

## Beadshop LIVE: 5.1.19

# Brick Stitch Earrings



With Kate Richbourg on Beadshop LIVE  
Project by Linnea Lortsher and Kate Richbourg  
Photography by Baranduin Briggs  
and Karen Marshall  
Episode Notes by Drea Carbone

Years ago, Beadshop employee and designer Linnea came up with a series of brick stitch earrings we called "The Dancer," with a variety of colors in the same style.

Lately, we've seen a resurgence in the style thanks to Beadshop Design Team member Danielle Wickes, creating bigger and bolder styles. Taking her cue from Linnea and Danielle, our very own Kate Richbourg has concocted a new update to the classic design...and they are absolutely stunning. Meet Mambo!

The chit chat is short...

Skip to **Minute Marker 5:45** for the design discussion,  
and **Minute Marker 31:00** to get right to the learning.

### **Minute Marker 5:45**

Kate goes over our original design and Danielle's updates to them. We'll be working with [Danielle's instructions](#) today, titled "Stitched Tassel Earrings, Tutorial" in the [Files](#) of our Private FB Group, [The Bead Table](#). I'll also post them right here in Episode Notes, as well, find them at the end of these Notes for easy reference.

### **Minute Marker 19:45**

Here are Kate's alternate color ways for today's earrings...pick a [KO](#) or [Hana Thread](#), [Earwires](#), and [Wire Guardians](#) to match to your liking.



#### **Copper Turquoise**

[3mm Melons- Pacifica Poppyseed](#)  
[2mm Hematite- Matte Copper](#)  
[8-1017 S/L Emerald AB](#)  
[11-4481 Duracoat Opaque Eucalyptus](#)  
[Copper-Turquoise Briolettes](#)  
[Medium Hoops- Antique Copper](#)  
[Mini Hoops- Antique Copper](#)

#### **Citrine**

[3mm Melons- Luster Transparent Gold/ Smokey Topaz](#)  
[2mm Hematite- Matte Metallic Blue](#)  
[8-2006 Matte Metallic Gold](#)  
[11-4204 Duracoat Galvanized Champagne](#)  
[Citrine Briolettes](#)  
[Medium Hoops- Antique Gold](#)  
[Mini Hoops- Antique Gold](#)

#### **Pyrite**

[3mm Fire Polish- Black Diamond](#)  
[2mm Hematite- Silver](#)  
[8-4221 Duracoat Galvanized Lt Smoky Pewter](#)  
[11-650 Dyed Grey S/L Alabaster](#)  
[Pyrite Briolettes](#)  
[Medium Hoops- Antique Silver](#)  
[Mini Hoops- Antique Silver](#)

#### **Iolite**

[3mm Fire Polish- Polychrome Aqua Teal](#)  
[2mm Hematite- Metallic Iris](#)  
[8-460 Metallic Dark Raspberry](#)  
[11-2075 Matte Opaque Cobalt Luster](#)  
[Iolite Briolettes](#)  
[Medium Hoops- Antique Copper](#)  
[Mini Hoops- Antique Copper](#)

## **Minute Marker 31:00**

Kate's ready to Brick Stitch! We have several videos to help you learn Brick Stitch:

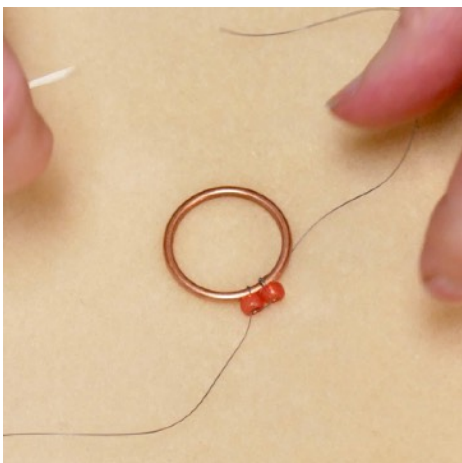
[Linnea's Original The Dancer Earrings](#)

