



**SPECIAL  
SECTION**  
**QUICK  
& EASY  
BRACELETS**

# Armed & glamorous

**by Karen Woodson**

Arm yourself with three new looks created with tried-and-true crystal and chain elements. Squaredelles give substance to lightweight cube crystals in elegant, but distinctly different, styles, and cleverly woven eye pins join two lengths of diamond chain for a lovely ladder effect. The right to bare arms was never more stylish.





## A trio of crystal bracelets creates new options for classic materials



**1 a triple-strand cuff** • Determine the finished length of your bracelet. Add 5 in. (13cm) and cut three strands of beading wire to that length.

**1 b** On the top and bottom wires, center a gold squaredelle, a cube crystal, and a gold squaredelle. On the middle wire, center a silver squaredelle, a cube crystal, and a silver squaredelle.



**2 a** On the top and bottom wires, string a gold spacer and a bicone crystal. String a silver spacer and a bicone on the middle wire. String a three-hole spacer bar on the corresponding wires. String a bicone and a gold spacer on the top and bottom wires, and a bicone and a silver spacer on the middle wire.

**2 b** Repeat the patterns in steps 1b and 2a until the strands are within 1½ in. (3.8cm) of the desired length. End with the pattern from step 1b.



**3** On each end, string a spacer, a bicone, a crimp bead, and the corresponding loop of half of the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wires. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics, p. 106), and trim the excess wire.



## DESIGN GUIDELINES

- The toggle clasp used with both the chain and woven squaredelle cuffs was made with a two-jump-ring ending on the bar half of the clasp. If using a toggle clasp with a single-jump-ring ending, either attach both strands to the single jump ring, or add two jump rings to the bar before attaching the strands.
- Use a double-strand clasp and spacer bars for a narrower version of the triple-strand cuff. Use gold findings on one strand and silver on the other, or simply string a monochromatic look.



**1 a chain cuff** • Determine the finished length of your bracelet. Add 5 in. (13cm) and cut two strands of beading wire to that length. Cut two lengths of chain 2 in. (5cm) shorter than the desired length of your bracelet. (My chains are 5 in./13cm, or 10 large links and 11 small links.)



**2** Repeat step 1b for the remaining small links.



**3** String a color A 4mm bicone, a color B 6mm bicone, and an A 4mm bicone on the beading wire. String the top loop of the first eye pin unit. Repeat until you have strung all of the top eye pin loops. End with a crystal pattern. Repeat with the bottom eye pin loops.

**1 b** On a 2-in. (5cm) eye pin, string: color B 4mm bicone crystal, the first small link of one chain, B 4mm bicone, color A 8mm bicone, B 4mm bicone, the first small link of the second chain, B 4mm bicone. Make a plain loop (Basics, p. 106) next to the bicone.



**4** On each end, string a crimp bead and the corresponding loop of half of the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wires. Check the fit, and add or remove beads or chain if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics, p. 106), and trim the excess wire.



# SupplyList

The following materials will make 7-in. (18cm) bracelets.

## all projects

- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

## triple-strand cuff

- 21 6mm cube crystals
- 42 4mm bicone crystals
- 28 6mm gold squaredelles
- 14 6mm silver squaredelles
- 28 6mm gold saucer spacers

- 14 6mm silver saucer spacers
- 6 three-strand cubic zirconia spacer bars (Too Cute Beads, 866-342-3237, toocutebeads.com)
- 6 crimp beads
- three-strand push clasp (Too Cute Beads)

## chain cuff

- 11 8mm bicone crystals, color A
- 48 4mm bicone crystals, color A
- 24 6mm bicone crystals, color B
- 44 4mm bicone crystals, color B
- 1 ft. (30cm) chain, diamond-shaped links (Too Cute Beads)
- 11 2-in. (5cm) eye pins

- 4 crimp beads
- two-strand crystal toggle clasp (Too Cute Beads)
- roundnose pliers

## woven squaredelle cuff

- 15 6mm cube crystals
- 30 6mm saucer crystals (Shipwreck Beads, 800-950-4232, shipwreck.com)
- 30 6mm silver squaredelles
- 64 4mm bicone crystals
- 32 3mm round silver spacers
- 4 crimp beads
- two-strand crystal toggle clasp (Too Cute Beads)



**1 a woven squaredelle cuff •**  
Determine the finished length of your bracelet, triple the measurement, add 5 in. (13cm), and cut two strands of beading wire to that length.

**1 b** Over both wires, string: saucer crystal, squaredelle, cube crystal, squaredelle, saucer. Center the beads.

**1 c** On each end of each wire, string a bicone crystal, a spacer, and a bicone.



**2 a** On one end of one wire, string: saucer, squaredelle, cube, squaredelle, saucer. String the other end of that wire through the pattern from the opposite direction, keeping the tension on the wires as even as possible. Repeat on the other side.

**2 b** Repeat steps 1c and 2a until the bracelet is within 1½ in. (3.8cm) of the desired length. End with step 1c.



**3** On each strand on one side, string a crimp bead and one loop of half of the clasp. Go back through the last four beads strung and tighten the wires. Repeat on the other side. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics, p. 106), and trim the excess wire. ♣

*Karen has kits for the bracelets shown. Contact Karen at 866-342-3237, karensgems@hotmail.com, or visit toocutebeads.com.*

