



Bead Origami
www.beadorigami.com

Bead Origami Presents...

The Bells

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The Bells Earrings

Ring the bells! The Bells earrings feature a collection of petite bell components stitched with DropDuo beads and two sizes of Japanese seed beads. These bells come together very quickly for a simple yet elegant pair of earrings. Try using the individual components in charm bracelets, pendants, or necklaces too.

Materials for the earrings:

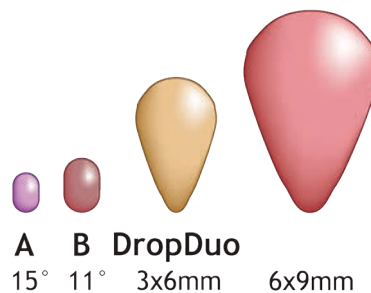
- 1.25 g 15° Japanese seed beads (A)
- 1 g 11° Japanese seed beads (B)
- (30) 3x6mm DropDuo beads
- (6) 6x9mm teardrop beads; *two in each of three colors*
- (1) pair of ear wires
- Fireline or nylon thread, 6 lb test

Notes on the Materials:

- **Seed beads** ~ Since this design requires evenly-shaped seed beads, be sure to cull your seed beads for an even size while you work. Miyuki and/or Toho brand Japanese seed beads are recommended for this project.
- **Thread** ~ You can use either Fireline or a nylon thread such as One G or KO. If you experience issues with keeping your thread tension tight enough, try using a nylon thread.

Tools:

- Beading Needle, size 11-12
- Scissors
- Round nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers
- Beading Awl



A B DropDuo
15° 11° 3x6mm 6x9mm

The beads used in this project



Notes on Illustrations:

- Each step of this pattern has at least one **figure** or **photo** that shows the beadwork in the corresponding step. *Figure 1 goes with Step 1, Figure 2 goes with Step 2, etc.*
- A **red dot** marks the starting point of each step.
- Any beads added during a given step are more **saturated** than those already in the beadwork.
- A dotted line marks the thread path of beads picked up or passed through during a given step. The thread path of the current step is a thick line; any thread paths from previous steps use a thinner line.
- A **blue arrow** is sometimes used to indicate the direction of the thread path.

Other Tips:

- Keep your thread tension firm, but not so tight that the beads are locked in place.
- Mark the beads on your work surface with a post-it note to keep track of them. Some beaders like using alphabet beads too.
- Avoid forcing the beading needle through a bead; this could break the bead or the needle! Instead, try switching to a smaller size needle.
- Silver seed beads will tarnish over time. To slow this process, store pieces containing silver seed beads in an airtight container with an anti-tarnish strip.

Project Overview:

This pattern describes how to stitch The Bells Earrings. To stitch them, you'll create **six bell components** using **circular peyote** with just a **hint of PRAW**. You'll start each bell near the bottom of its bowl, and then you'll add size 15° and 11° seed beads to embellish its bottom. Then you'll work your way to the top, where you'll embellish it with size 15° seed beads using one unit of PRAW-5. You'll add a size 11° seed bead to the top, and you'll anchor it to a large teardrop bead which serves as the bell's clapper. You'll attach the bells together using a variation of RAW, and you'll add simple ear wires to finish the earrings.



A Bell Component



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Step 1: We'll start near the bottom of one of the bells. On a ~2ft (0.6m) length of thread, pick up **1B** and **1 DropDuo** (through its round end) a total of **five times**. Pass through all the beads in a circle, and exit through the first B strung.

Step 2: Pick up **4A**, skip the DropDuo, and pass through the next B. Repeat to add a total of five sets of 4A to the work. Pass through the first 2A added in this step.

Step 3: Pick up **1B** and pass through the next 2A. Skip the next B, and pass through the next 2A. Use **firm tension and pull your thread tight** so that your B stands up on top of the DropDuo. Repeat a total of five times.

Step 4: Pass through the next B, 2A, B, and DropDuo. Pass through the other hole of the current DropDuo, *switching the direction of your working thread*.