[Brick Stitch Bracelets with Emily and Grace](#)

[Lantern Earrings with Emily and Kate](#)

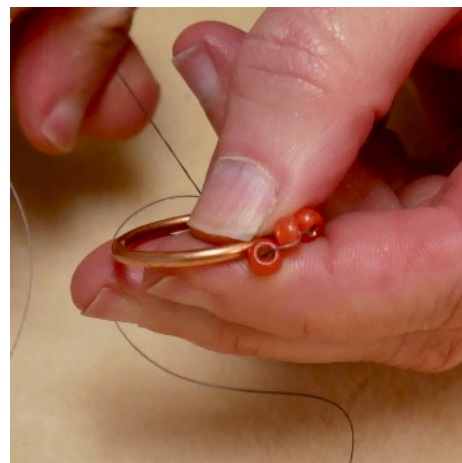
[Heart on my Sleeve with Emily and Kate](#)

Kate's using brightly colored 6/0s for demonstration purposes. With an arm's length of waxed thread strung onto a Size 10 Needle (Kate is using Sharps, but you can use Beading Needles), Kate's ready to begin. She ties the tail end of her thread in a full square knot (double knot) around her hoop component. Next, she picks up two beads, brings her thread around her hoop component, through the hoop (back to front), and up through her second bead. Next, go down through the first bead, again with the thread going behind the hoop component...bring your needle through the hoop (back to front) and back up through your second bead. With the beads now reinforced, side by side on the outer edge of the hoop and held in place, and your thread coming out of the top of your second bead, you're ready to continue.



## **Minute Marker 36:30**

Pick up a new bead. Again, go around your hoop component front-to-back, and back up through the third bead. Pick up a new bead...lather, rinse, repeat! Continue around the entire hoop back to the first bead.





### **Minute Marker 43:00**

Now that you've beaded all the way around, adjust your beads a bit so they wrap evenly around the hoop. You can take your original tail and bury into your beadwork a bit, and leave it to weave in further when you have more beadwork completed. Either clip that tail or use a thread burner to remove it. Ready for the second row? Let's go!

Pick up two beads. This time, instead of going around the hoop component you will be bringing your thread around the little thread "bridges" between the beads on your first row. Reinforce your first two beads, then pick up single beads and continue to stitch your way around the component.



Since the second row of beads are a smaller size, you'll need to choose which thread bridge to use to anchor your stitches in space. You want these smaller beads to sit side-by-side, so don't worry if you're using the same thread bridge for more than one bead...you are supposed to! Use your best judgement. If you're stitching only one bead to each three bridge you will have large gaps—you don't want that.

### **Minute Marker 55:00**

Kate's now switching to her actual earring sample now to show us our next steps. With this second row, we have beaded *almost* all the way around. We are leaving this small space so we can attach a wire guardian, stitch up through it as if it's a bead, and back down into the neighboring bead. Reinforce the wire guard with several passes of thread.





### **Minute Marker 1:01:30**

Kate's ready for her third row of beads. She's alternating 3mm Fire Polish and 11/0s...so she picks up one of each—remember, you start each new row of Brick Stitch with two beads, and then one single bead each time after. Again, use the thread bridges to attach, choosing whichever bridge makes the most sense to secure your third row's beads. You'll see Kate makes a mistake here—she forgot to go back up through a bead before adding the next bead. Easy to fix! Just back out of the beads, and redo so that your thread is coming out of the top of the last bead before adding the next.

Continue to alternate your beads until you are nearly halfway around your hoop.

### **Minute Marker 1:08:30**

At the very bottom of the hoop you want a series of 5 beads that are ONLY 11/0s, and then you can continue to bead the rest of the way up with your alternating pattern again. These five beads will later connect to your second component, the smaller Brick-Stitched-hoop. If you don't want the second hoop below, and you just want this single hoop earring, skip this part, and just continue to alternate your 3mms and 11/0s the rest of the way around.

