

# Duchess Earrings

by

*John Bead*  
ESTABLISHED 1954

with adaptations by  
**Lynda Taylor**



**Skill Level** - Advanced Beginner

**BBH**

**Banjos Bead House**

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# Requirements

## Beads (per earring)

2 x Miyuki Cooperative 11/0 Seed Bead - MCC 4588 Aztec Gold - **(S11)**

32 x Miyuki Cooperative 8/0 Seed Bead - MCC 4588 Aztec Gold - **(S8)**

42 x Super Duo Beads - DU0500030-01710 - Bronze Pale Gold - **(Duo)**

1 x Czech Glass Pearl - White Crystal 00030-70400 - **(Pearl 4)**

1 x Czech Glass Pearl - White Crystal 00030-70400 - **(Pearl 6)**

1 x Czech Glass Pearl - White Crystal 00030-70400 - **(Pearl 8)**

1 x 5.5mm x 11mm Crystal AB Faceted Glass Drop - **(Drop)**

1 x Rhinestone Drop Stud with Front Facing Loop - 304 Stainless Steel Gold Plated

## Tools & Other Required Items

Beading Needle - Size 10 or 12

Thread - Fireline 6lb or S-Lon Fire 4lb

Scissors

Thread Burner

With this John Bead design you can create a pair of ballgown style earrings using Superduo beads. Iridescent pearls and a faceted crystal drop to add sparkle to the design.

I changed the lever back hook in the original pattern to a rhinestone stud drop setting. With the front facing loop I needed to alter the way in which the earring is stitched into the design.

I have included the original instructions for the lever back in case you prefer this style of ear hook and have a set of notes added at the end to use the rhinestone stud. (Skip Step 6 & on page 5 and proceed to Step 6 on page 6)

# Instructions - Duchess Earrings

## Step 1

Cut a length of 152cm of Wildfire (.006) or Fireline (6lb), this should give you plenty of length to complete the design without adding thread.

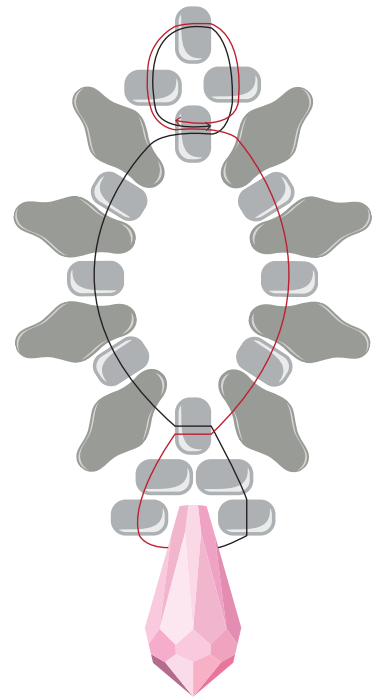
Flatten each end of the thread with chain nose pliers to help with threading a hard beading needle onto each end, folding over at 25.4 cm to create a comfortable working length with each side.

Bring the Faceted Drop bead (Drop) to the centre of the thread. Pick up two S8 beads on each strand. Bring the strands through a size 8/0 seed bead (S8) in opposite directions.

With each strand, string [Duo, S8] three times, then add one more Duo. Bring each strand through an S8 in opposite directions.

Pick up an S8 on each strand and again bring them through another S8 in opposite directions.

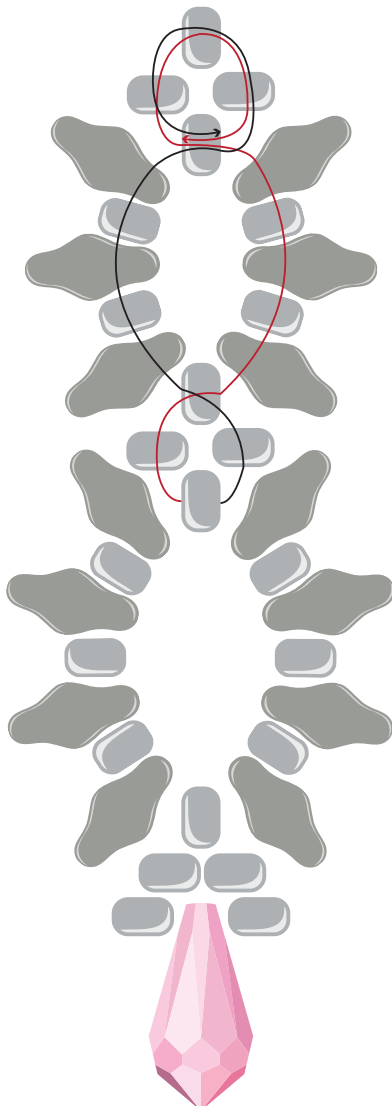
Continue with each strand through the next (2) S8.



