



Sparkle Like a Diva

BY LINZI ALFORD

JEWELLERY MAKE

These pretty earrings are inexpensive and easy to make whilst packed with the WOW factor. Make a pair for yourself and several more for gifts. What friend won't be impressed when you say "I made them just for you"!

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- Ball end headpins 50mm x 6
- 8mm crystal rondelles x 6 (or any choice of bead)
- 3mm silver beads x 6
- Pair of ear wires
- 4mm jump rings x 2
- Jewellery glue
- Marker pen
- Round and flat or bent-nosed pliers
- Wire cutters

ONE

Take 6 ball end headpins and mark them into 3 different lengths using a permanent marker. Mark two of each size so the earrings are of equal length. Approximate lengths on 50mm headpins are 1cm, 2cm and 3cm leaving enough wire to make a wrapped loop. You will need to adjust these lengths on shorter or longer headpins just so long as they are 3 different sizes in a ratio to one another will ensure that the beads will hang nicely.

TWO

Apply a small dab of glue at the base of the headpin next to the ball end and slightly up along the pin to fix the beads in place although you could leave them loose if you wanted movement on your earrings.

THREE

Thread the 8mm crystal rondelle and then the 3mm silver beads onto the headpin and allow the glue to dry making sure the beads are snug up against the ball end of the headpin. If you do not have any ball end headpins you could put a 3mm silver bead on either side of the larger bead using ordinary headpins instead.

FOUR

Once the glue is dry, using round pliers, make wrapped loops on all the headpins using the marker pen dots you made as a guide as to where to make the initial 'bend' of the loop. Firstly make a 90 degree bend then using round pliers roll the pin back. Now pull the wire up and around the plier end until you have a loop with a tail. Coil the tail several times around the headpin. Trim off any excess wire with wire cutters and tuck the cut end in neatly.

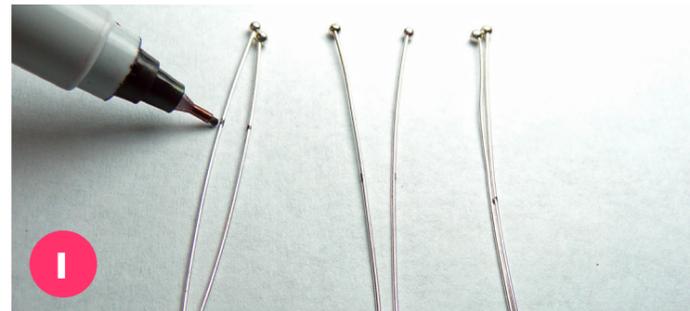
FIVE

You should now have wrapped loops on each headpin in three varying sizes; large, medium and small ready to attach to your ear wires.

SIX

Attach the looped head pins to the ear wires using flat or bent-nosed pliers using a 4mm jump ring. Always open both jump rings and ear wire loops in two directions both toward and away from yourself. Be careful not to pull them open outwards as that will distort the shape and make it difficult to close them neatly. Put the smallest loop in the middle of the other two for a staggered effect.

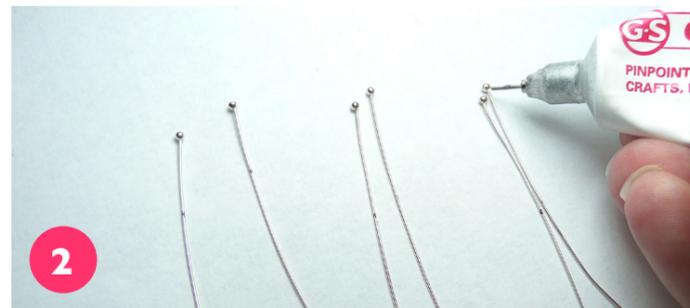
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1



4



2



5



3



6