### **Minute Marker 1:01:30**

We need to add thread! Like you've see us do so many times, bury your tail well into your bead work and snip or thread burn. To begin a new thread, start by burying it into the beadwork and just ensure that the new thread is coming out of the proper bead necessary to continue your stitching. All done! It's no big deal, it's easy, *we promise*.



### **Minute Marker 1:12:30**

Kate briefly explains how she'll connect the two beaded components, but we'll get to that a bit later. For the purposes of the show, we're going to skip ahead to show you how to stitch a row of beads on the interior of the hoop...fun!

With a new thread and 2mm Hematite Cut Cubes Kate creates an interior row of Brick Stitch. Again, Kate ties a secure double knot around the hoop component itself, then picks up two beads to begin her stitching. Ignore all the beadwork you have created on the exterior of your hoop, and bring your needle around the hoop itself, finding spots between your established outer beadwork. Keep in mind that since we're now working inside your thread will be coming out of the "bottom" of your beads before adding your next bead. Bead entirely around the inner hoop, closing the row. Later in the video Kate shows how to add a briolette here...I'm going to skip ahead in these Notes so you can see it now...so, fast forward!

### **Minute Marker 1:55:30**

Add the briolette! Once your inner row is completed, weave your thread through to a bead just off-center from the top of your hoop (below the wire guardian). Add an 11/0, a briolette, and another 11/0 and weave back up into a bead just off-center on the other side...weave a bit to come back out and through the 11/0s and briolette again just to make sure they're secure...then you can weave your thread into your beadwork and finish it off. You want this positioned so the tip of your briolette points directly up at the wire guard.





### **Minute Marker 1:24:30**

OK, rewind again...let's add the smaller hoop to the larger. Just as we did with the Medium Sized hoop, Kate creates two rows of Brick Stitch beadwork, the first with 8/0s, the second with 8/0s. She begins a third row of alternating 2mm Hematite Cut Cubes and 11/0s, and it's this row that will be attached to the five-in-a-row 11/0s at the bottom of the larger component. Her needle is coming up out of a bead in Row Two of the Small Hoop, she adds an 11/0 and then goes up through the right-most 11/0 of the five-in-a-row at the bottom of the Big Hoop.

Next, she goes over to the next bead, goes down, picks up a Hematite Cube, and down through the next bead of the smaller hoop.

Up through the neighboring bead, add an 11/0, up through the next bead on the big hoop...and so on until this is almost "zippered" together. Weave through these beads again to secure and reinforce the connection.

Weave your thread through your beadwork so it can come out again through the top of the next bead on your smaller hoop, so you'll now be able to continue to Brick Stitch as usual with your alternating beads around the rest of the hoop.



### **Minute Marker 1:24:30**

Let's embellish the bottom of the smaller hoop! Kate adds a partial fourth row of Brick Stitch, echoing the design element of alternating 3mms and 11/0s. Once she has 5 beads stitched she strings on two 11/0s, the Briolette, and two more 11/0s and secures the other end under a thread bridge, continuing to Brick Stitch another five beads after. Check your tension and beads to make sure this hangs nicely...you may need to redo and try a few times, just like Kate does!! It's trial and error.







Attach an [earwire](#) to your wire guard and you are done!! Keep in mind, you can switch up the embellishments on these so easily...anything from adding [Tassels](#) instead of [Briolettes](#). In a spot on [Instagram TV](#) over the weekend Kate also showed how you can easily use other components instead for the rings to create a Brick Stitch Earring design...she used [I Ching coins](#)! You can watch the episode [here on YouTube](#) and the ingredients are listed alongside the ingredients for the Mambo Earrings a few pages down in these Notes, we're calling the the Dragon Dance earrings, after the traditional Chinese Dragon Dance...we'll also have this project posted on our [The Dancer Earrings project page](#).

