

Flirty Fringe & Brick Stitch Earrings

By Jill Wiseman

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Supply List

- Size 11 Delicas or seed beads in 3 colors, approximately 3 grams of each color
 - 2 Wire guards/protectors (optional)
 - 2 Ear wires of your choice
 - Fireline – 6lb test for top
 - One G or thread of your choice for the fringes
 - Size 11 or 12 beading needle
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There are so many options when making gorgeous fringe earrings!

In this set of instructions, I've provided the pattern option for the top triangle portion of your earrings, or you can choose to use all one color as shown in the bottom left earring in the photo. Or make your own pattern! (Did I mention options???)

I walk you through the Brick Stitch technique used to make the triangles, and show you how to use a wire guard (sometimes called a wire protector) at the top for a super professional finish to your earring.

And then let's talk about the fringes! Again, I give you a recipe for how I made the fringes in the earrings in the photo, but that's just the start of what's possible! The next pair I make will include some 3mm fire polish beads at the bottom of the fringe for some extra flair.

So let's get to beading!



You can find a YouTube video demonstrating this project at:

<https://youtu.be/JL8Hpf8gFAU>

Getting Started

On this page I'll share how to do Brick Stitch. To follow the color pattern once you understand the technique, skip to page 8.

If you use about 1 yard or meter of Fireline, you won't have to add any thread to finish the triangle component.

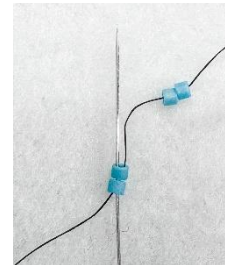
I suggest using Fireline (or similar) for the top – that gives it the most strength and stiffness. And then switch to a thread like One G for the fringes – that will allow for a softer drape and more movement.

First Row - Brick Stitch Triangles

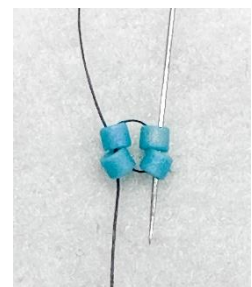
We will start on the bottom of the triangle; the longest row, and then decrease as we move up.

We'll also be doing the first row using 2 Delicas for each column instead of just one. Why? It makes it easier to hold when starting out!

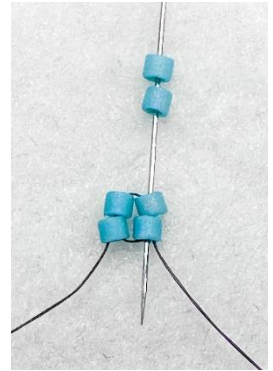
To do this, pick up 4 Delicas, and move them down your thread so there's a 3-4 inch (8-10 cm) tail left to weave in later. Bring your needle from the tail end back up through the first two Delicas you picked up. It will make the top two beads flip over and sit next to the first set. You may need to coax them to sit where it needs to be.



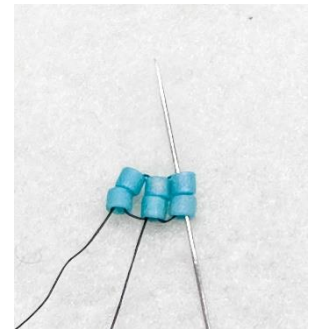
Now pass from top to bottom through the Delicas on the right so you can get to the outside edge to add more beads.



Pick up two more Delicas and pass down through the beads on the left to add the new Delicas to the group.



You still need to get to the outside edge again to add another set of beads, so pass up through the Delicas you just added.



Continue adding beads to the row in this manner until you have a total of 15 sets of Delicas joined together.

NOTE: You can make the triangle smaller by picking up fewer beads in this first row. You'll need 15 if you're going to follow the pattern design on page 8, but you can do any number you prefer if you'd like a different size triangle.

Do not make your tension super tight, as you'll find it more difficult to get your needle under the threads in subsequent rows.

Subsequent Rows – Brick Stitch Triangles

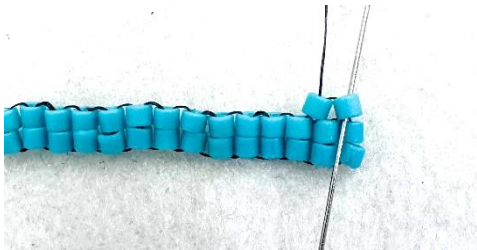
Now we start doing Brick Stitch!

**** A new row in brick stitch always starts with two beads.** Every other stitch in the row will be a single bead only.

Pick up 2 beads, and pass under the thread that's holding the second 2 beads in the base together. (Make sure you skip the first thread intersection.) You'll want to pass from the back to the front – in other words, so your needle is coming at your chest. The 2 beads will tilt towards each other.



You'll straighten them up by passing up the Delica on the left (the second one you put on.)

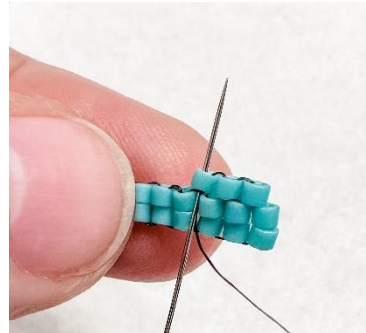
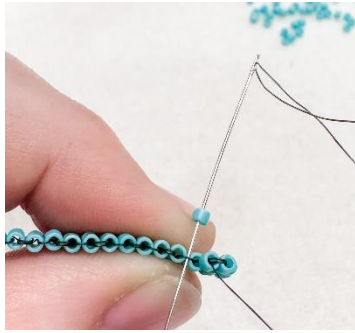


After coming back up, go down through the first Delica on the right...



...and up through the Delica to the left again. Basically just circling around them to straighten and reinforce them. See? Nice and straight!

