

VIRUPAKSHA NECKLACE AND EARRINGS

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Virupaksha is the name of a Hindu temple I visited. The project is a memento of the Hampi Empire ... the shape of the tower reminds me of the “petals” of the motif.

Materials for Pendant

6 GemDuos
12 Ginkos
12 Chevron Duos
1 Swarovski Baroque drop (22mm)
3 grams 15/0 seed beads
58 size 6mm Fire polish

Materials for Earrings

12 GemDuo
12 Ginkos
12 Chevron Duos
2 Swarovski Baroque drops (16mm)
2 gram 15/0 seed beads

Other Materials and Tools

6 lb. (0.15 mm) and 4 lb. Fireline or Wildfire
Clasp and jump ring or extension chain for the necklace
Pair of ear wires
Size 11 or 12 beading needle
Pliers

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BEAD LEGEND



DESIGNER TIPS

Stick to the 0.15 mm thick beading thread. Using a thinner thread will make the motifs floppy.

Check both holes of the 2-hole beads before using them. They can be clogged sometimes due to technical problems during production.

Some of the Ginko beads are less pointy than the others. Use only the perfectly formed, pointy Ginko beads. This is not the design where you can hide the imperfections, and it looks the best if all the beads are exactly the same shape.

Be careful if you use coated GemDuo beads, especially from the TuttiFrutti color line. Scratching the surface with your needle might make the coating peel off.

If you feel that your motif is not stiff enough, then repeat the thread path of Step 2.

PENDANT

Step 1. Thread your needle with 140 cm / 1.55 yard of the 0.15 mm Wildfire or Fireline. Leave a 10-12 cm / 4-5 inch long tail.

Step 2. Pick up (6) GDUO. Tie a knot to join them into a circle, then sew once more all around to strengthen the connection. Sew through both holes of the first GDUO you picked up.

Step 3. Pick up (1) CHEV + (1) GIN + (7) R15. Follow the illustration on how the 2-hole beads need to be arranged. Sew back through the second hole of the GIN and CHEV, then pass through the second hole of the GDUO on the right side from the one you were exiting at the beginning of this step.

Step 4. Repeat Step 3 five more times to fill in beads all around the motif. Finish by sewing through the second hole of the GDUO you were exiting at the beginning of Step 2.

Step 5. Sew through the first hole of the CHEV picked up in step 2. Pick up (4) R15. Sew through the (7) R15 picked up in step 2, and add a grouping of (4) R15 one more time. Sew through the second hole of the CHEV + GDUO + first hole of the next CHEV on the right.

Step 6. Repeat step 4 five more times. After adding the last grouping of (4) R15 sew through CHEV + GDUO + CHEV + (2) R15 added at the beginning of Step 4.

Step 7. Pick up CHEV + GIN + (7) R15, then pass back through the second hole of the GIN and CHEV, in the same way as in step 2. Sew through (2) R15 + CHEV on the left hand side,

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exiting on the back of the motif. **Note:** Exiting on the back will keep the thread from being visible on the front. Sew through the second hole of the CHEV and (2) R15.

Step 8. Repeat step 6 five more times. After adding the last grouping of new beads finish by sewing through (2) R15 + both holes of CHEV + (2) R15 + first hole of the CHEV added in Step 6.

Step 9. Pick up (4) R15. Sew through the (7) R15 around the GIN, then pick up (4) R15 one more time. Sew through the second hole of the CHEV, and (9) R15, skipping the first and last (2) from the R15 beads around the GIN in the previous layer. Sew up through the first hole of the next GIN on the left hand side.

Step 10. Repeat step 8 five more times. Finish by sewing through (7) R15 after passing through the first hole of the CHEV added in Step 7.

Step 11. Pick up (6) R15, the DROP (passing from front to back if it has a foil back) and (6) more R15. Skip (1) R15 in the middle and pass through the last (7) R15 around the GIN bead. Sew through CHEV + (2) R15 + CHEV + GDUO + CHEV + (2) R15 + CHEV + (7) R15 to return to the exit point from the beginning of this step.

Step 12. Pick up (3) R15, then sew through (3) R15 on the back side + DROP + (3) R15 on the front side.

Step 13. Pick up (3) R15, and sew through (7) R15 and the second hole of the CHEV. The pendant is now finished. Secure and trim all remaining thread ends.

Step 14. Thread your needle with 4 lb. Fireline. It should be at least double the length of necklace you want to bead. You will bead the necklace in two parts. Leave a 10 to 12 cm / 4 to 5-inch long tail.

Step 15. Pick up FP + (4) R15 + loop of the clasp + (2) R15. Sew once more through the first R15 picked up, from the same direction as before. This will turn the seed bead sideways. Sew back through the FP, then start picking up R15 and FP beads interchangeably, until you have enough for half of the necklace (for a total of 29 FP). Finish by picking up (1) R15.

Step 16. Sew through the middle R15 from the grouping of (15) R15 beads around the GIN bead outlined in red, sew back through the beads picked up in Step 16. Tie several knots in between.

