

## Combs & Tiaras



Full Moon

Tanzanite and Violet crystals,  
sterling silver and  
freshwater pearls.

Cotton Candy

Fuchsia, Rose, Light Rose, AB  
crystals, marcasite and  
sterling silver.

Autumn Leaves

Indian Red and Shadow crystals,  
sterling silver and  
freshwater pearls.

Skill Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Project Time: 2-4 hours

Crown your favorite hairstyles with jewels that sparkle in sun or moonlight. Adorn your wedding party. Dress up like a fairy and attend a magical masquerade. With a few simple concepts you can create hair combs and tiaras. The beauty of how they are constructed is that each piece is playful and unique.

## Combs & Tiaras

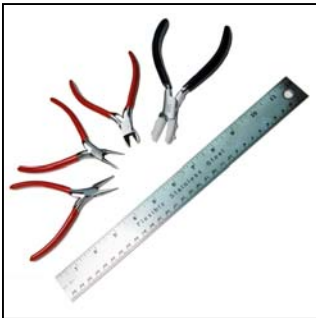
Hi! I'm BettyBead.™ I will be your guide throughout this project. Using the ingredients below you can make two combs or one tiara. The placement of the beads in both designs is spontaneous. You choose when to include floating beads or rhinestones, how to mix the various shapes and sizes of the beads and how to wear your sparkling jewels.

Good luck! Don't hesitate to contact me with your questions and comments. I can be reached by email: [info@beadshop.com](mailto:info@beadshop.com).

Happy Beading!



### Ingredients for a Pair of Combs or One Tiara



#### TOOLS NEEDED

- Needle-nose chain pliers
- Round-nose or rosary pliers
- Ruler
- Wire cutters
- Wire straightener

#### STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDE

##### Part 1—A Pair of Combs or One Tiara

- 23 Easy steps to making a pair of combs or a tiara

##### Part 2—Adding Height and Playfulness

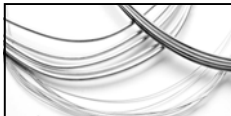
- Crowning Your Comb with Beads
- Crowning Your Comb with Rhinestones
- Adding and Finishing-Off Your Wire



- 1 Pair of 10 to 18-pronged silver tone combs or
- 1 Tiara



Assortment of crystals in all sizes, shapes in your favorite color palette.



48" Of sterling silver round wire, 28- or 30-gauge.



- 1 Hypo-tube cement for floating rhinestones.



Assortment of rhinestones in your favorite color palette for floating rhinestone variation.

## Getting Started



Each comb is unique in its placement of beads.



The tiara uses the same principles.



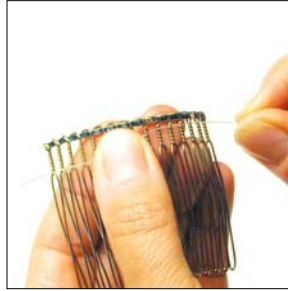
We will be working on one comb at a time. When you have finished the first comb, come back to Step 1 to make the second. If you decide to make one tiara instead, the principles are the same. One tiara has two comb's worth of materials.



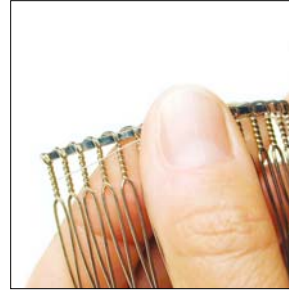
**Step 1**  
Begin by cutting your 28- or 30-gauge wire into 24" lengths. Use a wire straightener to smooth out wire tangles.



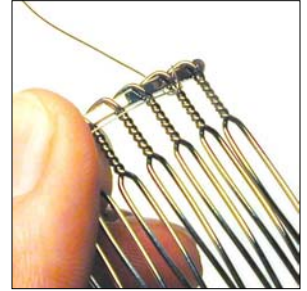
**Step 2**  
Study your comb. One side is bowed like a mountain. The other like a valley. All the beads must rest on the mountain, or front side of the comb.



