

A Cluster of Dangles

MATERIALS

necklace 17 in. (43cm)

- 15 x 20mm gemstone (tan necklace only)
- 56–68 3–6mm beads, assorted shapes and materials
- 16-in. (41cm) strand 4mm potato-shaped pearls
- 10–14 3–4mm accent beads
- 20–28 4mm flat spacers
- 1g seed beads, size 11° (tan necklace only)
- flexible beading wire, 014–.015
- 56–68 1½-in. (3.8cm) decorative head pins
- 2-in. (5cm) decorative head pin (tan necklace only)
- French (bullion) wire
- button with shank, or S-clasp and 2 soldered jump rings
- 2 crimp beads
- wire cutters
- crimping pliers
- chainnose pliers
- roundnose pliers



Mix beads in a variety of shapes and sizes for a quick and casual necklace. *by* **Kim Otterbein**

stepbystep

Tan necklace

[1] String the 15 x 20mm gemstone on the 2-in. (5cm) head pin and make a wrapped loop (Basics) above the bead.

[2] String one or two 3–6mm beads on each decorative head pin. Make a wrapped loop on each.

[3] Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 17 in./43cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that

length. Center the gemstone on the beading wire. Using the longest dangles first, string seven on one side of the gemstone (**photo a**).

Repeat on the other side. **[4]** String a pearl and seven dangles on each end (**photo b**). Repeat.

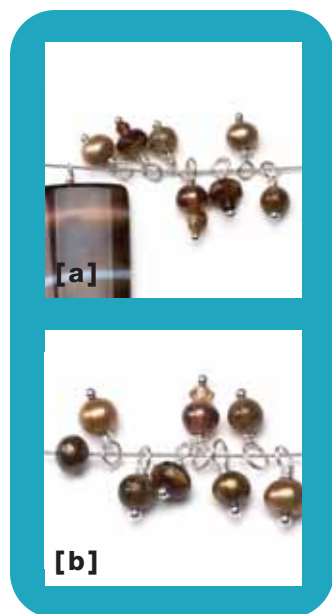
[5] String a pearl, four dangles, a pearl, and three dangles on each end (**photo c**).

[6] String five pearls, an 11° seed bead, a spacer, an accent bead, a spacer, and an 11° on each end (**photo d**).

Repeat until the necklace is about 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the finished length. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary.

[7] Cut one piece of French wire long enough to loop through the button's shank. Cut a second piece long enough to loop over the button for a closure.

[8] On one end of the beading wire, string a crimp bead, the French wire for the shank, and the button. Go back through the crimp bead





and tighten it until the French wire forms a loop around the shank. On the other end, string a crimp bead and the French wire for the loop. Go back through the crimp bead (**photo e**), tighten the wires, and crimp the crimp beads (Basics). Trim the excess wire.

Teal necklace

- [1]** Repeat steps 2–3 of the tan necklace, omitting the gemstone and centering 14 dangles on the beading wire.
- [2]** Repeat steps 4–5 of the tan necklace.
- [3]** String five pearls, a spacer, an accent bead, and a spacer on each end.
- [4]** String nine pearls, a

spacer, an accent bead, and a spacer on each end. Repeat until the necklace is about 1 in. short of the desired length.

[5] Cut a $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. (1cm) length of French wire. On one end of the necklace, string a crimp bead, the French wire, and a soldered jump ring with an S-clasp. Go back through the crimp bead

(**photo f**) and tighten the wire loop. Repeat on the other end with the remaining jump ring. Crimp the crimp beads and trim the excess wire. ●

Contact Kim Otterbein at 11 Constitution St., Bristol, Rhode Island 02809, (401) 253-1118, or kimodesign@msn.com.