## Step 2

Bring each strand up through the next (2) S8. With each, pick up [Duo, S8] twice and an additional Duo. Go through an S8 in opposite directions. Pick up an S8 on each strand, then go through an S8 in opposite directions.

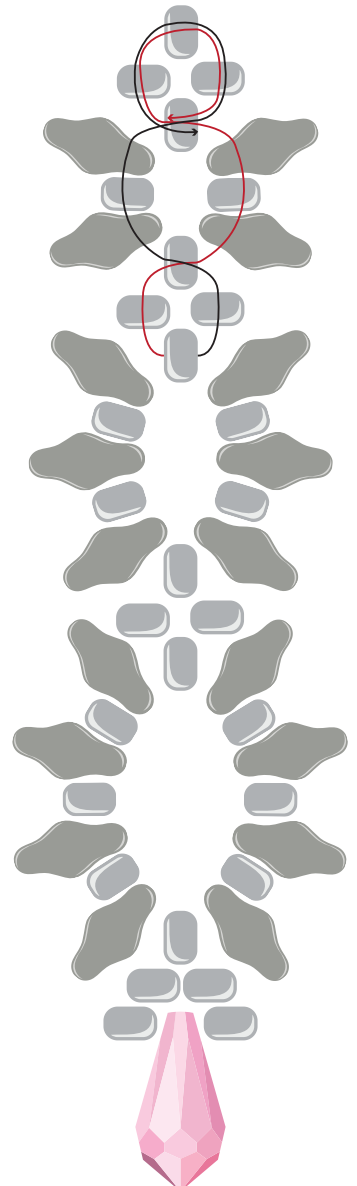
Continue through the next (2) S8 with each strand.



## Step 3

With each strand, go through the next (2) S8 then pick up a Duo, an S8, and a Duo. Go through an S8 in opposite directions. Pick up an S8 on each strand and go through an S8 in opposite directions.

Continue through the next (2) S8.