Step 17. Secure and trim all threads.

Step 18. Thread your needle as in step 14. Pick up FP + (6) R15 + jump ring (or the last link of the extension chain). Sew once more through the first R15 picked up, from the same direction as before. This will turn the seed bead sideways. Sew back through the FP, then start picking up R15 and FP beads interchangeably. Pick up exactly the same number of beads as in Step 15.

Step 19. Sew through the middle R15 from the grouping of (15) R15 beads around the GIN bead outlined in dark blue, then sew back through the beads picked up in Step 18. Tie several knots in between.

Step 20. Secure and trim all threads.

Your Virupaksha pendant is finished!

EARRINGS

Step 21. Thread your needle with 80 cm / 0.9 yard of 6 lb. Fireline. Repeat Steps 2-6 to bead a smaller version of the motif, with only one row of GIN and CHEV beads.

Step 22. Attach a 16 mm DROP as in Steps 11-13, but reduce the number of beads to (5) R15 on the back and (5) R15 on the front of the drop.

Step 23. Sew up to the middle R15 on the opposite side of the motif. It is the eighth R15 after exiting the CHEV bead. Pick up (5) R15 and sew once more through the last R15 to form a loop. Retrace the loop to make the connection stronger.

Step 24. Secure and trim all thread ends. Attach the ear wire to the loop beaded in Step 23.

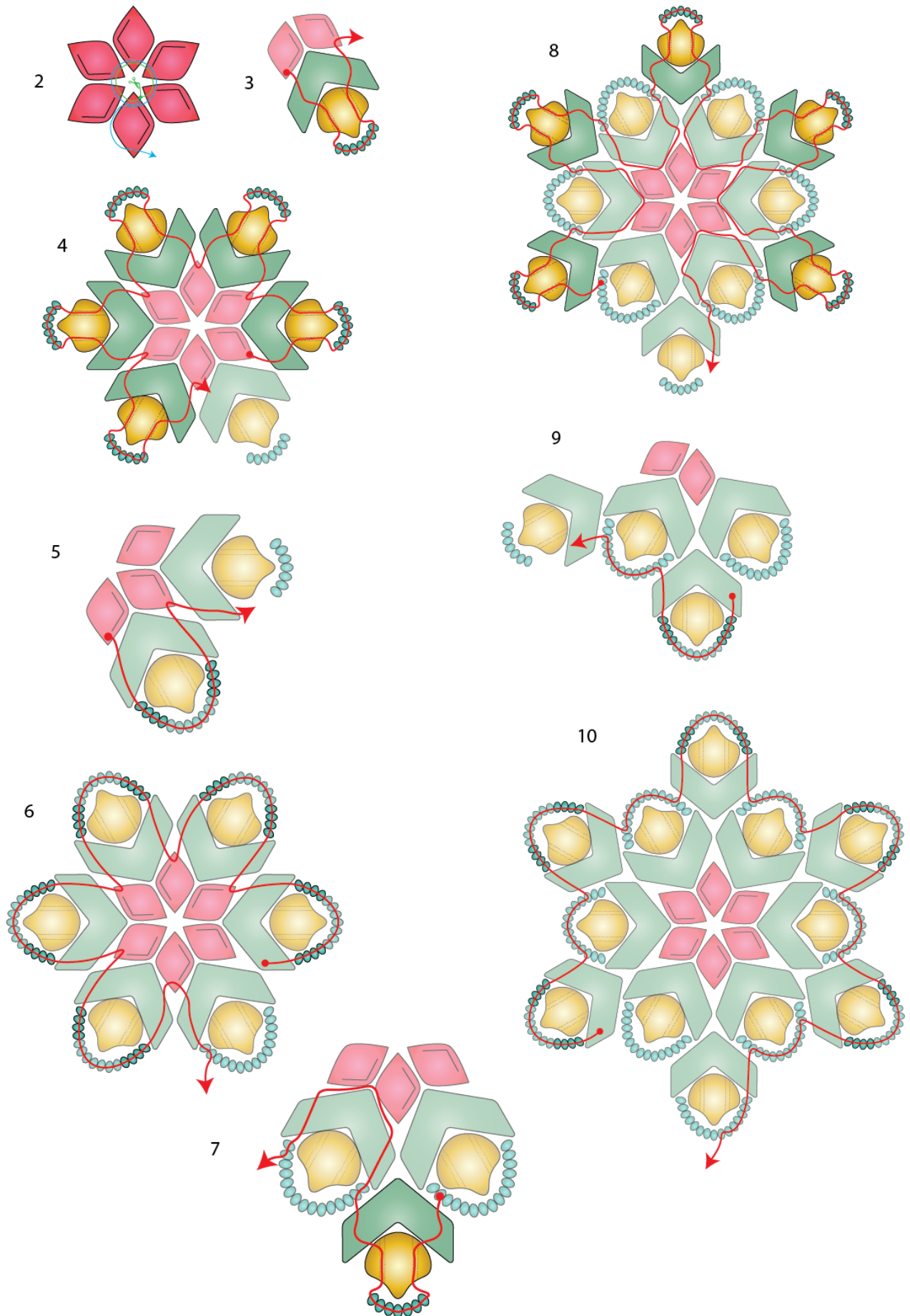
Bead one more earring by repeating Steps 21-24 to complete the pair.