Now, we know these I Ching Coins are scarce—they're vintage! And the hoop components are pretty popular as well...Kate created a list of other components you could try, too...take a peek! [Ashanti Saucers](#), [Jade Rings](#), and [Pi Discs](#) would be cool! Also, take a peek through our [Connectors](#)...plain rings, hammered rings, stylized



This episode was SO EPIC!! Be sure to tune check out Danielle's tutorial at the end of these notes for even more helpful info, and explore all the amazing work we've seen in our [private FB Group](#), too! As always, happy beading!!

Below, Kate tries on the finished earring...check out the rest of her dazzling jewelry, too:

[Kate's Favorite Tribal Journey Dusk Mix Bracelet](#)



Here's Bead Table Member Janice Kang's gorgeous scarf that Kate chatted about during the episode. Janice used a pattern by Alasdair Post-Quinn called "52 Pickup." So fun!

### **Links to Events and More...**

- Last Week's Episode: [Longing Necklace](#)
- [Beadshop LIVE Youtube Playlist](#)
- [Beadshop LIVE Archive Page](#)
- [Free Tip Friday YouTube Playlist](#)
- [FTF Archive Page](#)
- [The Journey Bead Retreat](#)

### **Links to Us...**

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[drea@beadshop.com](mailto:drea@beadshop.com)



## Links to This Project's Ingredients...

[The Dancer Earrings and Recipe](#)

### **Mambo**

- 1 Spool [Dark Purple- KO Thread](#)
- 1 Strand [Snake Fog 3mm Czech Fire Polish](#)
- 1 Strand [2mm Hematite Cut Cubes- Rose Gold](#)
- 1 Tube [8-641 Dyed Rose Bronze S/L Alabaster 8/0s](#)
- 1 Tube [11-142fr Matte Trans. Smoky Amethyst AB 11/0s](#)
- 1 Tube [11-4481 Duracoat Opaque Eucalyptus 11/0s](#)
- 4 [Green Amethyst Briolettes](#)
- 2 [Medium Hoops- Antique Copper](#)
- 2 [Mini Hoops- Antique Copper](#)
- 1 Pkg [Wire Guardians- Antique Copper](#)
- 1 Pair [Niobium Ear Wires- Antique Copper Finish](#)



### **Dragon Dance**

- 1 Spool [Hana Thread- Pebble](#)
- 1 Strand [Turquoise Moon Dust 3mm Czech Fire Polish](#)
- 1 Strand [3mm Melons- Pacifica Poppy Seed](#)
- 1 Strand [Little Shadows- Antique Brass](#)
- 1 Tube [11-4481 Duracoat Opaque Eucalyptus 11/0s](#)
- 2 [Ching Coins](#)
- 1 Pkg [Sahara Sands](#)
- 1 Ft [Simplicity Chain- Antique Brass](#)
- 1 Ft [Fancy Pants Chain- Antique Brass](#)
- 1 Pkg [1.5" Head Pins- Antique Brass](#)
- 1 Pair [Vintage Leverback Ear Wires- Antique Brass](#)



### **You will also want to have...**

Size 10 [Sharps](#) or [Beading Needles](#), [Beeswax](#), [Thread Clippers](#) or [Burner](#), [Foam Beading Mats](#), [Chain Nose Pliers](#), and [Bent Nose Pliers](#)



# Stitched Tassel Earrings

## Fun, Summer Earrings

### Tutorial by Danielle Wickes Jewelry



This pattern is offered for free by the designer, Danielle Wickes Jewelry. Please feel free to sell your handmade jewelry you make using this tutorial. Design credit to Danielle Wickes Jewelry is always appreciated but is not required. Please do not duplicate or sell this tutorial. Please share the link with friends.

Thank you!