For the rest of the row, pick up 1 bead, pass under the next thread intersection, and then back up through the bead you just added. You'll repeat from the until you run out of thread intersections to complete the row. Then repeat adding rows (starting from the ** note on page 4) until you have a triangle shape with your last row having 2 beads.



At the very top, we'll add the wire guard/protector. Pass your thread through one of the holes along the side of the wire guard, and then pass back down the hole on the other side, making sure your thread tightens inside the metal channel between the two sides. Pass back down the second bead on the top row. I like to reinforce this path at least once more.

If you do not have a wire guard/protector, you can create a small loop of beads here for this purpose instead.



Since you'll be changing from Fireline to thread for the fringe, you can end both your tail and working threads by weaving them through the beads in a zig-zag pattern, changing directions with your thread at least three times. Then just cut off your thread ends.

Add the Fringe

At this point you're ready to add in the One G (or similar) thread for the fringes. Yes, it's very important to use thread for fringes. Fireline will not give a pleasing outcome – your fringes won't hang nicely.

You'll add thread in the same manner, weaving through the beads, changing directions, until you get to the spot where you want your thread to exit to start adding more beads.

You can alter the length of your fringes simply by picking up fewer beads! I'm going to document here the length I showed in the YouTube video, but just remember – if you want them longer or shorter, you can make additions or subtractions in any part of the bead pattern.

Starting at one of the end beads on the long edge of the triangle, pick up the beads for the first fringe.

14 Color A
 1 Color C
 1 Color A
 1 Color C
 1 Color A
 6 Color C
 1 Color B
 1 Color C
 1 Color B
 1 Color C
 10 Color B



Push the beads up so they're next to the triangle, and skipping the last bead added, pass back up through all the beads in the fringe. Depending on your length, you may need to do this in multiple pulls of your thread.

Then pass through the first two bead on the triangle. When you tighten, don't tighten so much that the fringe looks wavy and wonky. You also don't want to leave a ton of thread showing between the fringe and the triangle. You'll get better at the tension for this over time.



To get in position to add the next fringe, pass back down the next two beads in the triangle.

For the rest of the fringes, I simply added a single bead to the first section for each fringe (so 15 A, then 16 A, then 17 A, etc.) until I got to the middle. The center fringe should be your longest one. After that, start decreasing by one bead in the top section until you get to the end.



Once you have finished all your fringes, simply end the thread as before, and attach an earring wire to the wire guardian/protector. YAY! You have an earring! Now you need to go make the second one!

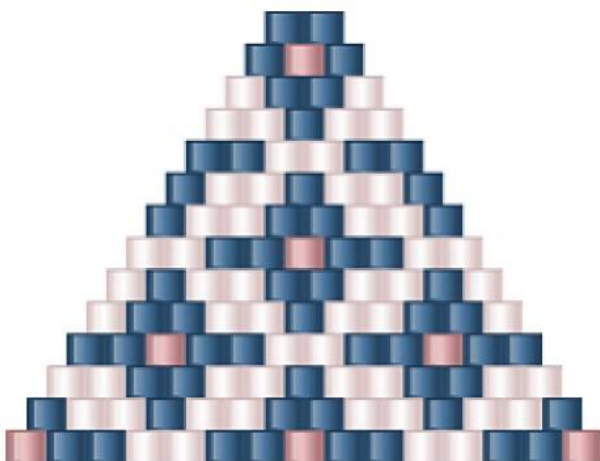
Tips I've compiled for fixing wonky fringe:

- Hang them up for a while – because you used thread on the fringes, there will be some natural relaxing of the thread and they'll loosen up a tiny bit.
- You can try steaming them over boiling water. Make sure not to burn yourself! I'd put the earrings on an awl, or maybe even the tines of a fork to place them over the steam – try to not dunk them in the water though. 😊
- Some people swear by putting their fingernail between the fringe and the triangle as they tighten to create a small space for the fringe to “breathe” there.
- Seed beads will generally hang more gracefully than Delicas because of their rounded edges. A little wonkyness doesn't bother me, and I love how the triangle work with the Delicas so I usually stick to them. This is 100% a personal preference – try the earrings both ways and see which you like best!

Important Links

- Kits and all the supplies are available at: <https://shop.jillwisemandesigns.com/>
- Jill Wiseman Designs Beaders:
Show off what you make!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/jillwisemandesignsbeaders/>

Chart #:A
 Chart #:B
 Chart #:C
 DB-2135 DB-2116 DB-200
 Count:58 Count:7 Count:54



Row 1 (R) (1)B, (2)A, (2)C, (2)A, (1)B, (2)A, (2)C, (2)A, (1)B
 Row 2 (L) (1)A, (2)C, (1)A, (2)C, (2)A, (2)C, (1)A, (2)C, (1)A
 Row 3 (R) (2)C, (2)A, (2)C, (1)A, (2)C, (2)A, (2)C
 Row 4 (L) (2)A, (1)B, (2)A, (2)C, (2)A, (1)B, (2)A
 Row 5 (R) (1)C, (2)A, (2)C, (1)A, (2)C, (2)A, (1)C
 Row 6 (L) (1)C, (1)A, (2)C, (2)A, (2)C, (1)A, (1)C
 Row 7 (R) (2)C, (2)A, (1)B, (2)A, (2)C
 Row 8 (L) (1)A, (2)C, (2)A, (2)C, (1)A
 Row 9 (R) (1)A, (2)C, (1)A, (2)C, (1)A
 Row 10 (L) (2)A, (2)C, (2)A
 Row 11 (R) (2)C, (1)A, (2)C
 Row 12 (L) (1)C, (2)A, (1)C
 Row 13 (R) (1)A, (1)B, (1)A
 Row 14 (L) (2)A