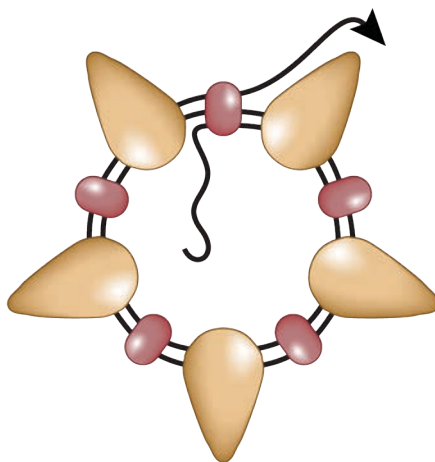


Figure 1
Bottom View

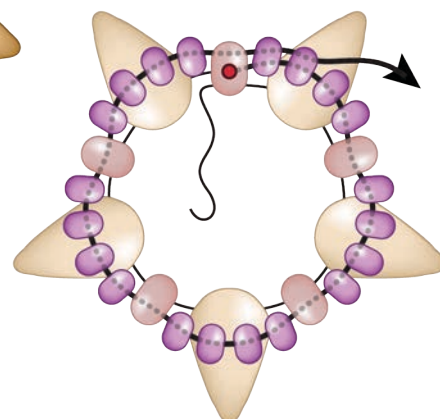
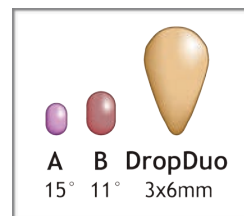


Figure 2
Bottom View

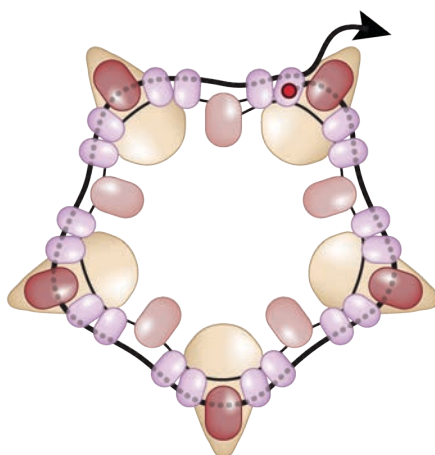


Figure 3
Bottom View

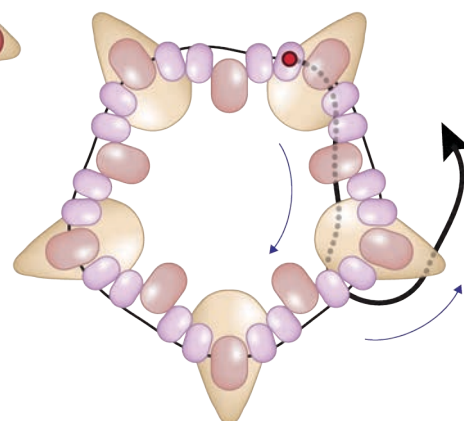


Figure 4
Bottom View



Photo 4A
Bottom View



Photo 4B
Bottom View



Step 5: Flip your work over to the other side. We'll now be working on the top of the bell, through the tip holes of the DropDuos (we're done with the round holes). Pass through all the tip holes of the DropDuos to pull them into the center of the work. Pass through all these beads again to secure.

Step 6: A single PRAW-5 unit embellishes the top of the bell. The DropDuos are your floor beads, 2A are on each wall, and one A is on each ceiling. To start the first wall, pick up **5A**. Pass through the first DropDuo again and continue through the next DropDuo.

Step 7: To stitch the second wall, pick up **3A**. On your previous loop of A, pass through the closest two A with your needle pointed towards the bottom of the bell. Continue through the next two DropDuos.

Step 8: Repeat Step 7 **two more times** to add the third and fourth walls.

Step 9: To finish the last wall, pass through the next 2A with your needle pointed towards the top of the work. Pick up **1A**. On your previous loop of A, pass through the closest two A with your needle pointed towards the bottom of the bell. Pass through the next DropDuo and the next 3A to exit from the ceiling of the unit.

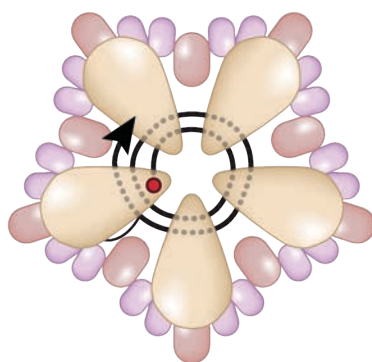


Figure 5
Top View

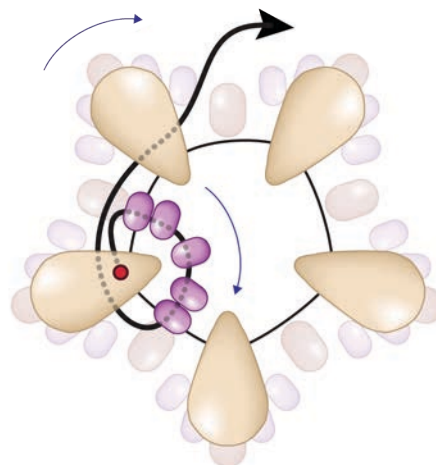
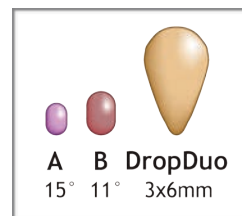


