



WHAT YOU'LL LEARN
plain loops | working with chain

Modern royalty

Pair teardrop pearls
and chain in a
timeless necklace

by **Karan Simoni**

I wanted to make a pearl necklace that wasn't your typical knotted strand — something updated and fashion forward, with some swing and movement. Surprisingly, I found my inspiration in an old painting of a Russian princess. These large, graduated pearls were just what I needed to transform the grandeur of the Russian court into a 21st-century design.



1 necklace • On a head pin, string a 30 mm pearl and make a plain loop (How-Tos). Make eight 26 mm pearl units and two 22 mm pearl units.

2 On an eye pin, string a round bead. Make a plain loop perpendicular to the first loop. Make 48 connectors.

3 Open a loop of a connector (How-Tos) and attach a second connector. Close the loop. Attach two more connectors. Make 12 dangles.

4 Cut a 19–22-in. (48–56 cm) piece of chain with an odd number of links. Attach the 30 mm pearl unit to the center link.

5 On each side, attach a dangle to the next large link. Attach a 26 mm unit to the next large link. Repeat the pattern three times.

6 On each side, attach a dangle, a 22 mm unit, and a dangle to the next large links, respectively.

7 On one end, use a jump ring to attach an end link and a lobster claw clasp. *

What you'll need

necklace 20–23 in. (51–58 cm)

- ◆ 30 mm teardrop pearl
- ◆ 8 26 mm teardrop pearls
- ◆ 2 22 mm teardrop pearls
- ◆ 48 5 mm round beads
- ◆ 48 1½-in. (3.8 cm) eye pins
- ◆ 11 2-in. (5 cm) head pins
- ◆ 19–22-in. (48–56 cm) large-and-small link chain, 12 mm long links
- ◆ 4–5 mm jump ring
- ◆ lobster claw clasp
- ◆ chainnose and roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Teardrop pearls and findings available from Gilding the Lily, vintagedesignre-source.com. Round cat's eye beads from Craftkitsandsupplies.com. Antique brass chain from Ohiobeads.com. Check your local bead store for supplies.

Karan Simoni

Karan expanded from scrapbooking into beading and jewelry making 10 years ago. She enjoys scouring flea markets and antique fairs in Northern California for cool vintage components. When Karan's not beading, she teaches art journaling and collage to at-risk youth in her community. Visit karansimoni.blogspot.com.



Get loopy!

Before you begin, use a permanent marker to indicate on your roundnose pliers where to make your plain loops. Use this mark as a gauge to keep your loops a consistent size. You can use rubbing alcohol to remove the mark.

