

SKAFINA TRIANGULAR EARRINGS

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Skill level: Intermediate

Techniques: circular bead weaving, stitching 2-hole beads

Finished Size: 2 ¼ x 1 ½ inches (5.5 x 4 cm)

MATERIALS

2g size 15° seed beads 1g size 11° seed beads 6 x size 8° seed beads

6 x Baroque oval cabochon beads

6 x Ginko beads 20 x SuperDuos

6 x SKAFI III Cymbal™ endings

2 x ZENIA Cymbal pendant settings

2 x size 5mm jump rings, 18 ga

1 pair ear wires

D weight beading thread Size 10 or 12 beading needle Scissors or thread cutters

2 pairs of pliers, for the jump rings Glue, to adhere glass to metal

DESIGNER NOTES

- I thought this earring needed a dangle, so I chose a ZENIA Cymbal GemDuo pendant setting. But I didn't have any red GemDuos. So, I improvised and created a cluster of beads that fit inside the ZENIA finding. Feel free to use GemDuos!
- Check that all holes of multi-hole beads are clear before stitching.

FIGURE 1

Step 1. Cut one yard (90cm) of beading thread and attach a needle to one end. Pick up three size 11° seed beads. Sew through all of the beads again, forming a small triangle. Slide the beads towards the end of the thread leaving a 3 inches (7.5cm) tail. Pull the thread snug. Sew through the first bead for a third time (orange thread).

FIGURE 2

Step 2. Pick up two size 15° seed beads and sew through the next 11°, three times. To be in the correct place to start the next round, sew again through the first 15° picked up in this step (green thread).

FIGURE 3

NOTE: To prepare for this round, lay three two-hole baroque cabochons face up on your work surface with the holes running vertically.

Step 3. Pick up one SuperDuo and sew through the next 15°, 11° and 15°. Pick up one cabochon bead through the left hole from the bottom, two 15°s, one 11° and two 15°s. Sew through the right-hand hole of the cabochon from the top, and the same 15°, 11° and 15° just sewn through after picking up the superduo (light blue thread).

FIGURE 4

Step 4. Stitch the light blue thread path of Step 3 two more times (light blue thread).

Step 5. Sew along the thread path created in Step 3, through the first SuperDuo added, 15°, 11°, 15°, left-hand hole of the cabochon and the two 15°s, 11° and two 15°s above the cabochon bead (**green thread**). Note that you are now heading in the opposite direction.

FIGURE 5

NOTE: To prepare for this round, lay three Ginko beads on your work surface with the holes running vertically and the narrow "stem" end facing down.

Step 6. Pick up five 15°s and sew through the upper unused hole of the next SuperDuo. Pick up one 11°. Sew through the middle hole of the SKAFI finding, from right to left. Pick up one 11° and sew through the SuperDuo again, in the same direction as you just did. Pull the thread snug. The thread should form a small ring that captures the middle of the SKAFI finding. Pick up five 15°s and sew through the first two 15°s and 11° above the next cabochon (**blue thread**).

Step 7. Pick up one 15°, one SuperDuo and three 15°s. Change direction and sew through the second hole of the SuperDuo. Place a second SKAFI finding on your work area and sew through the left hole, from the inside towards the outside edge. Pick up one Ginko through the right-hand hole, from the "stem" end, two 15°s, one 11° and two 15°s. Change direction and sew down through the second hole of the Ginko. Pull the thread snug. Sew through the right hole of the Skafi finding already attached to the work, from the outside towards the center. Pick up one SuperDuo and three 15°s. Change direction and sew through the second hole of the SuperDuo. Pick up one 15° and sew through the 11° that is the middle bead above the cabochon, plus the next two 15°s also above the cabochon (**green thread**).

FIGURE 6

Step 8. Stitch Step 6, with one change: instead of picking up a SKAFI at the beginning of the step, sew through the middle hole of the second SKAFI that was added in Step 7 (purple thread).

Step 9. Stitch Step 7 (orange thread).

Step 10. Stitch Step 6 using the middle hole of the third SKAFI added to the earring (blue thread).

Step 11. Stitch Step 7 using the left hole of the first SKAFI that was added in Step 6 (green thread). To be in the correct place to start the next round, sew through the five 15°s that were first added to this round, the first 11° added in this round and the middle hole of the SKAFI (red thread). Note that you are now heading in the opposite direction.