Figure 6
Top View

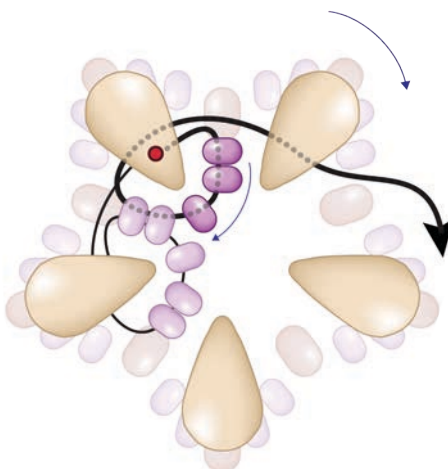


Figure 7
Top View

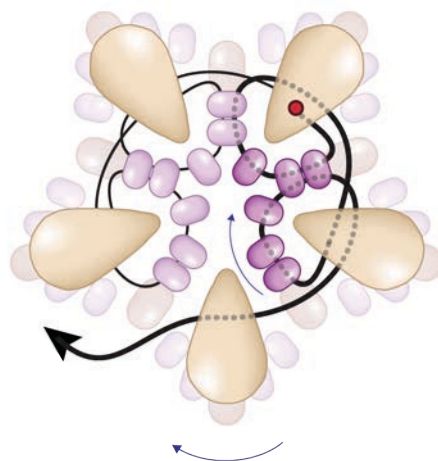


Figure 8
Top View

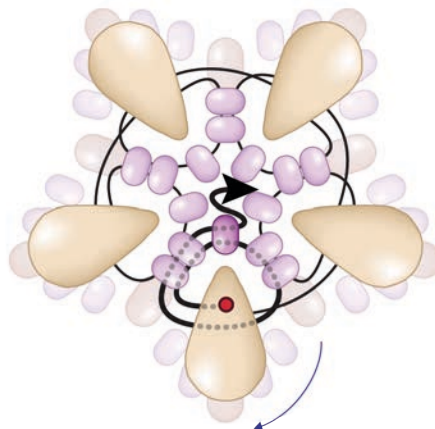


Figure 9
Top View

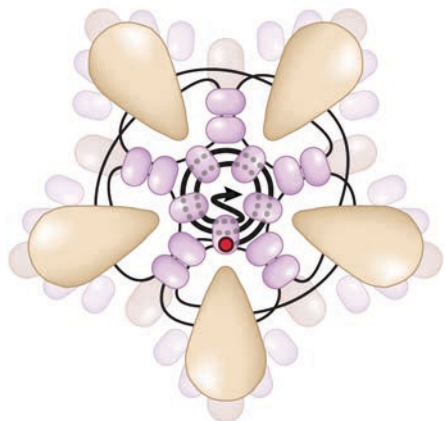
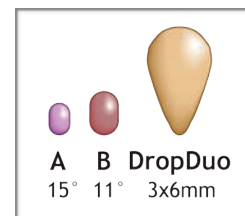


Figure 10
Top View



Photo 10A
Side View



Photo 10B
Top View

Step 10: Pass through all five A on the ceiling, and pass through them all **again** to secure the top of the bell.

Step 11: Pick up **1B** and pass through the A on the other side of the ceiling so that the B sits on top of the bell. Pass *back* through the B, and pass through the next 3A.

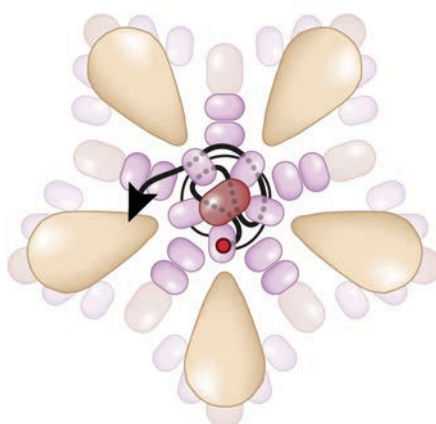


Figure 11
Top View



Photo 11
Top View



Step 12: To add the large teardrop to the component, first pass through the B at the tip of the bell. Pass your needle through the center of the top with its point towards the bottom so that your working thread is coming out of the middle of the bell. Pick up a **6x9mm drop bead**, pass through the center of the top of the bells, and pass through the B at the tip of the bell again. Trim and secure your threads.

