

# String a shimmering strand

Coin pearls add gleaming elegance to an easy necklace and earrings

by Rupa Balachandar



For quick sophistication, center a marcasite-and-amber tube bead among unusual center-drilled coin pearls. Silver spacers highlight the shape and iridescence of the individual pearls. Matching earrings complete your speedy set.



## EDITOR'S TIP

Infuse the earrings with color by using rondelles that match the focal bead.

**1 necklace** • Cut a piece of beading wire (Basics, p. 76). (My necklace is 17 in./43cm.) Center a small (3–5mm) spacer, a focal bead, and a small spacer.

**2** On each end, string a pearl and a large (6–8mm) spacer. Repeat six to eight times.



**1 earrings** • On a decorative head pin, string a rondelle, a pearl, and a spacer. Make a wrapped loop (Basics, p. 76).



**2** Open the loop of an earring wire (Basics). Attach the dangle and close the loop. Make a second earring to match the first. ⌚

## Supply List

### necklace

- 30–35mm focal bead
- 16-in. (41cm) strand 12–15mm coin pearls, center drilled
- 14–18 6–8mm flat spacers
- 40–50 3–5mm flat spacers
- 4 3mm round spacers
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 2 crimp beads
- French (bullion) wire
- toggle clasp
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### earrings

- 2 12–15mm coin pearls, center drilled
- 2 4mm rondelles
- 2 6–8mm flat spacers
- 2 2-in. (5cm) decorative head pins
- pair of decorative earring wires
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

Rupa offers kits for these projects. Contact her at [info@rupab.com](mailto:info@rupab.com) or visit [rupab.com](http://rupab.com).



**3** On each end, string a pearl and a small spacer. Repeat until the strand is within 1 in. (2.5cm) of the finished length. Check the fit, and add or remove beads from each end if necessary.



**4** Cut two  $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. (1cm) pieces of French (bullion) wire. On each end, string: round spacer, crimp bead, round spacer, French wire, half of the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead (Basics) and trim the excess wire.