

Silver Comet

Flat right-angle weave earrings.

LESLIE ROGALSKI, EDITOR IN CHIEF

Photo by Jim Lawson.

These dramatic earrings are actually just 90° turns of basic flat RAW; they hang askew on the ear wire like zigzags of the night sky!



WHAT YOU NEED

For 1³/₄" earrings:

- 32 Swarovski Jet 4mm bicones
- 9 Swarovski Comet Argent light 4mm bicones
- 2 closed 3mm silver jump rings
- FireLine 6lb fishing line
- #12 beading needle
- 1 pair silver ear wires
- Scissors

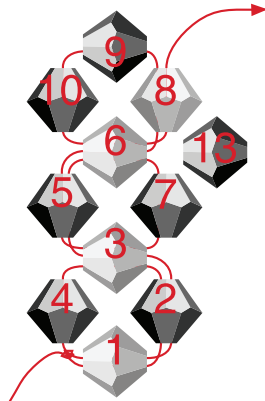
ARTIST'S TIP

Right-angle weave is always worked in a circular motion, changing from clockwise to counterclockwise with each round. Each round includes 4 beads but will share beads with the previous round: You actually pick up 3 new beads, not 4, with each round in this project. Notice in Steps 3 and 5 when the color turns the corners to keep the mirror stripe of Comet Argent light in the middle of your zigzag!

1 Thread your needle on a 4' length of FireLine. String 4 crystals, leaving a 6" tail: 1 light, 1 Jet, 1 light, 1 Jet. Tie a knot with your working thread and tail, forming a snug circle of bicones (beads 1-4).

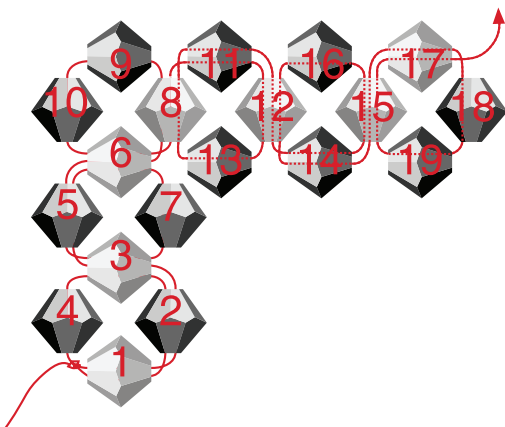
2 Working counterclockwise around this circle, pass through beads 1, 2, and 3. Pick up 1 Jet, 1 light, and 1 Jet (beads 5, 6, and 7) and pass clockwise through beads 3, 5, and 6.

3 Pick up 1 light and 2 Jet (beads 8, 9, and 10) so your colors turn the corner, and pass counterclockwise through beads 6 and 8.



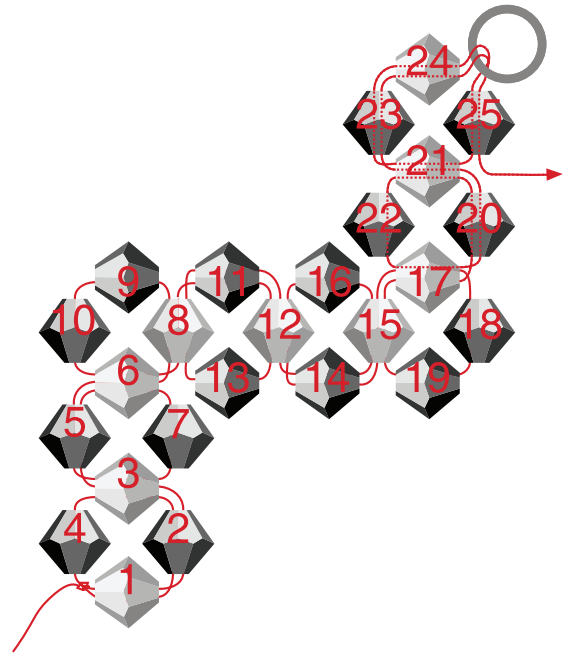
4 Here's your first 90° turn, where you start working the second leg of your zigzag: Pick up 1 Jet, 1 light, and 1 Jet (beads 11, 12, and 13) and pass clockwise through beads 8, 11, and 12. Pick up 1 Jet, 1 light, and 1 Jet (beads 14, 15, and 16) and pass counterclockwise through beads 12, 14, and 15.

5 Here's another corner turn for color: Pick up 1 light and 2 Jet (beads 17, 18, and 19). Pass clockwise through beads 15 and 17. You're now ready to start working your third leg of the zigzag.



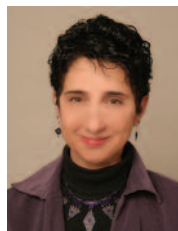
6 Pick up 1 Jet, 1 light, and 1 Jet (beads 20, 21, and 22). Pass counterclockwise through beads 17, 20, and 21.

7 In this last round, you attach the closed jump ring for your ear wire. Pick up 1 Jet, 1 light, 1 jump ring, and 1 Jet. Pass twice clockwise through beads 21, 23, 24, the jump ring, and 25. Knot the thread discretely but securely between beads 25 and 21 and weave the end through existing thread paths, in a circular motion. Trim carefully.



8 Gently twist open the loop of one ear wire, string on the jump ring and earring, and close the ear-wire loop. Repeat for your second earring.

RESOURCES: Check your local bead store.



LESLIE ROGALSKI is editor in chief of *Step by Step Beads*, and a contributing editor to *Step by Step Wire Jewelry* and *Creative Jewelry*. She has been an artist and writer (among other things) all her life.