# Instructions - Duchess Earrings

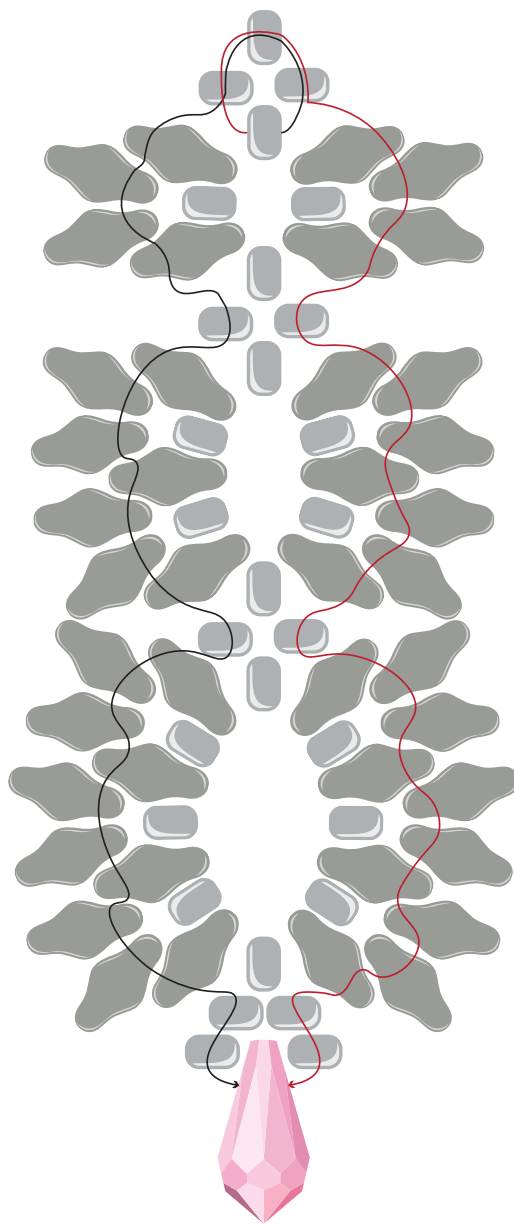
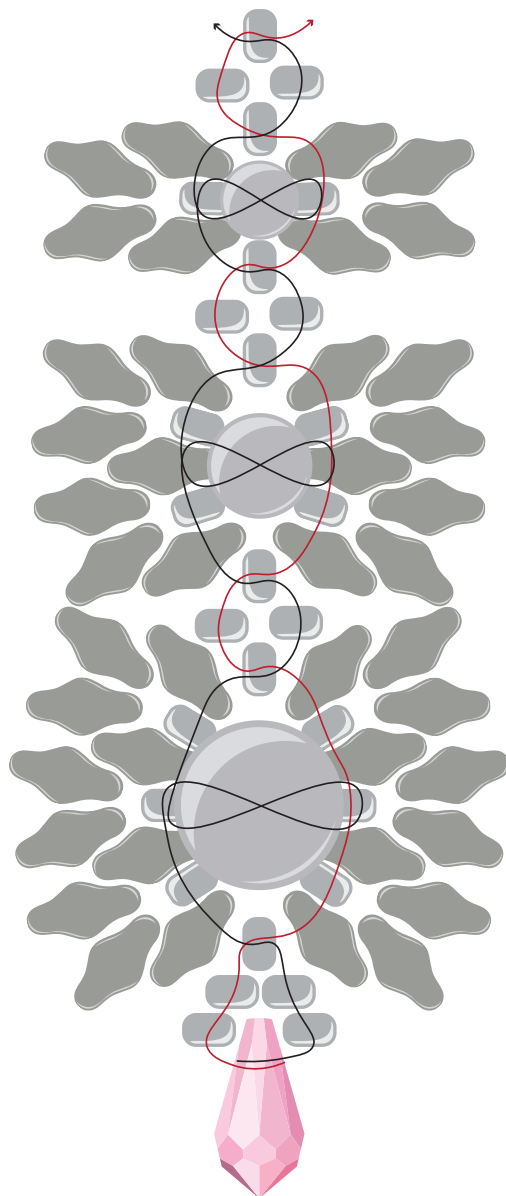
## Step 4

With each strand, continue through the next (3) S8, reinforcing the loop. Exiting from the side S8s with each strand, go through the top hole of the next Duo. Pick up (2) Duo and go through the top hole of the next Duo.

Go through the S8 below and the top hole of the next Duo. [Pick up (2) Duo and go through the top hole of the next Duo] twice.

Go through the next S8 and the top hole of the next Duo. [Pick up (2) Duo and go through the top hole of the next Duo] three times.

Continue with each strand through the next (2) S8.



## Step 5

Bring each strand through the drop and up through the (2) S8. Cross them through the next S8. Bring each strand up through the inner holes of the next Duos. With one strand, continue weaving up the thread path through the inner Duo, circling around the S8 between each segment, until you reach the top S8.

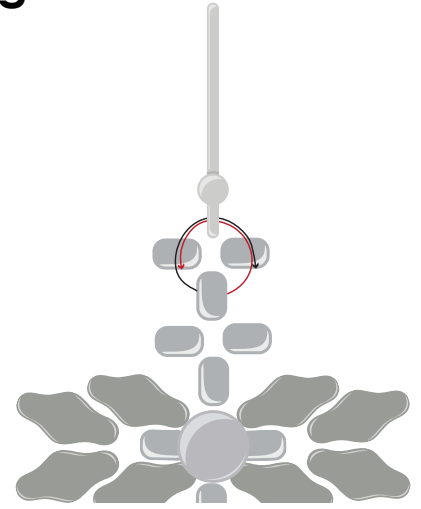
With the other strand, exit from the middle S8 and pick up a Pearl 8. Go through the S8 on the other side of the segment, coming up from the bottom. Go back through the Pearl 8 and up through the middle S8 on the other side. Weave up and repeat this step with the middle Duo and a Pearl 6. Weave up and repeat with the middle S8 and a Pearl 4 in the top segment. Weave to exit the top S8.