**Step 3**  
Hold one end of the wire on the edge, or spine of the comb.



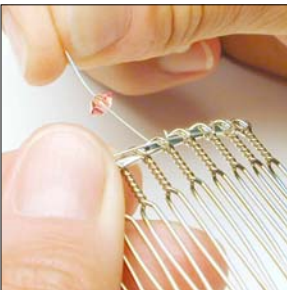
**Step 4**  
Adjust the wire's end so it does not extend beyond the comb's width.



**Step 5**  
Take the longer end of the wire and wrap it between the first five prongs and around the spine of the comb.



**Note** that you have also fixed the short wire to the comb's spine.



**Step 6**  
Slip a bead onto the long wire.



**Step 7**  
Begin wrapping the long wire with a bead around the comb's spine and between the prongs.



**Step 8**  
Check to make sure the bead rests on the front of the comb.



**Step 9**  
Repeat steps 6-8, alternating bead sizes and colors as needed to create a comfortable fit.



**Step 10**  
Fill the beads in evenly, until the twisted parts of the comb's prongs are no longer showing. You may have to backtrack.

## Adding Height and Playfulness



This finished comb has beads floating above it.



This finished comb has rhinestones floating above it.

## Crowning Your Comb With Beads



### **Step 11**

Choose the position above which you would like to float a bead.

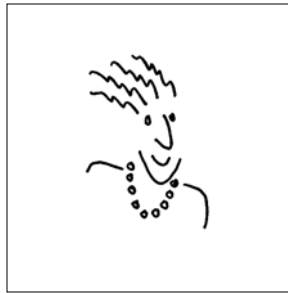


### **Step 12**

After slipping a bead on the wire, hold it at least 1/4" away from the spine of the comb.

### **Helpful Hint**

For a spontaneous effect, vary the distance of the floating beads.



### **Helpful Hint**

While holding the bead, take the wire end and secure it to the comb. One way to do this is to "sew" it into the beads or prongs.



### **Step 13**

Twist the floating bead on its wire stem. Pay attention to the tension of the twist. If you twist too much, it will break off.



### **Step 14**

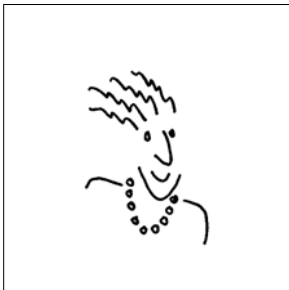
Continue wrapping more beads onto the comb. Insert the floating beads where you like.

## Crowning Your Comb With Rhinestones



### **Step 15**

- Choose the position above which you would like to float a rhinestone.
- Use the end of your round-nose pliers to grab the wire at this position.



### **Helpful Hint**

While holding the wire with the round-nose pliers, take the wire end and secure it into the comb.



### **Step 16**

Twist the wire into a stem. Allow a round loop to form around the tip of the rosary pliers.



### **Step 17**

Once you have finished the comb or tiara, apply the hypo-cement onto the loop.



### **Step 18**

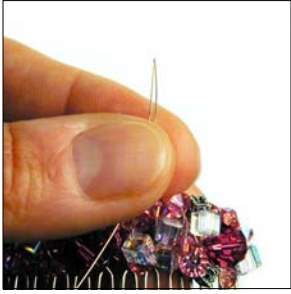
Set the rhinestone into the loop with glue.

### **Helpful Hint**

Glue all the rhinestones at once. Allow 1 hour for the glue to completely dry.



## Adding and Finishing-Off Your Wire



### Step 19

To lengthen the wire that you are using, lay it side-by-side with a new piece of wire.



### Step 20

- Pinch both of the wire ends together.
- Twist wires together a full five turns.



### Step 21

Hide the twist in the beads.



Can't see the twist in the photo? That's because we hid it so well!



### Step 22

Make sure the twist's sharp ends do not stick out.



Can't see that either! Which is as it should be.



### Step 23

Continue beading with your new wire until you've filled in the comb.

Now you are ready to make your second comb. See you at Step 1!



We hope you enjoyed this project! Send your comments and suggestions to: [info@beadshop.com](mailto:info@beadshop.com)