

Perhaps you possess the supreme bohemian within. What better way to express this inclination than with a pair of unconventional earrings? Like an artist exploring different media, you can mix various materials, lengths, and color combinations. Be thrifty and incorporate leftover bits of chain into your clever creations, and reveal your inner artist.

Gypsy

by Jane Konkel



1. Cut a 2½-in. (6.4cm) length of wire. String two crystals, a saturn bead, and two crystals, alternating crystal colors.

2. Make the first half of a wrapped loop on each end (Basic Techniques, p. 106).



3. Cut two ¾-in. (2cm) segments of fine chain. String one end link through one end of the wire, positioning it against the outside crystal. Repeat on the other end of the wire with the remaining piece of chain.



4. Cut a 1½-in. (3.8cm) segment of medium chain, making sure there is a round link in the center. Attach each end link of chain to a loop and complete the wraps.



jewels

Crystals drift from chains in distinctive earrings

SupplyList

- 2 9 x 6mm oval crystals
- 2 8mm Czech glass saturn beads (Rio Grande, 800-545-6566)
- 16 4mm bicone crystals, 8 each of 2 colors
- 5 in. (13cm) 24-gauge wire
- 4 in. (10cm) each of 2 chains, 1 fine and 1 medium (see options, below)
- 10 1½-in. (3.8cm) plain or decorative head pins
- 2-4 4mm jump rings
- pair of earring wires
- roundnose and chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

EDITOR'S TIP

For earrings that hang perpendicular to your ear lobe, rather than parallel, attach a second jump ring to the first.

D



5. String an oval crystal on a decorative head pin. Make a plain loop (Basic Techniques) above the crystal. Make four more dangles with bicone crystals.

E



6. Open the loop of the oval dangle and attach it to the center link on the lower chain. Close the loop. Attach the remaining bicone dangles to the lower chain, alternating colors.

F



7. Open a jump ring (Basic Techniques) and string each end link of the upper chain. Close the jump ring.

G



8. Open an earring wire's loop. String the jump ring. Close the loop. Make a second earring to match the first. ❖

OPTIONS

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| 2.5mm flat drawn cable, brass | 1.6mm triple long-and-short, gold filled | 1.5mm rolo, sterling silver | 2.5mm flat drawn cable, brass | 1.6mm triple long-and-short, gold filled |
| .9mm bar-and-link, brass | .9mm bar-and-link, brass | 2.5mm rolo, sterling silver | 3.6mm long-and-short, gold filled | 3.6mm long-and-short, gold filled |
| aqua erinite | emerald erinite | morion black diamond | olivine peridot | sapphire light sapphire |
| aqua | emerald | jet | peridot | sapphire |
| aqua AB | erinite AB | black diamond AB | chrysolite AB | sapphire AB |