# Instructions - Duchess Earrings

## Step 6

With each strand, Pick up an S8 and go through the ear wire in opposite directions. Continue through the next S8.

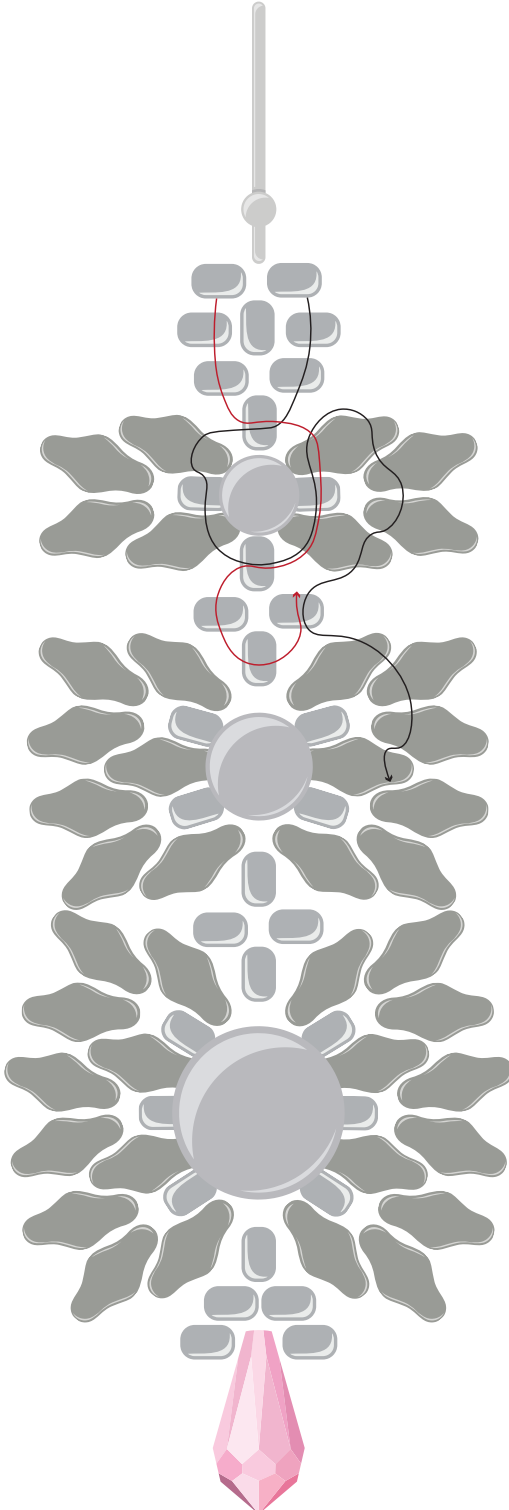
Pick up a new S8 with each strand. Go through the S8 below and cross paths through the next S8.



## Step 7

Reinforce this path through the ear wire with one of the strands. Then weave in thread. Suggested thread paths for weaving in are shown in the Step 7 diagram. Try to change directions two or three times, then trim remaining thread.

Repeat all steps to create the second earring.



# Instructions - Duchess Earrings

## Step 6 - Alternative by Lynda

On the first strand, pick up two S8 and an S11 and pass through the front of the bottom loop of the ear hook.

On the second strand, pick up an S8 and pass through the second S8 on the other strand, pick up a S11 and pass through the back of the bottom loop of the ear hook. Pass the needle through the S11 and the S8.

On the first strand, pass the needle through the S11 added on the second strand and pass through the S8

Reinforce the thread path through the ear hook with both strands.

Then per the original Step 7, weave the thread through the earring and tie off.

Repeat all steps to create the second earring.

