

## Mini GemDuo Bracelet

By Jill Wiseman

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### Supply List

- Mini GemDuos – 1 bag
- Size 11° seed beads – 2 grams
- Cymbal Pilos bead endings – 2 (optional)
- TierraCast Oval Jump Rings (3x2 or 4x3mm) – 2
- Clasp of your choice
- Fireline - 6lb, or beading thread of your choice
- Size 11 or 12 beading needles

Tiny things are unbearably cute, and these little Mini GemDuos are no exception! I was so eager to make something with them when they arrived, I threw together this very simple but oh so wonderful to wear bracelet. And I'm not ashamed to say it hasn't left my arm in days because of all the enjoyment I get out of it!

Whether you use one color, or many, I hope you love your bracelet(s) too!

### Getting Started

To begin, cut off about 5 feet of Fireline. While you can add thread during this project, it's much easier to start with enough to finish it without doing so.

Attach a stop bead or use a Bead Bug/Bead Stopper clip about 4-6 inches from the end (enough to weave in later.)

Starting with a Mini GemDuo, start stringing a Mini GemDuo, and then a Size 11 seed bead. They do have a top and bottom (the top is slight domed) so make sure you're picking up the same hole on the Mini GemDuo each time. Repeat until you have the length you need.



If you use the materials listed in the supply list, the clasp area will take up about 1.25" (3.2mm) but if you use a different clasp, you'll need to take that into account.

You will want to stop and check the line of beads periodically to make sure you haven't accidentally skipped picking up a seed bead or made some other error.

## Turning the Corner

After you've double checked to make sure you're not missing any seed beads between your Mini GemDuos, you're ready to turn around and make the next pass down the bracelet.

Pick up one seed bead, the Cymbal Pilos ending, and another seed bead. Then pass through the second hole of the Mini GemDuo you were exiting. If you are not using a Pilos end, then now would be the time to either attach your clasp directly or use a Size 8 seed bead instead of the Pilos end that you can later run a jump ring through to attach your clasp.



Now you're going to go down the row again, this time putting a seed bead between each Mini GemDuo. Don't worry about tension – it's likely it will curve or even curl – we'll fix that later. For now, just add the seed beads.

At the opposite end, turn the corner by adding the seed bead, Pilos, and seed bead again. You may need to remove your stopper bead at this time to do it (I definitely had to remove the Bead Bug I was testing to get it out of the way.)

## Fixing Tension

Now is when we fix that wonky tension! You will go up and down the entire bracelet and reinforce the whole thing. (I hear you groaning, but it will be worth it! Your bracelet will be straight and stronger!)

When you get to the first end to turn around, flatten the bracelet out and give it enough thread to let it lay flat. THIS is the tension you want. This is also a great time to end off the tail thread. You will want to tie a few half-hitch knots to do that. You can find a demo of that here:

<https://youtu.be/TQ9IG9AYdYY>

Finish reinforcing the second side, making sure the bracelet lays flat when you finish. I actually check the tension every 7 or 8 Mini GemDuos, and tie a half-hitch knot at that point to set the tension. That way when you get to the end, you can just move the thread a few beads past the last knot and cut off the thread.

Using flat nose pliers, open a jump ring and use it to attach the Pilos end to your clasp. Close the jump ring. Repeat at the opposite end. Wear it and enjoy!





If you have any questions while you're working, please feel free to email me at [jill@jillwisemandesigns.com](mailto:jill@jillwisemandesigns.com).

Visit our website at [www.jillwisemandesigns](http://www.jillwisemandesigns) for kits, patterns (many free), beads, and all your beading supplies.

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