FIGURE 7

Step 12. Pick up two 15°s, one 11°, two 15°s and one 11°. Pass the thread under the SKAFI finding to the back of the work. Sew diagonally through the upper hole of the nearest SuperDuo, from the back to the front. Pick up two 15°s and sew through the 15° already beside the SuperDuo, the 11° between the SuperDuos and the 15° beside the next SuperDuo. Pick up two 15°s. Sew diagonally through the upper hole of the SuperDuo, from the front to the back. Pick up one 11°, two 15°s, one 11° and two 15°s. Sew under the SKAFI finding to the front of the work and through the middle hole of the SKAFI finding (blue thread).

Step 13. Stitch the blue thread path two more times (pink thread). To be in the correct place to start the next round, sew along the thread path created and used in this round, through the first two 15°s, 11°, two 15°s, 11° and SuperDuo. Then sew through the end hole of the SKAFI finding, first hole of the Ginko, 15°s and 11° above the Ginko, second hole of the Ginko, end hole of the next SKAFI finding and exiting the upper hole of the second SuperDuo at the front of the work (green thread).

FIGURE 8

Step 14. Pick up seven 15°s and one size 8° seed bead. Sew through the middle hole in the SKAFI to the back of the work. Pick up one 11°. Sew through the hole in the SKAFI finding to the front the work and again through the 8° in the same direction as the first time. Pull the thread snug. The larger seed beads should sit in the hole of the SKAFI finding pulled up snug to the metal. Use the Side View diagram for reference. Pick up seven 15°s. Sew through the next SuperDuo in the bend of the SKAFI, the end hole of the SKAFI, up through the first hole of the Ginko, the 15°s and 11° above the Ginko, down through the Ginko, the end hole of the next SKAFI and the SuperDuo in the bend of the SKAFI (**blue thread**).

FIGURE 9

Step 15. Stitch Step 14 a second time along the second side of the triangle until the needle and thread exit the 11° above the Ginko (pink thread). Pick up seven 15°s. Sew again through the 11° above the ginko and the seven 15°s just picked up. The beads should form a small ring. Pull the thread snug. Sew through the 11° for a third time. Continue sewing through the remaining two 15°s above the Ginko, down through the Ginko, the end hole of the next SKAFI and the SuperDuo in the bend of the SKAFI (green thread).

Step 16. Stitch Step 14 a third time along the third side of the triangle, as written (**blue thread**). To be in the correct place to start the next step, sew through the first seven 15°s picked up in Step 14 and the 8° anchored in the hole of the SKAFI. Sew to the back of the work through the hole in the SKAFI and the 11° anchored in the back of the hole (**orange thread**). You will be heading in the opposite direction.

FIGURE 10

Step 17. Pick up seven 15°s. Sew again through the 11° sitting in the hole of the SKAFI and the seven 15°s just picked up. The beads should form a small ring. Pull the thread snug. Sew through the 11° for a third time. Sew through the hole in the SKAFI to the front of the work. Following the direction of the thread, sew through the seven 15°s that sit along the bar.

Step 18. Sew through the beadwork along any existing thread path. Tie a few overhand knots along the way. Trim the thread.

STEP 19. Attach a needle to the tail thread. Finish this end of the thread off by sewing through the beadwork along existing thread paths. Tie a few overhand knots along the way and trim the thread.

FIGURE 11

Cut a piece of dark beading thread that is about 6 inches (15cm) long or use a scrap of a similar length. Attach a needle to one end.

Step 20. Pick up one SuperDuo and three 15°s. Sew through the second hole of the SuperDuo. Pick up three 15°s. Center the beads on the threads. Sew along the thread path for a second time. Tie the two ends using a single knot (**blue thread**). Fit the bead cluster into the ZENIA finding. Tie a second single knot to make it a secure square knot. Remove the beads from the finding. Sew through the beads at least once with the working thread and trim. Attach the needle to the tail thread. Sew through the beads in the opposite direction at least once and trim. Keep the cut ends of the threads on the same side of the cluster. This side will then go into the back of the ZENIA and be hidden.

FIGURE 12

Step 21. Using your preferred glue, glue the bead cluster into the ZENIA. Allow the glue to dry completely.

FIGURE 13

Step 22. Open one jump ring using two pairs of pliers. Insert the jump ring into the ring of beads below the Ginko bead at the bottom of the earring. Add the ZENIA, making sure it faces the correct way, and close the jump ring.

Step 23. Open the ear wire using two pairs of pliers. Insert the open loop into the ring of beads at the top back of the earring, making sure it faces the correct way, and close the ear wire.

Step 24. Make a second earring.

Please respect the creative effort and time it has taken me to produce this bead work project, write and illustrate it. Although every effort is taken to make these instructions as accurate as possible, variations in materials and individual stitching techniques may produce differences to the original design.

SKAFI III TRIANGULAR EARRINGS ILLUSTRATIONS by CAROLYN CAVE



