

Metallic Gold

Gold combines with claret red to yield an elegant pair of earrings

Create earrings with the look of fine filigree using seed beads and crystals.

Gold elevates every color it is combined with. Here, matte-finished metallic gold beads are interspersed with deep red crystals in a rhythmic pattern, providing contrast as well as balance to the design. Notice how the gold loops emphasize the earrings' symmetry as well as re-creating the delicate filigree of the braided trim and the fabric's embroidery.





1 Cut a 2-ft. (61cm) length of beading wire. Center three cylinder beads on the wire. Hold the ends together and string a crystal and a cylinder over both strands.



2 On one end, string a crystal, a cylinder, a crystal, and seven cylinders. Go back through the first cylinder strung in this step and pull the beads into a tight ring. Repeat with the other strand.



3 String a crystal on each strand and a cylinder over both strands.



4 On one strand, string a crystal, a cylinder, a crystal, and seven cylinders. Go back through the second cylinder added in step 2. String a crystal and go through the first cylinder added in this step. Repeat with the other strand.

editor's tip

My earrings re-create a metallic trim from the home-decorating section of a fabric store. Look for other fabric trims and braids to use as inspiration for beaded jewelry.



5 Repeat step 3.



6 On one strand, string a crystal and seven cylinders. Go through the second cylinder added in step 4. String a crystal and go through the first cylinder added in this step. Repeat with the other strand.

7 Repeat step 3, then string a crystal and a crimp bead. Go back through the crimp bead, tighten the wire to create a small loop, and crimp the crimp bead (see Basics).

materials

earrings

- 44 3mm bicone crystals
- 1g Japanese cylinder beads
- flexible beading wire, .014-.015
- 2 crimp beads
- pair of earring wires
- chainnose pliers
- crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

8 Open the loop on an earring wire (Basics) and attach the earring. Make a second earring to match the first.
– A.N. *

fabric inspiration

