete the beaded earring component, secure the thread by meeting up with the start thread and tying a knot. Sew through a few beads and trim the excessive thread.
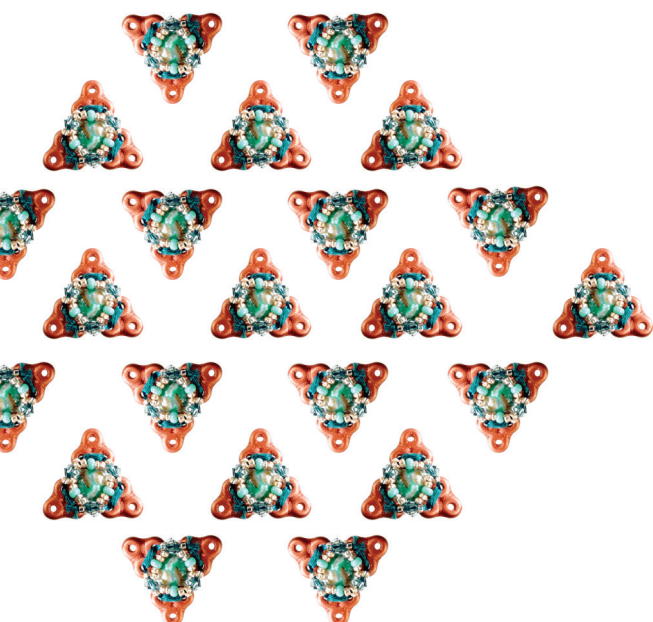
COMPLETING THE EARRING

6. String a Matubo bead onto each eye pin and make a simple loop at the other end. Attach them to each of the ear wires **(E)**. Make a bead dangle by stringing a bicone onto the head pin and making a simple loop at the end.

7. Attach a jump ring to each of the holes of the beaded component. Attach the jewelry chain to two of the jump rings and then to the beaded simple loop on the ear wire **(F,G)**.

8. Attach a beaded dangle to the bottom jump ring to complete the earring. Make another earring to complete the set.

E

F

G

A SPECIAL TASSEL

"I was inspired by the first version of these earrings but used a tassel for the dangle instead! It sure did give it a new look!

MAKING THE TASSEL

1. Cut a 1-yd. (1.8m) piece of colored beading thread and simply coil it around your index finger, middle finger and a jump ring about 10–15 times **(AA)**. Remove the gathered beading thread from your fingers.

2. Cut a 6-in. (15cm) piece of beading thread and fold the end in to make a loop. Set it just underneath the jump ring, with the loop facing away **(BB)**.

3. Coil the thread around the gathered just below the jump ring and go through the loop with the remaining thread. Pull the thread tails tight to make a secure knot inside the coil. Cut the excessive thread to complete the tassel **(CC)**.

AA

BB

CC