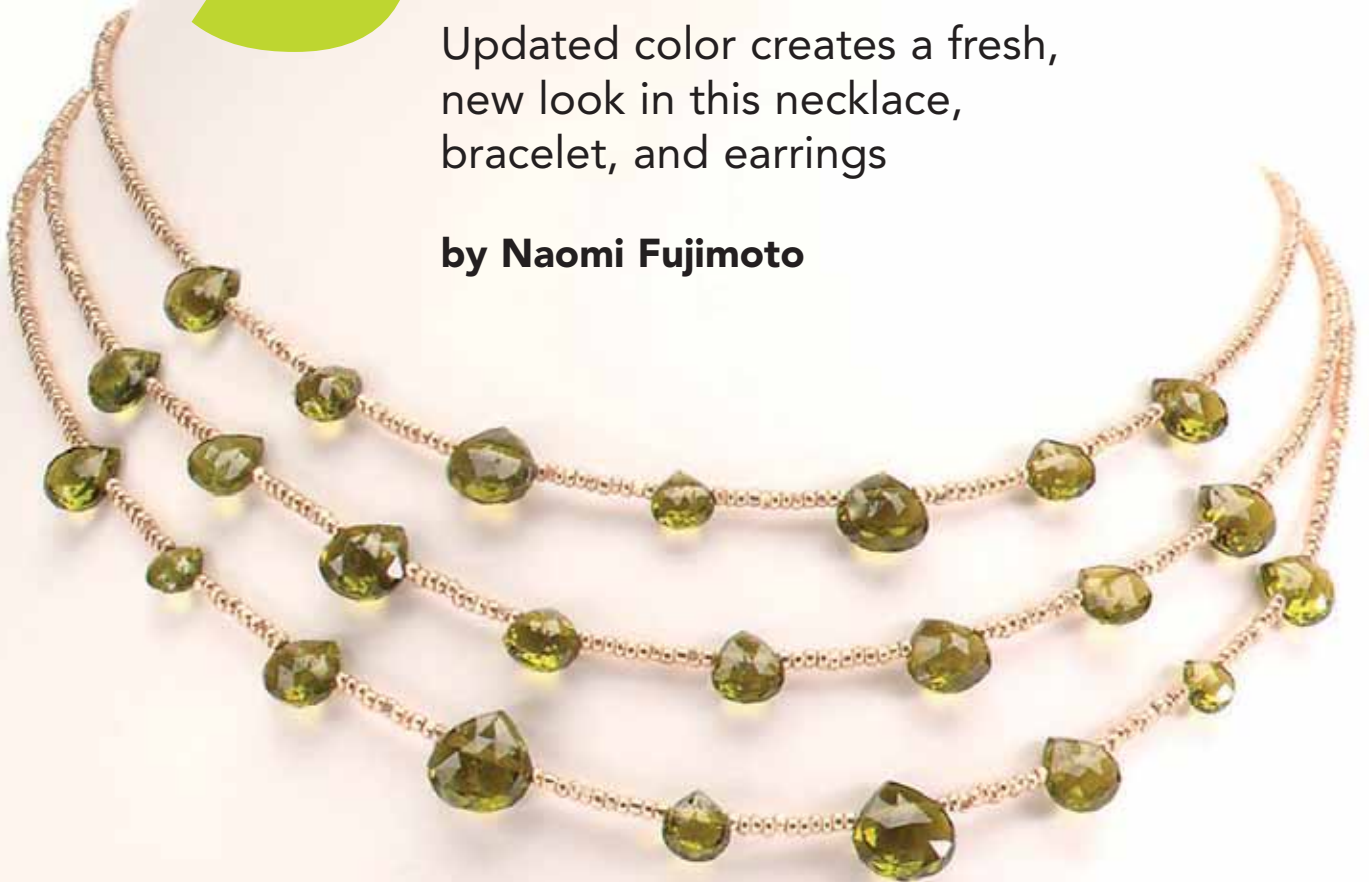




Rethinking green

Updated color creates a fresh,
new look in this necklace,
bracelet, and earrings

by Naomi Fujimoto



What's old is new again as fashion reinvents colors from the past. In this jewelry set, 1970s avocado reemerges as a more intense hue of parrot green. The overall design is delicate and deceptively simple, with peridot briolettes sprinkled along brilliant strands of tiny, gold seed beads and accompanied by dainty dangle earrings. These pieces convey an understated elegance that centers around the gorgeous green gemstones. The result is a classy color update that is simply unforgettable.

Select and arrange the briolettes for all three projects before you start stringing.



necklace • 1. Determine the finished length of your necklace. (My strands are 14 in., 14¾ in., and 15¾ in./35.6cm, 37.5cm, and 40cm, respectively.) Add 6 in. (15cm) to each measurement and cut a piece of beading wire to each length.

Remove the briolettes from the strand. If you're making earrings, choose two briolettes of equal size and set aside. Divide the remaining briolettes into three groups, one for each strand of the necklace. Arrange the briolettes, alternating sizes and quantities. (My necklace has strands with seven, eight, and nine briolettes.) Set aside two briolettes for the bracelet if desired.

On each wire, string a section of briolettes, interspersed with ten or more seed beads. Center each section on its wire.



2. On each end of each wire, string seed beads until the strand is within 1 in. (2.5cm) of the desired length. Check the fit, and add or remove an equal amount of beads from each end if necessary.



3. On each end of each wire, string a round spacer, a crimp bead, a round spacer, and the respective loop on a clasp half. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wires. Double-check the fit, and add or remove beads from each end if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basic Techniques) and trim the excess wire.

SupplyList

necklace

- strand of 25-30 peridot briolettes, graduated sizes
- hank of faceted seed beads, size 15°, gold
- 12 2mm or 3mm round gold spacer beads
- 6 gold-filled crimp beads
- gold flexible beading wire, .012 or .013
- three-strand gold clasp
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

bracelet

- 2 peridot briolettes, left over from the necklace
- faceted seed beads, size 15°, gold, left over from the necklace
- 4 3mm large-hole round gold spacer beads
- 2 gold-filled crimp beads
- gold flexible beading wire, .013 or .014
- gold toggle clasp (Fire Mountain Gems, 800-355-2137, firemountaingems.com)
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

earrings

- 2 peridot briolettes, left over from the necklace
- 4 in. (10cm) 26-gauge gold-filled wire, half hard
- pair of gold-filled earring wires
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters



bracelet • 1. Determine the finished length of your bracelet, add 6 in., and cut three pieces of beading wire to that length. String a large-hole spacer, a crimp bead, a spacer, and half the clasp over the three wires. Go back through the beads, tighten the wires, and crimp the crimp bead. Trim the excess wire. If desired, mark the bracelet's halfway point on each wire with a permanent marker.



2. On one wire, string seed beads just past the bracelet's halfway point, then string a briolette. String seed beads until the strand is within 1 in. of the desired length. On another wire, string seed beads just short of the bracelet's halfway point, then string a briolette. String seed beads until the strand is within 1 in. of the desired length.



3. On the remaining wire, string seed beads until the strand is within 1 in. of the desired length. Loosely braid the three strands.



4. String a large-hole spacer, a crimp bead, a spacer, and the remaining clasp half over the three wires. Go back through the beads, tighten the wires, and check the fit. Add or remove beads, if necessary. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the excess wire.



earrings • 1. Cut a 2-in. (5cm) piece of 26-gauge wire. String a top-drilled briolette and make a wrapped loop (Basic Techniques) above the bead.



2. Open the loop on an earring wire and attach the dangle. Close the loop. Make a second earring to match the first. ♣