



## MERMAID EARRINGS

BY LESLIE ROGALSKI  
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We are devoting full time to floating... with Mermaid Earrings! Learn how to play with a CYMBAL™ element in a new way. The LAKOS element was designed initially for size 8 beads, but it so reflected the shape of GINKO beads it was a perfect ending for this design. A two-needle technique makes it smooth sailing.

**Skill Level:** Advanced beginner and up

**Techniques:** Two-needle approach, working with two-holed beads, ending thread.

**Materials for one pair of earrings** (Colors shown are noted):

14 Ginko beads, (Backlit Petroleum)  
8 GemDuos color A, (Tropical Blue Wave)  
2 GemDuo color B, (Tropical Rainforest)  
.5 g 15° Miyuki seed beads, Lt Smokey Pewter  
2 Lakos IV Cymbal™ endings, silver  
2 open jump rings, silver (optional)

2 ear wires, silver  
6 lb black satin Fireline  
2 size 12 beading needles  
Thread zap or scissors  
Pliers to work ear wires

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**FIGURE 1**

1. String a needle on each end of a 24-inch piece of Fireline. String one GemDuo color B through its “top” hole facing up to the middle of the thread—note the orientation in the illos. String a 15° on each thread.
2. On one thread string a color A Gemduo through its “bottom” hole and a 15°. Sew back into the same hole in the GemDuo just exited, leaving the 15° as a picot. Sew out through the “top hole of the GemDuo. The thread will be hidden along the inside of the GemDuo.
3. Repeat with the other thread to add the next GemDuo color A and a picot 15°.

**FIGURE 2**

4. On the left thread string a GemDuo through its inner hole as shown in Figure 2 illustration. String a Ginko through the left tip hole. Sew back through the other hole of the Ginko wide end, and string another GemDuo through its inner hole. Sew through the inner holes of the other existing GemDuos. Sew out through the Ginko tip hole again.

**FIGURE 3**

5. Using the right thread sew through the next GemDuo working counterclockwise and out the right side tip hole of the Ginko.

**Work only with the right thread for Steps 6- 10.**

**FIGURE 4**

6. On the right thread string a Ginko through the left tip hole.

**FIGURE 5**

7. Position the beadwork so the top Ginko just added in Step 6 (Figure 5,a) sits below the inside leg of the Lakos element as shown. String two 15°s and sew through the leg. String two 15°s and sew into the right wide end hole of the top Ginko.
8. String a new Ginko through its left wide end hole (Figure 5, b). Sew through the adjacent GemDuo outer hole (Figure 5, c). String a 15° and sew back through the Gemduo, pulling the new 15 as a picot. Sew back through the Ginko (b) left tip hole.
9. Sew through the other wide end hole of the Ginko (Figure 5, b). String a 15° and sew back through the tip hole, making another picot bead.
10. String a new Ginko through its left tip hole (Figure 5, d). String two 15°s and sew through the outer leg of the Lakos. String two more 15°s and sew into the Ginko (d) right wide end hole. String one 15° and sew back through the right tip hole, making a picot. Leave that thread pushed out of your way for now.

**Work with the left thread for Steps 11-16.**

**11.** Exiting the first Ginko strung from Step 4, string a Ginko (Figure 5,e) through its right tip hole. String two 15°s and sew through the Lakos leg. String two 15°s and sew into the same Ginko left wide hole.

**12.** String a new Ginko (Figure 5, f) through its right wide hole. Sew through the outer open hole of the adjacent GemDuo (Figure 5, g). String a 15° and sew back through the same hole, forming a picot.

**13.** Sew through the tip right hole of the Ginko (Figure 5, f). Sew down through its open wide end hole. String a 15° and sew back into the same hole.

**14.** String a new Ginko (Figure 5, h) through its right tip hole. String two 15°s and sew through the Lakos leg. String two more 15°s and sew through the open wide end hole of the Ginko (f).

**15.** String a 15° and sew back through the same hole.

**16.** To secure the thread and snug the piece, sew back through existing thread paths making half hitches at discreet places. Trim.

**17.** Secure the other thread. Trim.

**17.** Attach an ear wire to the upper loop of each Lakos, or attach each ear wire with an open jump ring for a swingier dangle and a bit of length.

**Wear your earrings and make some waves!**



**Leslie Rogalski** is the creative director for The BeadSmith and a BeadSmith Inspiration Squad designer. She has been the editor in chief and technical editor for bead magazines, a Swarovski ambassador, and a designer for several bead companies. Widely recognized for her videos and appearances on TV in the US and the UK, Leslie also teaches nationally, and is a Master Artisan of her local chapter of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen. Leslie lives outside of Philadelphia with her illustrator husband Michael Rogalski and is proud stage mom to musical theater daughter Jenna Rogalski. To see more of her work, visit [leslierogalskibeadworks.com](http://leslierogalskibeadworks.com), in the BeadSmith online web site of patterns, and find her online class *Essential Seed Bead Techniques* on [bluprint.com](http://bluprint.com).

