



STARBURST EARRINGS

By Leslie A Pope

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The hoops can barely contain the star power of these stunning earrings.

Skill level: Confident beginner and up

Techniques: Herringbone stitch

Finished length: 1¼" in diameter

MATERIALS

- 2 grams size 11° seed beads (color A)
- 24 size 11° seed beads (color B)
- 48 faceted Microspacers
- 2 size 30mm ear hoops with inside loop
- 1 pair of ear wires of choice
- 6lb. Fireline™
- Size 11 beading needle
- Scissors/Pliers



COMPONENT

FIGURE 1 – Row 1

Step 1. Thread one yard of Fireline on a needle. String one 11°A and one Microspacer six times. Sew through all the beads again to form a circle, leaving a 3-inch tail. Knot the working and tails threads. Sew away from the knot and exit an 11°. Weave in and trim the tail thread.

FIGURE 2 – Row 2

Step 2. String two 11°As, sew through the Row 1 size 11° in the existing thread direction. **NOTE:** The new 11°s sit on top of the Row 1 size 11°. Continue through the next Microspacer and 11°.

Step 3. Repeat Step 2 five more times and exit the first 11° added in this row. **NOTE:** This is the first row of herringbone.

FIGURE 3 – Row 3

Step 4. String two 11°As and sew through the next Row 2 size 11°. String one Microspacer and sew up through the next 11°.

Step 5. Repeat Step 4 five more times and exit the first 11° added in this row.

FIGURE 4 – Row 4

Step 6. String two 11°As and sew down through the next two 11°s, through the Microspacer and up through the next two 11°s. Repeat this step five more times and exit the first 11° added in this row.

FIGURE 5 – Row 5

Step 7. String two 11°As and sew down through the next 11°. String one 11°B, one Microspacer, one 11°B and sew up through the next 11°.

Step 8. Repeat Step 5 and exit the first 11° added in this row.

FIGURE 6 – Row 6

Step 9. String two 11°As and sew down through the next two 11°As, the 11°B/Microspacer/11°B combo and up through the next two 11°As. Repeat five more times and exit the first 11° added in this row.

ATTACH COMPONENT TO HOOP

FIGURE 7

Step 10. Position the component inside the ear hoop with a stack of 11°s lined up directly underneath the inside loop at the top of the ear hoop.

Step 11. String one Microspacer. Going from the front to the back, sew through the loop and back through the Microspacer. Continue through the next three 11°As, one 11°B, and one Microspacer.

Step 12. String three 11°As and sew through the Microspacer in the existing thread direction to form a picot over the Microspacer. Continue through the next 11°B and three 11°As.

Step 13. String one Microspacer, sew over the hoop (from the front to the back) and back through the Microspacer just added. Continue through the next five beads as outlined in Step 11.

Step 14. Repeats Step 12 and 13 four more times. Repeat Step 12 once more and exit the three 11°As of the herringbone stack at the top of the earring.

REINFORCE THE CONNECTION

FIGURE 8

NOTE: Sew from front to back over the hoop when exiting a connector Microspacer.

Step 15. Following the existing thread path, sew through the beads again to reinforce the connections. Secure the thread within the beadwork and trim the excess. **NOTE:** If you feel your picots are not staying in place, repeat the entire thread path of Figure 7.

Step 16. Use pliers to attach an ear wire to the outer loop of the earring hoop.

Make your second earring!



Leslie Pope loves sharing her passion for beads. Her business "Twisted Sistah Beads" is a popular presence at bead shows, and she also teaches nationally. As the senior designer for the BeadSmith, a global wholesaler of jewelry-making supplies, she designs with all the newest beads to inspire beaders, and her designs are featured in leading bead magazines and books. Find her tutorials at twistedstahbeads.com, in the BeadSmith.com/ilovebeads free online library of patterns, or her exclusive Beadsmith patterns from your favorite bead reseller.

