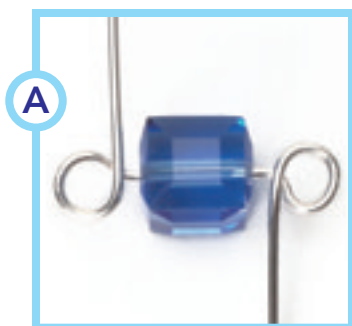


September: Sapphire

Sapphires are beautiful, expensive stones prized for their distinctive blue color. If your budget doesn't accommodate sapphires at the moment, consider substituting Swarovski crystals in sapphire blue, as we did in this Y-shaped chain necklace.



1. To make a crystal unit, cut a 3½-in. (9cm) length of wire. Using chainnose pliers, bend the wire into a right angle about 1¼ in. (3cm) from one end and make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basic Techniques, p. 82). String a crystal on the wire, leave ½ in. (3mm) of space, and make the first half of another wrapped loop. Prepare a total of nine crystal units.



2. String the remaining crystal onto a head pin. Make the first half of a wrapped loop close to the crystal.



3. Use wire cutters to cut nine ¾-in. (2cm) chain segments (each with an equal number of links). Slide the end link of one chain segment into an unfinished loop on a crystal unit. Slide another chain segment into the unit's other loop.



4. Complete the wrapped loops (Basic Techniques) on the crystal unit. Attach another crystal unit to the end chain link and add another chain segment.



5. Complete the wrapped loops as before. Attach a crystal unit to the end link, but this time, don't add another chain segment. Make two additional sections of crystal units and chain segments identical to the first. You'll have a total of three chain sections.

SupplyList

- 10 6mm Swarovski cube-shaped crystals, sapphire blue
- 2 ft. (61cm) chain
- 4 ft. (1.2m) 22-gauge wire
- head pin
- lobster claw clasp
- 2 split rings
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- split ring pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters



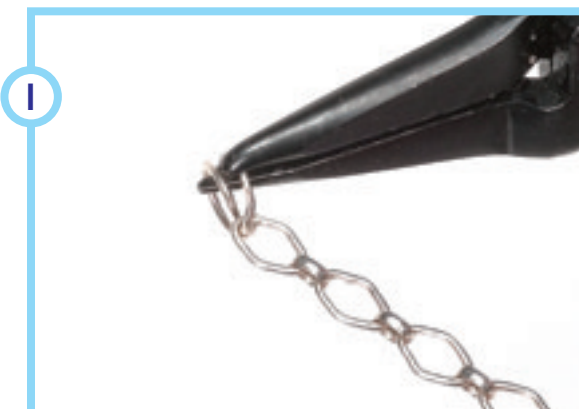
6. Slide the end link from one of the chain sections into the loop on the head pin unit. Complete the wrapped loop. This section becomes the necklace's center dangle.



7. Slide the end links of the two remaining chain sections into the unfinished loop on the dangle's crystal unit. Complete the wrap. These chain sections form the necklace's front sections.



8. Cut two 4- to 5-in. (10-13cm) chain segments. Slide the end links into the unfinished loops on the front section's crystal units. Complete the wraps.



9. Attach a split ring to each of the end chain links.



10. Attach a lobster claw clasp to either split ring. ♣