### What you'll need:

13mm hoops, qty 2 (other hoop sizes will work, adjust bead counts)

Thread Protectors, qty 2

3 x 10mm Czech Pressed Glass Angel Wing or "arch" Beads, Qty 2

3mm beads (can be druk, fire polish, or any round bead), Qty 18 to 22

Strong Beading Thread, such as c-Lon, Hana, KO, fireline, etc...

Size 8/0 round seed beads

Color A size 11/0 seed beads

Color B size 11/0 seed beads

Tassel, handmade or bought. I've used 1 inch tassels with a jump ring.

Note: If you don't have the Czech Glass Angel Wings, you can use other focal beads in place of them. You'll have a different look and it would be awesome to play and see. Please share your ideas :)





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Step 1: Cut a length of thread about an arm's length. I like to run my thread through wax, not required, but I find it makes it easier when the thread is a little tacky. Tie the thread to the hoop with a double knot, leaving a 2 inch tail.

Begin brick stitch by adding two, size 8/0 seeds to your thread. go around the component from behind, then through, and come back up through the second bead added. Thread a second needle on the tail and bring it up through the first bead added.

Continue brick stitch around the hoop. Add one bead, then go around the hoop from behind, then through, and come back up through the bead. Repeat until you nearly reach the first bead added.

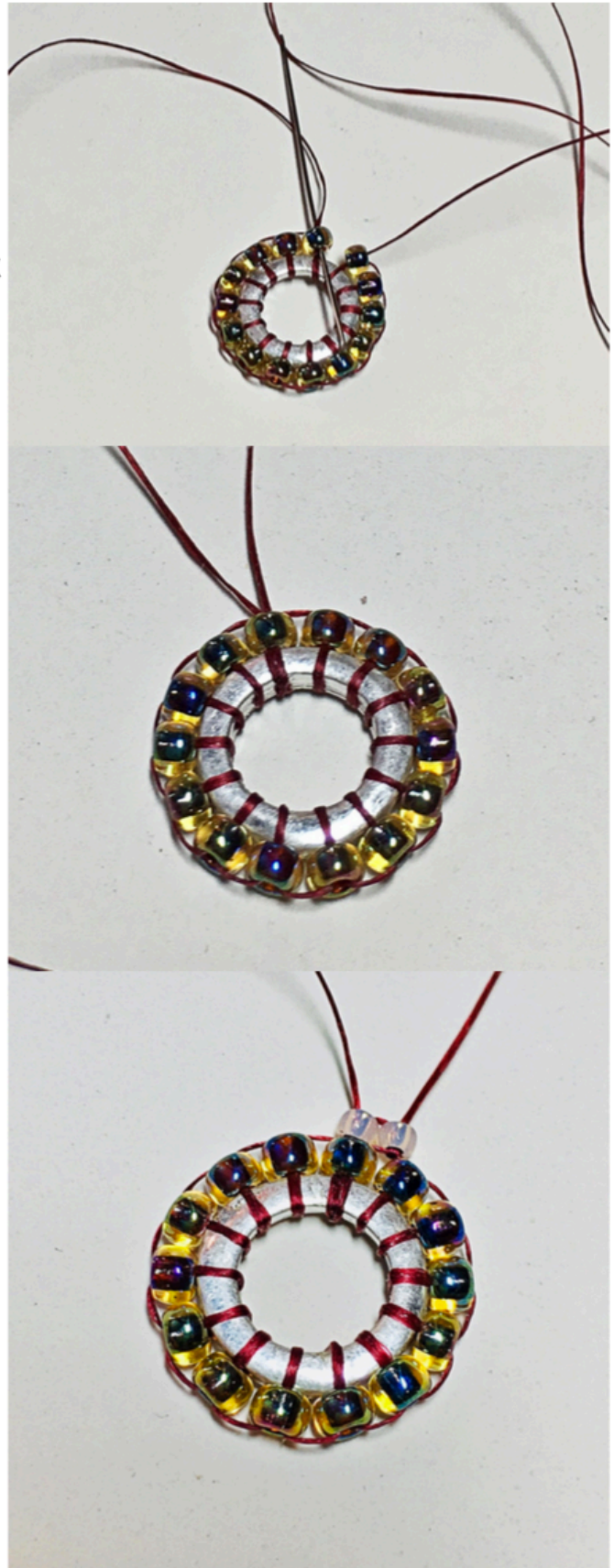




Connect your seed ring by bringing the working thread into the first bead that was added (the tail will be sticking out of it), going around the component, then stitching back up through the bead. At this point I like to tie a double knot with my working thread and tail thread.

Begin brick stitch of the second row: thread two, 11/0 seed beads and bring your needle under the first thread bridge. Come back up through the second bead added.

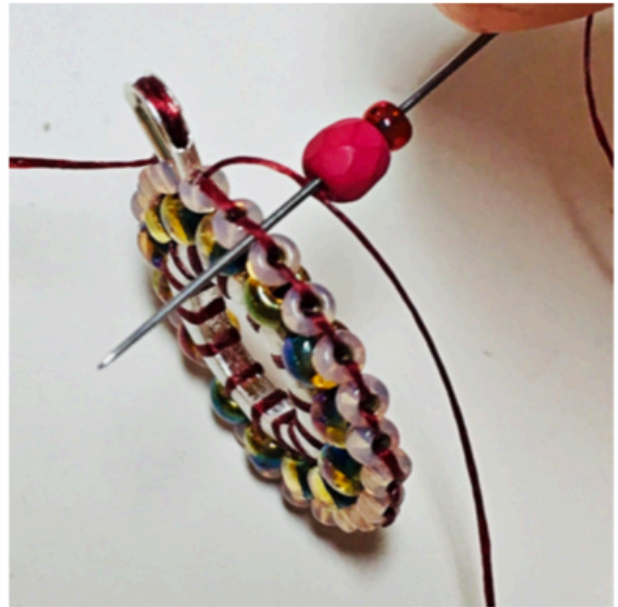
Again here I like to thread a second needle onto the tail and bring my tail up through the first bead added in this row.



