## O-Ring Earrings



## Supplies:

2 Earwires<br>2 12mm Rubber 0-rings<br>25 mm Rubber 0-rings<br>$16-184 \mathrm{~mm}$ accent beads or size 6 beads<br>2 g size 11 beads in 2 colors (can also use delicas)<br>2 g size 8 seed beads<br>Nymo B or C-lon A<br>Wax<br>Size 12 Needle<br>Lighter<br>Bead Mat

## Instructions:

1. Wax a 2 yard length of thread. Bring the needle to the center of the thread and holding the two tails together, tie an overhand knot at the end of the thread. Trim the tails close to the knot and melt with the lighter.
2. Tuck the knot end through the center of the large 0 ring. Split the two threads and bring the needle between them. Pull the thread so that the knot is sitting snug against the outside of the 0 ring.

3. Row 1: Pick up 2 size 11 seed beads. Holding the beads to the outside of the ring, pass the needle through the center of the ring and back up the $2^{\text {nd }}$ beads strung. The beads should sit on the outside of the ring with the holes oriented vertically.

4. Pick up 1 size 11. Hold the beads to the outside of the ring. Pass the needle under the ring and back up through the bead just strung. Continue adding beads in this manner until you reach the first bead strung. There are approximately 20 beads in this row.
5. Once you have made it around the ring, you will need to join the first and last bead. With your thread exiting the top of the last bead added, you will pass down through the first bead added, heading toward the back of the ring. Pass
the needle through the ring and back up the first bead added. You are now in position to start the next row.

6. Row 2: Pick up 2 size 8 seed beads. Hold the beads to the outside of the ring, and pass the needle under the thread bridge between 2 beads. It is easiest to pass the needle from back to front. Then bring the needle up through the second bead strung.

7. Pick up 1 size 8 bead. Pass the needle under the next thread bridge on the ring and back up the bead just strung.

8. Continue around adding size 8 beads. You may need to skip a thread bridge every once in a while if the beads start getting crowded. You want the piece to lay flat, not ruffle or cup.
9. At the end of the row you will need to join the first and last beads in the same manner as before. Pass the needle under the thread bridge between the first and last beads, then back up the first bead strung in this row.

10. Row 3: Repeat steps 6-9 using size 11 beads in the contrasting color. On this row you will need to increase a few times. When the gap between the thread bridges seems to wide, add a second bead to the current thread bridge. This is not an exact science, you just need to eyeball it. If the beads look too far apart, add a second bead to the thread bridge you just used. If you do not do this, your earrings will cup.
11. When you reach the end of the row, join the first and last beads together as before.
12. Row 4: The final row is a partial row. Pass the thread down in to the $2^{\text {nd }}$ row and weave up and down through a few 8's. Bring the needle so that it is exiting an 11 on the outside edge.
13. Pick up 1 accent bead and 1 size 11 bead. Pass the needle back down through the accent bead and through the next 11 in the ring, heading towards the center.

14. Bring the needle through the next bead in the ring, heading back towards the outside of the ring. Repeat steps 13-14 until you have added 7 or 8 accent beads.
15. Find the center point of your accent beads. Work your needle so that it is exiting a size 11 bead, heading to the outside of the ring, directly opposite your center accent bead.
16. Pick up 1 accent bead and the smaller O-ring. Pass back through the accent bead and down through the next 11 on the ring. Repeat this thread path 1-2 more times.
17. Weave your thread through a few beads tying half hitches as you go. Pass through a few more beads, then trim the thread.
18. Add the earwire, then make another earring.

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