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ILLUSTRATIONS FOR MERMAID EARRINGS BY LESLIE ROGALSKI

FIGURE 1

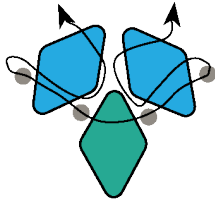


FIGURE 2

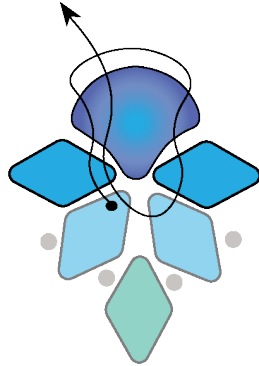


FIGURE 3

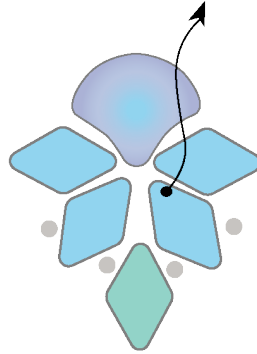


FIGURE 4

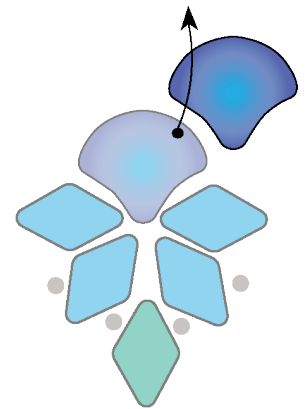


FIGURE 5

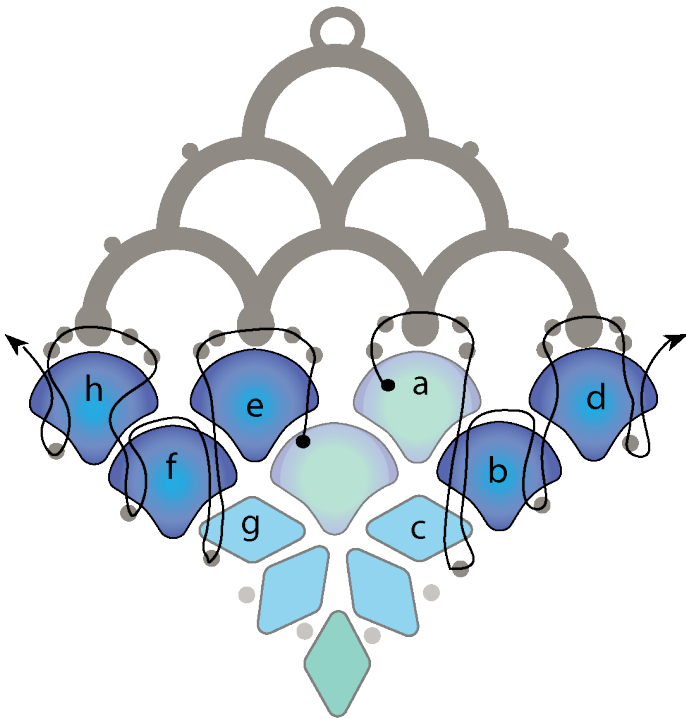
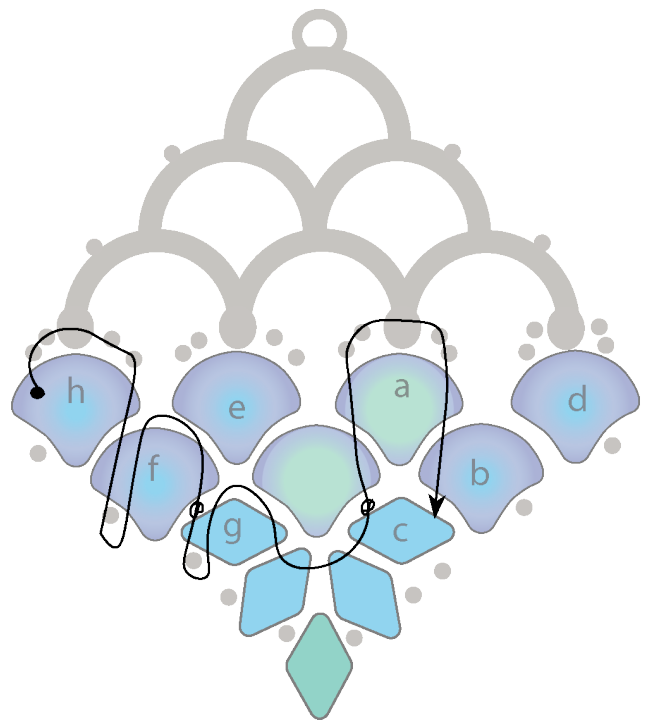


FIGURE 6



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