

The Bead Shop Nottingham

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Mini project—Geisha Butterfly Earrings by Ania Szydlowska

Bead Shop Customer Ania had a favourite pair of earrings and unfortunately lost one of them, and in an on going search to replace the earring came across The Bead Shop and decided she would make her own earrings instead. Ania only took up jewellery making a few months ago and has already created these stunning earrings. She won a Facebook competition to have her design featured by us!



- 0.6mm gold plated wire
- 0.8mm gold plated wire
- 2 x 6mm fuchsia SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS butterfly beads
- 2 x 8mm fuchsia SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS butterfly beads
- 2 x 10mm fuchsia SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS butterfly beads
- 1 x reel of baby pink nymo thread
- 1 x reel of pink nymo thread
- 2 x gold plated spring ends
- 2 x 5mm bright gold SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS pearl beads 2 x gold plated fishhooks

Tools used:

Coiling gizmo Round nose pliers Chain nose pliers Cutters Scissors Glue

1. Coil a 0.6mm gold plated wire using the large barrel of a coiling gizmo. The coil should be 10cm long. Stretch the coil using pliers or your hands so that spaces between the coil wraps are about 1mm wide. Thread the coil onto the 0.8mm wire and shape the frame to look like a the end and cut the and leave the other end about 3cm long.

2. Tie the light pink nymo thread onto the top of the teardrop and begin wrapping it around the coil. Start with the thread going down off to the right on the middle (this will ensure there will be a hole in the middle of the earring). Wrap the thread in between the coils to the left at the top & to the right at the bottom of the starting points. Continue until the whole teardrop is wrapped and tie the thread off securely at the top. Repeat the same process with darker pink thread but starting from the top and about half way down the length of teardrop, twist wires at the earring on the right. While wrapping the threads especially the second one excess wire off one end make sure that you don't wrap too tight as this will change the shape of the earring and cause the first thread to become loose.

3. When you have finished wrapping the second thread secure it at the top and add a little glue over the ends of the thread for extra security. Plan out where you would like your butterflies to sit on the earring before carefully stitching them in place. Use the nymo thread and go through the threads from the back then through the bead and back through the threads (be very careful not to disturb the tension in the design), then tie the thread together at the back of the earring and cut off any excess.

4. To finish off, cut off the loop of a spring end and thread it over the ends of the wire to hide the ends of the thread, then thread on the 5mm pearl and create a loop. Then attach the fishhook it to the earring. Repeat the whole process to make the second earring, use the shape of the first earring as a guide to make the second earring the same.

