



by **Brenda Schweder**

You've seen them everywhere – on sweaters, jackets, scarves, and handbags. So don't be shy about “brooching” the subject; make the season's hottest accessory your own. The key finding, an ingenious pin back with a mesh dome, awaits adornment with teardrop-shaped gemstones. Add copper leaf stampings for a beautiful backdrop, bejewel the center of the pin, and the resulting look is anything but a fragile flower.

# Brooch approach

Create a lovely gemstone flower pin



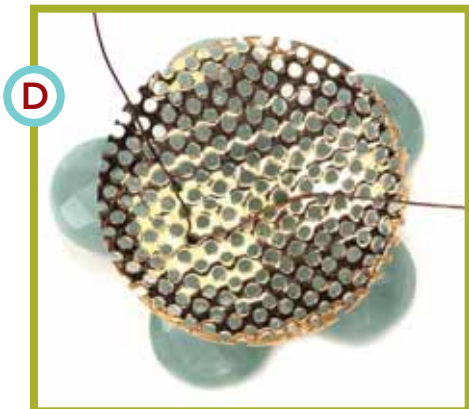
**1.** Cut an 18-in. (46cm) piece of craft wire. Center five teardrop-shaped beads on the wire.



**2.** Pass one end of the wire through the beads once more. Pull each wire end to form a flower shape.



**3.** Twist the wires together three or four times.



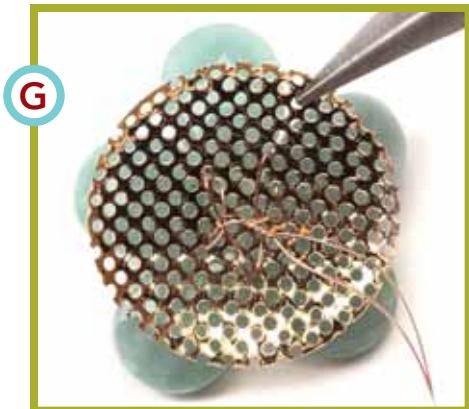
**4.** Remove the mesh dome from a pin back; set aside the pin back. Center the flower on the curved side of the dome. Pass the wires through one of the holes.



**5.** Separate the wires. Bring each end through a hole in the dome between two gemstones.



**6.** Pass each wire through another hole in the dome. Weave the wire between each gemstone.



**7.** Twist the wire ends together three or four times and trim the excess wire.





## Supply List

### both projects

- 28-gauge copper craft wire
- chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### yellow turquoise brooch

- 5 18 x 23mm top-drilled teardrop-shaped gemstone beads, yellow turquoise
- 5 13 x 18mm copper leaf stampings (Eclectica, 262-641-0910)
- 5-10 4mm rutilated quartz rondelles
- 10-15 3mm round onyx beads
- 1¼-in. (3cm) pin back with mesh dome (Designer's Findings, 262-574-1324)
- 5-10 1½-in. (3.8cm) brass ball-end head pins (Rio Grande, 800-545-6566)

### aquamarine brooch

- 5 13 x 18mm top-drilled briolettes, synthetic aquamarine
- 5 13 x 18mm copper leaf stampings
- 5-10 4mm glass rondelles
- 10-15 3mm beads (gemstone rounds and bicone crystals)
- 1¼-in. pin back with mesh dome
- 5-10 1½-in. brass plain or ball-end head pins



**8.** Cut a 16-in. (41cm) piece of craft wire. String a leaf 1 in. (2.5cm) from the end and twist the shorter wire around the stem. Trim the excess wire.



**9.** Place the leaf between two gemstones and pass the wire through a hole in the dome. Bring the wire up and through the dome once more.



**10.** Bring the wire up through an adjacent pair of gemstones. String a leaf and tack down as before. Repeat to attach the three remaining leaves. Wrap the end around the core of wires on the back of the dome and trim the excess.



**11.** String two or three rounds, bicones, or rondelles on a head pin. String the head pin through the center of the dome. String beads on another head pin and go through another hole in the dome. Twist the head pins together, bend the wire against the dome, and trim the excess. Repeat with pairs of head pins, until the center is covered.



**12.** Place the dome in the pin back, positioning it as desired. Gently bend the prongs down around the dome. ♣

*Brenda offers the yellow turquoise brooch as a kit. Contact her at Miss Cellany Jewelry Kits, [b@brendaschweder.com](mailto:b@brendaschweder.com), or visit [brendaschweder.com](http://brendaschweder.com).*