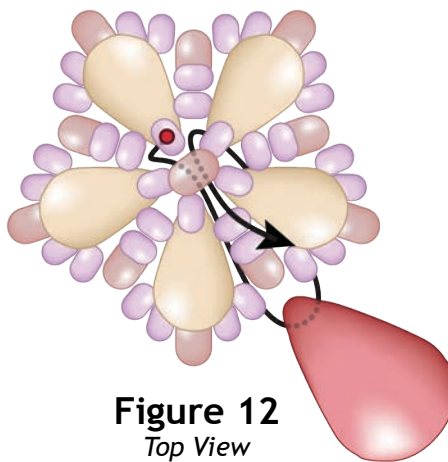


Figure 12
Top View

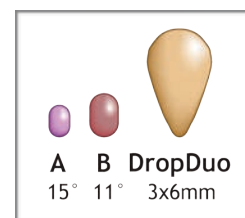


Figure 12B
Side View



Figure 12A
Side View

Repeat Steps 1-12 to stitch a total of **six bells**; for the bells that will sit at the bottoms of your earrings, start with an extra 4" of thread, and do not trim and secure your working thread after finishing the component.

Step 13: You'll use a modification of RAW to join the components together. Start with your bottom bell and use **loose tension** as you stitch these connection beads; this will help your bells to dangle freely on the earrings. With your thread exiting the B at the top of the bell, pick up **4A**. Pass through the B at the tip of the bell again, and continue through the next A on your loop. Pick up **1A**, pass through the next A, pick up **1B**, pass through the next A, pick up **1A**, and pass through the next A. Pass through the unit to exit the B that you added at the beginning of this step.

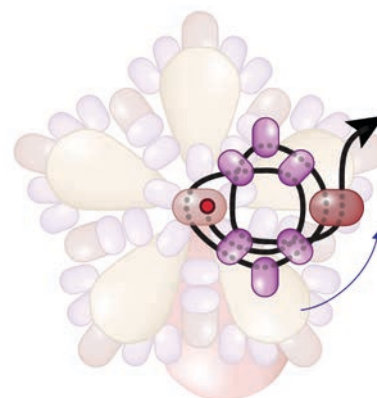


Figure 13
Top View



Step 14: Pick up **4A**. Pass through the B again, and continue through the next A on your loop. Pick up **1A** and pass through the next A. On the next component, pass through the B at the tip of the bell. Pass through the next A, pick up **1A**, and pass through the next A. Pass through the unit to exit the B at the tip of the next bell.

Repeat Steps 13-14 again to add the third bell.

Step 15: To add the bail for the earring, pick up **7A**. Pass through the B at the tip of the third bell, and pass through all the beads in this step again to secure. Secure and trim your thread.

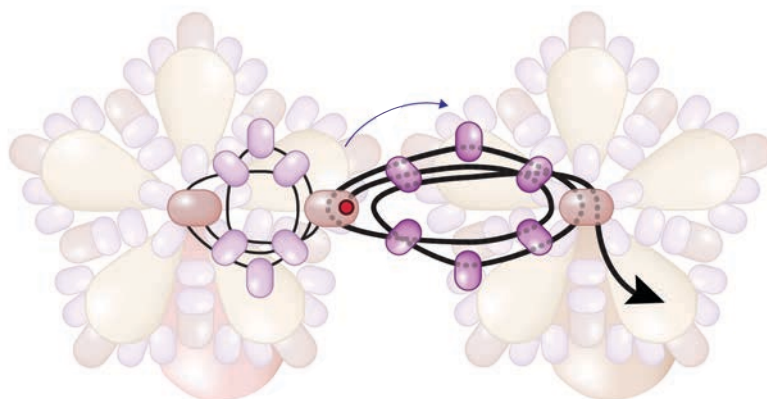
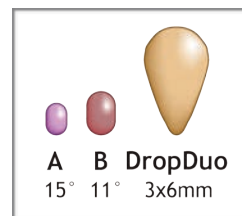


Figure 14
Top View



Figure 15
Top View



Figure 15A
Side View

Repeat Steps 13-15 for the other earring.



Photo 15B
Top View



Step 16: Attach an ear wire to the bail of the earring. Repeat for the other earring. Your Bells Earrings are done!

Try stitching these earrings with just one color of teardrop beads for a more unified look.



Finished Earrings





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A single pair of Bells make a petite variation on this design.

Alternatively, try stitching these earrings with even more bells for an even longer length.

Contact Information

For questions or comments,
please e-mail beadorigami@gmail.com



Thanks again for reading this pattern! Creating beading projects and teaching them to people like you is how I make my living. To purchase patterns and kits for many of my designs, please visit my website at www.beadorigami.com. Your support enables me to pursue the craft of beadwork and continue to write patterns such as this one.

If you're interested in more beading designs like these, please consider signing up for my mailing list at www.beadorigami.com/contact.html - Mailing list subscribers receive monthly updates on the latest and greatest Bead Origami patterns, kits, and workshops, as well as exclusive discount codes!