STARBURST EARRINGS ILLUSTRATIONS by LESLIE A POPE

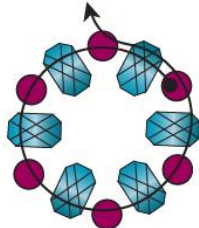


FIGURE 1

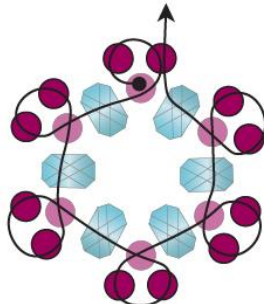


FIGURE 2

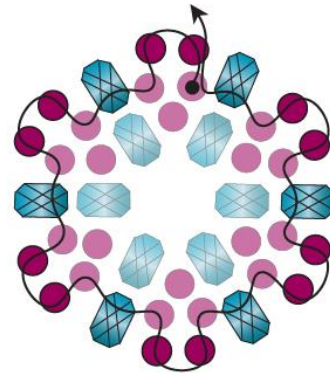


FIGURE 3

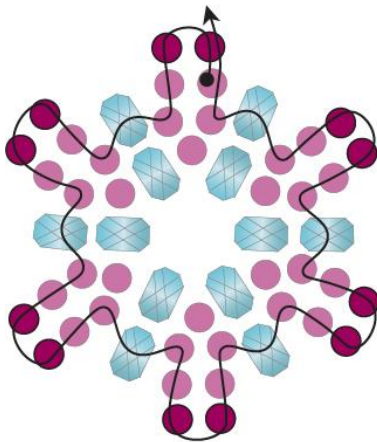


FIGURE 4

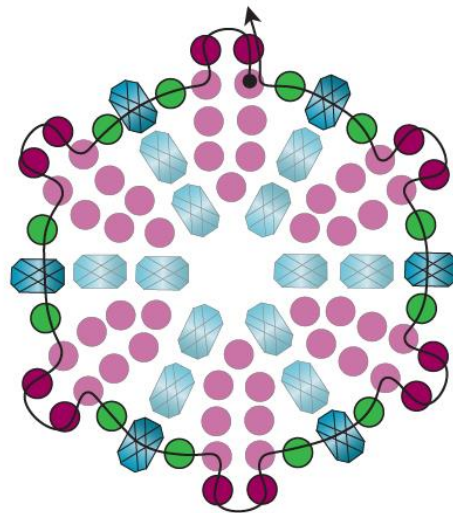


FIGURE 5

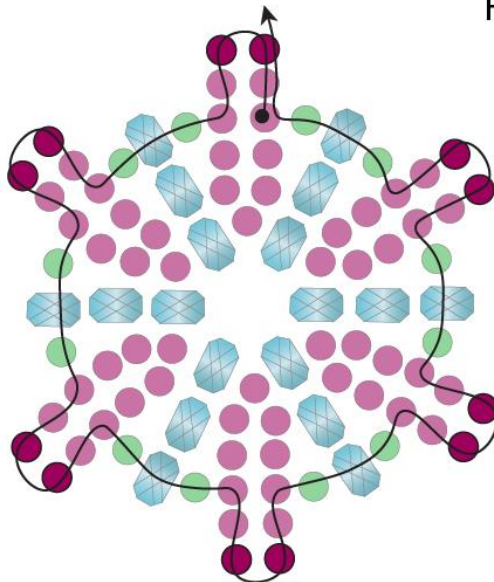


FIGURE 6

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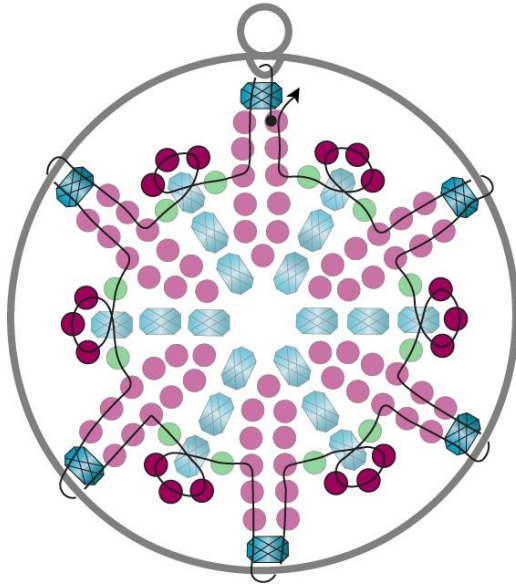


FIGURE 7

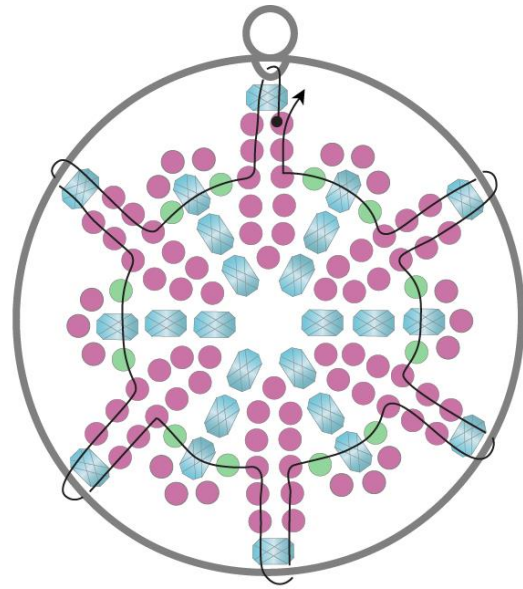


FIGURE 8

STARBURST EARRINGS COLOR COMBOS

Duracoat galv silver – size 11° seed beads
Metallic light bronze – size 11° seed beads
Pale bronze gold – faceted Microspacers



Gunmetal iris – size 11° seed beads
Duracoat galv silver – size 11° seed beads
Polychrome denim blue – faceted Microspacers

Duracoat galv gold – size 11° seed beads
Fuchsia lined crystal AB – size 11° seed beads
Matte dark red – faceted Microspacers