Congratulations, your Virupaksha earrings are finished!

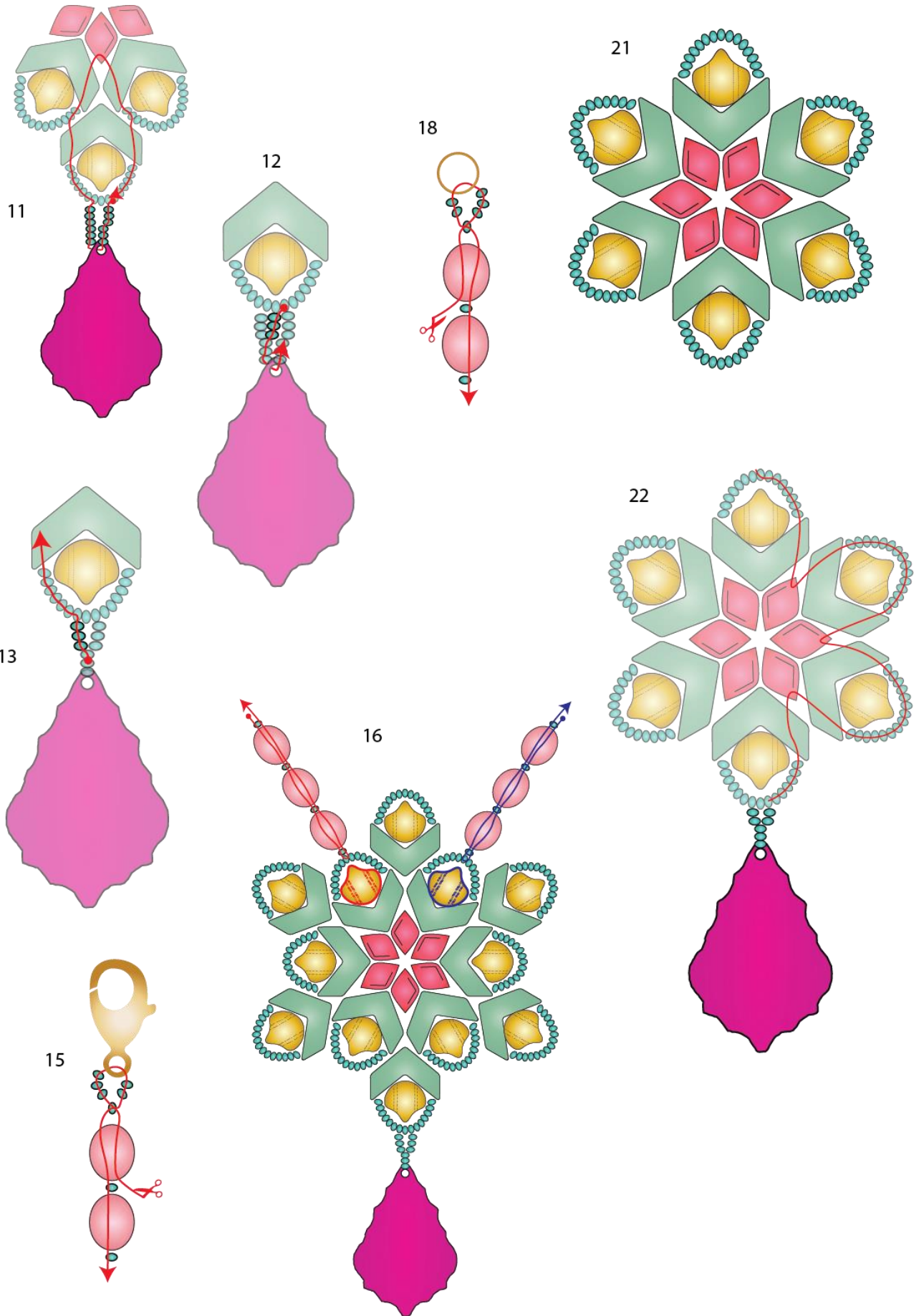


Erika Sándor is a jewelry designer, a writer and a passionate traveler and adventurer. She has the spirit of a gypsy: longing to see all the close and distant corners of the world and transform her impressions into beaded and written memories. At the age of 29 Erika sold her successful beadshop in Bratislava, Slovakia, and returned to her roots – art, creativity and traveling. Her passion is designing one-of-a-kind art jewelry. Erika's necklaces, earrings, bracelets, rings and headpieces are inspired by foreign cultures, special places, people, feelings and much more.

Follow her work at: www.thestorytellingjeweller.com. And show your finished jewellery in the Storytelling Beading Club on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/beadingclub/



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