Now the fun part! Add a color B. 11/0 seed and a 3mm bead. Go under the second thread bridge, and come back up through your 3mm bead. Add a Color B, 11/0 seed and come up under the next thread bridge.

*Feel free to improvise here; experiment with bead sizes and shapes- you cant go wrong. The trick is to meet in the center with a width of about three to five, 11/0 seed beads (that leaves room for the arch bead to snuggle up against the hoop).*

Continue with brick stitch, alternating your bead types until you nearly reach the center of the hoop. At that point, go with just the seeds. You'll notice on the cover that one of my sets has four, 3mm beads and five seeds centered, while this design has five, 3mm beads and three, 11/0 seeds centered. This is up to you and your design.





Adding the focal and tassel:

Exit from the center seed bead (this will be the 11/0 seed that corresponds to being straight down from your thread protector). Sometimes I have to adjust the thread bridge I chose for that seed to get it to line up perfect, I just hold it up and check. Add the arc bead (angel wing) and then add two, 11/0 seeds.

Add your tassel. Add two more 11/0 seeds. Come back up through the arch bead and the 11/0 seed above it. Go under the thread bridge below that seed, and come back up through the seed bead.

Reinforce: Go back down through the arch, all four seeds, back up through the arch and the center seed bead again. Go under the thread bridge one more time and come back up through the center seed.





Your thread should now be exiting from the center 11/0 seed, facing down, ready to continue brick stitch.



Add another 11/0 seed bead (or more if your design symmetry used more than three seeds here).



Continue to brick stitch around the other side, watching for symmetry with each of your 3mm beads on the other side of the hoop. Once you've reached the top, you can bring your tail up through the last seed you added to meet and tie a knot. Weave in ends and use a thread burner or snip under tension. Add ear wires and you're all set :)





