



**by Eva Kapitany**

The Y-necklace is back, in a chain version that's more delicate than its strung predecessors. Here, gemstones decorate a gold chain, descending into a multicolored cluster pendant. Try tourmaline briolettes for an array of gorgeous greens, pinks, and browns; or, attach iolites and garnets for intense shades of blue-violet and berry. Also, incorporate smaller cubic zirconia briolettes to punctuate the necklace with sparkling bursts of color. Simple chain earrings complete the long-and-lean theme.



# *Brilliant*



Attach  
briolettes to  
chain for an  
updated  
Y-necklace  
and earrings

# *briolettes*



**1** **necklace** • Cut a 2½-in. (6.4cm) piece of wire. String an 8 x 8mm (large) briolette and wrap as in a top-drilled bead (Basics, p. 112). Make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basics) perpendicular to the bead. Make a total of 25–37 briolette units: 13–19 large, 12–18 small (5 x 7mm).



**2** Determine the finished length of your necklace. (The purple necklace is 17½ in./44.5cm with a 2¼-in./5.7cm dangle; the green and pink necklace, 19 in./48cm with a 2½-in./6.4cm dangle.) Cut two pieces of chain: one, necklace length; the other, dangle length. Attach two small-briolette units to the dangle chain's top link. Complete the wraps.



**3** Attach pairs of briolette units to subsequent links, alternating small- and large-briolette units in different colors. Attach a large-briolette unit to the bottom link. Complete the wraps.



**4** Open a jump ring (Basics). Attach the dangle to the necklace chain's center link. Close the jump ring. Approximately 1 in. (2.5cm) from the center, attach a large-briolette unit to a link. Complete the wraps.



**5** Continue attaching briolette units at 1-in. (2.5cm) intervals, alternating small- and large-briolette units, until the necklace is within 5 in. (13cm) of the desired length. (The necklace hangs better when there are no briolettes at the back of the neck.) Complete the wraps. Repeat on the other side.



**6** Check the fit, allowing 1 in. (2.5cm) for the clasp, and trim an equal amount of chain from each end if necessary. Use a jump ring to attach a lobster claw clasp to one end of the chain. Repeat on the other end, substituting a soldered jump ring for the clasp.





**1 earrings** • Cut a 3-in. (7.6cm) piece of chain. Fold the chain so that one side is ½ in. (1.3cm) longer than the other. Open the loop on an earring wire, and attach the folded chain's top link. Close the loop.



**2** Cut a 2½-in. (6.4cm) piece of wire. String a 5 x 7mm (small) briolette and wrap as in a top-drilled bead (Basics, p. 112). Make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basics). Repeat with an 8 x 8mm briolette to make a large-briolette unit.



**3** Attach the small-briolette unit to the shorter chain. Attach the large-briolette unit to the longer chain. Complete the wraps. Make a second earring the mirror image of the first. ♣

### EDITOR'S TIP

Each briolette unit calls for 2½ in. (6.4cm) of wire. Once you make a few briolette units, note how much excess wire you trim. Then, cut each piece that much shorter. You'll use less wire and reduce the cost of the projects. The savings may not be huge here, but you'll develop habits that prevent you from wasting wire in future projects.

Contact Eva in care of BeadStyle.



## SupplyList

### necklace

- 13–19 large briolettes, approximately 8 x 8mm
- 12–18 small briolettes, approximately 5 x 7mm
- 5–7½ ft. (1.6–2.3m) 26-gauge half-hard wire
- 19–24 in. (48–61cm) chain, 6–7mm large-and-small links
- 3 4mm jump rings
- lobster claw clasp and soldered jump ring
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### earrings

- 2 large briolettes, approximately 8 x 8mm
- 2 small briolettes, approximately 5 x 7mm
- 10 in. (25cm) 26-gauge half-hard wire
- 6 in. (15cm) chain, 6–7mm large-and-small links
- pair of earring wires
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters