



Twin spins

Working two-holed Twin beads into basic circles can offer a new spin on a classic beaded-bead design. Flipping up a Twin can turn your bead into an earring or pendant, while stacking layers of Twins can give bracelet sliders an extra bit of dimension.

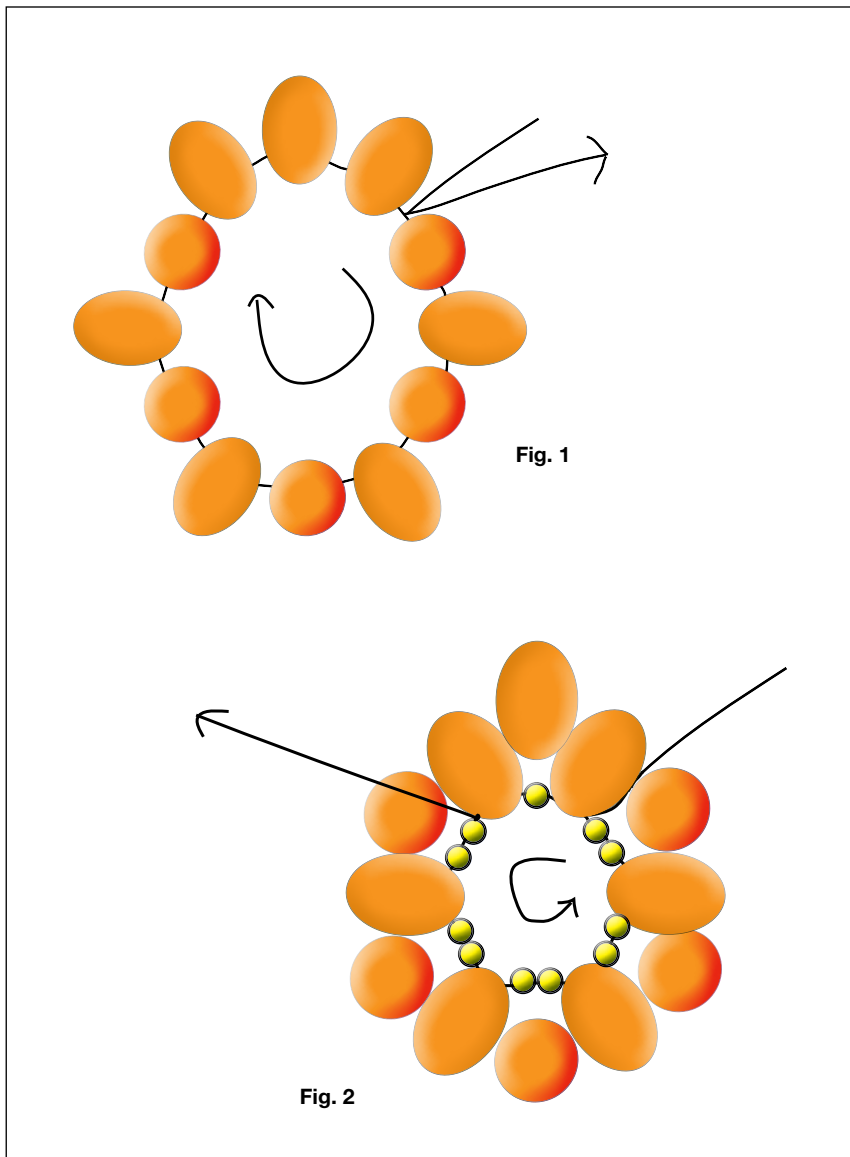


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Pendant

1. Thread a needle on one end of an 8-in. (20cm) piece of conditioned thread (Basics, p. 104). Pick up two Twin beads and an alternating pattern of five 4mm bicones and five Twin beads. Tighten the beads into a circle and tie an overhand knot (**fig. 1**).

2. Flip all the Twins so they are pointing to the center of the circle, except the middle Twin in the set of three. Bring the thread through the inner hole of the Twin closest to the knot. Pick up a Charlotte and the inner hole of the next Twin. Continue to pick up

two Charlottes between each subsequent twin until you complete the circle. Sew through the inner circle again to snug up the beads. Tie an overhand knot (Basics, p. 104). Trim the thread (**fig. 2**).

3. Attach a 7mm 24-gauge jump ring to a fine chain or bead strand. For earrings, make two pendants and attach them to 1-in. (3.5cm) chains with 24-gauge jump rings, then attach the dangle to earring wires.

Supplies

Pendant (or one earring)

- 5 4mm bicone crystals
- 7 Twin (or SuperDuo) beads
- 11 13° Charlotte seed beads
- beading thread
- #10–12 beading needle
- thread conditioner
- scissors

Bracelet (two short sliders and one tall)

- 24 4mm fire-polished round beads
- 32 Twin (or SuperDuo) beads
- 6 12mm twisted bugle beads
- 1g 13° Charlottes
- 7–8 in. (18–20cm) of ½-in. (1.3cm) leather
- magnetic clasp
- beading thread
- #10–12 beading needle
- thread conditioner
- two-part epoxy
- scissors

Color Guide

Bracelet

Twin beads: turquoise

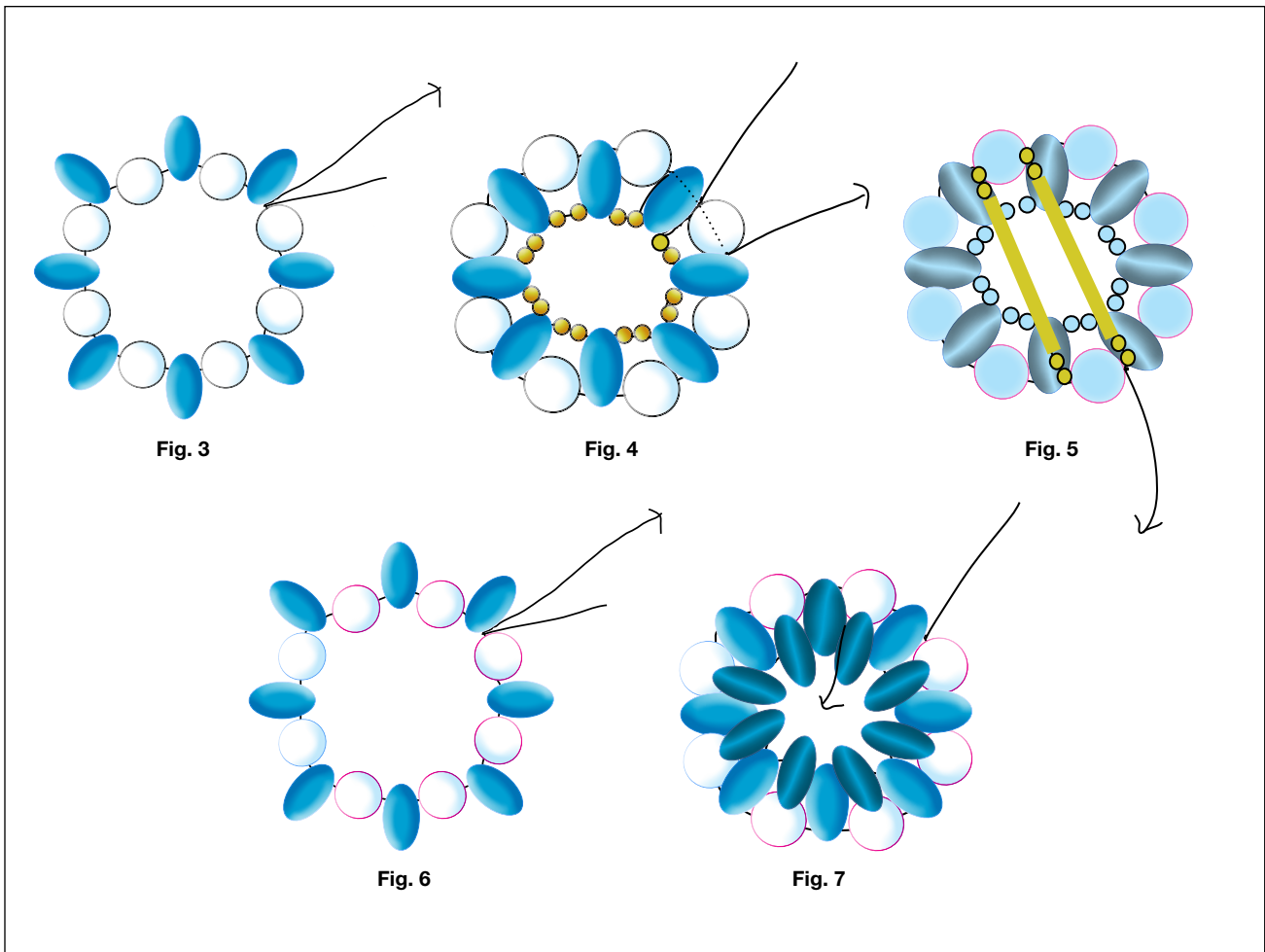
fire-polished rounds:

opaque white

Necklace and earrings

crystals: fire opal AB

Twin beads: yellow-orange pearls



TIP

Replacing a bicone with another flipped Twin bead will turn a pendant into a link.



Bracelet

Short slider

1. Cut a 12-in. (30cm) piece of thread. Condition the thread and thread a needle at one end. Working clockwise, pick up an alternating pattern of eight 4mm fire-polished beads and eight Twin beads. Tighten the beads into a circle and tie an overhand knot (Basics, p. 104) (fig. 3).

2. Flip the Twins so they are pointing toward the center of the circle. Working counterclockwise, sew through the inner hole of the twin closest to the knot. Pick up two Charlottes, and then sew through the inner hole of the next twin. Continue to pick up two Charlottes between each Twin

until you complete the circle. Sew through the inner circle again to snug up the beads. Bring the thread back to the outer hole on the left side of the nearest twin. Sew back through the twin and the adjacent 4mm round (fig. 4).

3. Pick up two Charlottes, a bugle bead, and two Charlottes. Bring the beads across the back of the beaded unit and through the opposite 4mm bead. Pick up two Charlottes a bugle bead, and two Charlottes, and sew through the original 4mm. Sew through all the beads in this step again, and tie an overhand knot next to the last 4mm. Trim the thread (fig. 5).

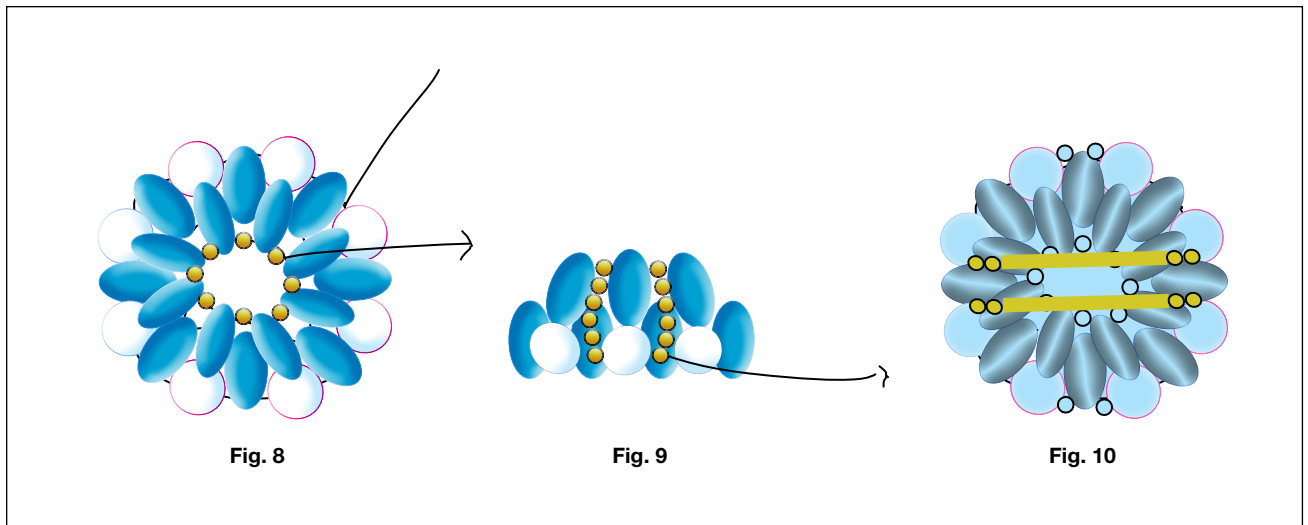


Fig. 8

Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Tall slider

1. Thread a needle on one end of a 12-in. (30cm) piece of conditioned thread. Working clockwise, pick up an alternating pattern of eight 4mm fire-polished beads and eight Twin beads. Tighten the beads into a circle and tie an overhand knot (Basics, p. 104) (fig. 6).

2. Flip the Twins so they are pointing toward the center of the circle. Working counterclockwise, sew through the inner hole of the Twin closest to the knot. Pick up a new Twin and sew through the inner hole of the next Twin in the circle. Continue to pick up new Twins between each already-string Twin until you complete a new circle. Sew through the circle again to snug up the beads (fig. 7).

3. Flip the new Twins so they are pointing toward the center of the circle. Working clockwise, bring the thread through the inner hole of the closest inner Twin. Pick up two Charlottes and the inner hole of the next Twin. Continue to add two Charlottes between each Twin until you complete the circle. Sew through the inner circle again to snug up the beads (fig. 8).

4. With the thread exiting a Charlotte, pick up enough new Charlottes (seven or eight) to reach the hole of the 4mm round beneath the original Charlotte in the circle. Sew through the round, string seven or eight new Charlottes, and string the next Charlotte in the inner ring. Bring the thread to the opposite side of the inner circle, and repeat (fig. 9).

5. Follow step 4 of the short slider to add the bugle beads. Make sure they are perpendicular to the accents added in step 4 of the tall slider (fig. 10).

Assembly

Cut the piece of leather ½ in. (1.3cm) shorter than the finished length (to allow for the clasp). Center the sliders over the leather in the desired order, making sure the bugle beads are against the inside of the leather. Mix two-part epoxy according to the package directions, and attach half of the clasp to each side of the leather. Allow the epoxy to dry (photo).



TIP

Since bits of thread will be visible when you step up (or in) to the next ring, choose clear Fireline or a color that will blend into your Twins.

... The color possibilities are endless!



Princess charming

I had some fun creating pendant charms in simple color combinations to represent eight favorite Disney princesses. These palettes are pretty obvious, but with a bit of imagination, you could create charms to represent any number of fictional and real-life heroines. Check out my Facebook page (www.facebook.com/BeadingInsider) for the royal color combos.