

facebook LIVE: 9.06.17

Softflex Earrings



Fiesta

Turquoise Earth

Purple Sage

Facebook LIVE with Kate Richbourg and Emily Miller. In this episode, our designers have so many tips about Soft Flex, crimping, and life! It's worth watching. We hope you enjoy!

Hi Everyone!

It's Wednesday, so it must be Facebook LIVE! We love that you watch live or tune in later. This week Kate and Emily focused on some simple techniques with Soft Flex that make stunning chandelier earrings. And even though the making is easy, these two powerhouse designers share so many great tips and techniques. Emily has tricks up her sleeves I didn't even know existed! We have viewers who are tracking all her advice...an absolute encyclopedia of ideas. And, Kate is no slouch! Just watch her work a jump ring into a closed ring...it's like a Master Class...very cool!

Before moving on, I thought I'd share my lovely kitties with you. Sadie is the grey one on-screen during the episode and Sammy is my fat marmalade...both very lovely. I had never considered myself a "cat person" until I adopted these two characters.

I hope you enjoy this week's episode. If you want to go straight to the learning and skip the chit chat, please fast forward to **Minute Marker 13:24.**

Enjoy and happy beading!

~janice



Emily, Kate, and yours truly (on the iPhone)...too funny!



Sadie and Sammy doing what they do best....sleeping!

Kate and Emily begin the broadcast with an interesting discussion about creativity and all the ways we explore self-expression. It's interesting that many of us do crafts and art in addition to beading. We have quilters, knitters, gardeners, soap and cream makers, basket weavers, and painters. All of these and more are ways for us as artists to up our awareness of the world around us and help us interpret ourselves through the medium of jewelry making. I like to paint and I find I'm more experimental if I step away from my beads and look at my concept sketched on a drawn mannequin. It frees me up somehow. And then, I take a bird's eye photo of it and boy, does it look even better that way!

If you would like to practice some sketching of your designs, we have something that might be helpful. It's a PDF you can print out and color in with your ideas. It's called Sketch-a-Necklace, but you can see you can also experiment with earrings. So have fun and bead creative!



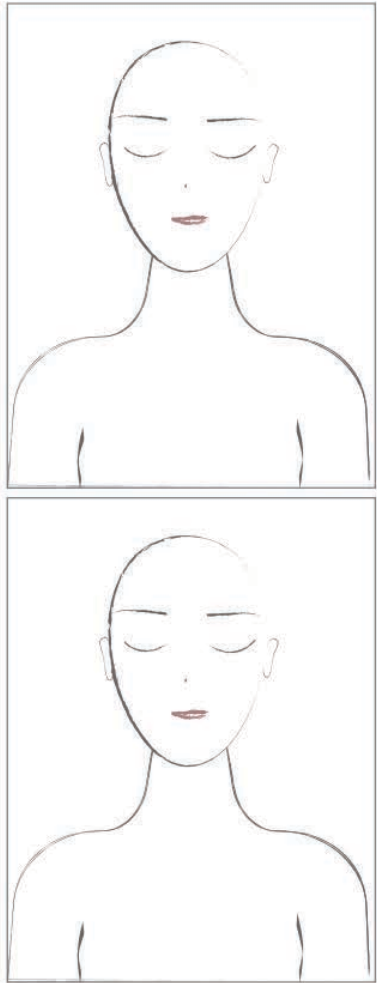
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Sketch-a-Necklace

Color Swatches:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Notes:



There are so many choices we face during the initial stages of designing. In our experience, the best place to start is with color. Kate likes to combine color, shape, size, texture, and transparent and opaque. Emily, on the other hand, has her own way. What is your style? I read a very interesting blog recently about how researchers have discovered unlocking the mystery to why we each have favorite colors. It seems to have to do with memories and things we love...that because we love those things, the color they are becomes one of our favorite colors. I highly recommend the website, colormatters.com, and going to their [Facebook page](#) to learn more.

As you watch the episode, you'll begin to unravel how Kate and Emily discover combinations of beads that provoke responses. It becomes a process of elimination. And Emily mentions:

ROY G BIV

Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue,
Indigo, and Violet

Don't let the color wheel or charts scare you! Play with color...try something new and see if you discover new paths.



Minute Marker 39:52

For tools this week, you'll need a crimping tool and a really good flush cutter. We love the Xuron 4-in-1 Crimper and Xuron Maxi Sheer Flush Cutter.



Minute Marker 40:52

The stringing material for this project is Soft Flex .014. Kate and Emily spend some time talking about Fireline, .019 Soft Flex and .010 Soft Touch.



Minute Marker 43:35

Emily and Kate share with us what they were wearing this week.



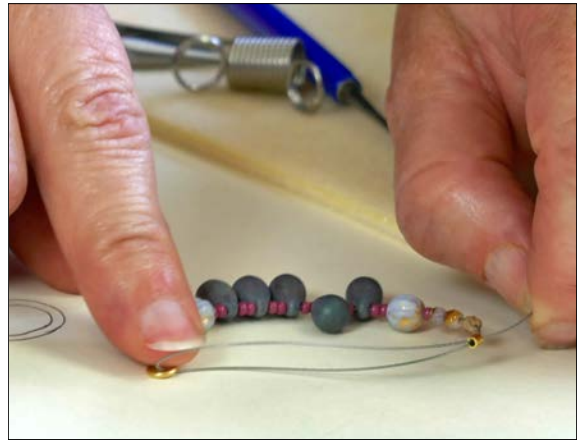
Minute Marker 46:12

Kate cuts her Soft Flex with care and begins stringing. You need about 10 inches of Soft Flex to string a loop.



Minute Marker 52:01

The fun and challenges of stringing a pattern are discussed. And Emily and Kate have very different ways of stringing on Soft Flex. Who knew there was more than one way?



Minute Marker 1:03:13

Kate goes into detail about jump rings. And this is where I learned something from a master metalsmith...how to seriously close a jump ring!



Minute Marker 1:11:06

The designers cover how to crimp your hoops closed, how to cover them with a crimp cover...and yes, each one has their own way of doing it!



Minute Marker 1:23:41

Kate demonstrates how to add the ear wire and the best way to open the loop of your ear wire, if you need to. Of course, Emily does it differently!



Minute Marker 1:29:51

If you have ever wanted to attempt the removal of a crimp bead from Soft Flex, than this part of the video shouldn't be missed. I have never seen this done before....amazing!



We hope you enjoyed this week's episode. It's amazing how I think we teach something in depth, like using Soft Flex, and then a another project, like Soft Flex Earrings, brings new information to light and we learn even more. That is the beauty of Facebook LIVE. The viewers are commenting and asking questions and also helping out...like when Kate forgot a bead! This is a global village of wonderful, caring artists and beaders. We live everywhere around the world, but it's amazing how everyone feels like they're just next door! We hope you'll be able to join us live someday. Wednesdays at 10:30am Pacific Time!
Thanks for watching!
~janice (and kate and emily)

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Links to This Project's Ingredients...

SoftFlex Earrings

Turquoise Earth

- 1 Spool .014 Golden Bronze SoftFlex
- 1 Pair Antique Copper Niobium Ear Wires
- 1 Pkg Beadsmith Crimp Tubes Assorted Pack
- 1 Pkg 3mm Antique Brass Crimp Covers
- 1 Pkg 5mm Antique Brass Jump Rings
- 1 Strand Jade Picasso Czech Glass Drops
- 1 Strand 3mm Op. Yellow Copper Picasso Czech Glass Fire Polish Beads
- 1 Strand 6mm Ivory Turquoise Wash Czech Glass Melons
- 1 Tube 11/0 Duracoat Opaque Moody Blue Miyuki Seed Beads

Fiesta

- 1 Spool .014 Satin Silver SoftFlex
- 1 Pair Sterling Silver Ear Wires w/ 3mm Bead
- 1 Pkg Beadsmith Crimp Tubes Assorted Pack
- 1 Pkg 3mm Silver Crimp Covers
- 1 Pkg 5mm Silver Jump Rings
- 1 Strand Luster Green Mix Czech Glass Drops
- 1 Strand 3mm Dark Snake Orchid Czech Glass Fire Polish Beads
- 1 Strand 6mm Golden Pink Czech Glass Melons
- 1 Tube 11/0 Duracoat Opaque Hawthorne Miyuki Seed Beads

Purple Sage

- 1 Spool .014 Golden Bronze SoftFlex
- 1 Pair Gold Fill Earrings w/ 3mm Gold Fill Bead
- 1 Pkg Beadsmith Crimp Tubes- Assorted Pack
- 1 Pkg 3mm Gold Crimp Covers
- 1 Pkg 5mm Satin Gold Jump Rings
- 1 Strand Purple Matte Iris Czech Glass Drops
- 1 Strand 3mm Opaque White Tortoise Celsius Czech Glass Fire Polish Beads
- 1 Strand 6mm Alice Blue and Gold Czech Glass Melons
- 1 Tube 11/0 Duracoat Opaque Pansy Miyuki Seed Beads