

1 basic bead

4 fab designs

Layer on the drama with multiple strands in a stunning hue

by Faria Siddiqui

These beautiful rondelles reminded me of tanzanite, so I designed an elegant multistrand accented with touches of gold to allow the color to shine. Faceted glass rondelles are an affordable substitute for crystals and combine beautifully with flat spacers and textured metal beads.



1 necklace • Strand 1 (the inner strand): Cut a 23-in. (58 cm) piece of beading wire. String 5½ in. (14 cm) of glass rondelles, centering them on the wire. On each end of the wire, string a 6 mm spacer, an 8 mm metal bead, and a 6 mm spacer. String 3¼ in. (8.3 cm) of rondelles, a 5 mm spacer, and 1¼ in. (3.2 cm) of rondelles.

2 Strand 2: Cut a 25-in. (64 cm) piece of beading wire. Center 3 in. (7.6 cm) of rondelles on the wire. On each end, string a 5 mm spacer. String 4½ in. (11.4 cm) of rondelles, a 6 mm spacer, an 8 mm metal bead, and a 6 mm spacer. String 2 in. (5 cm) of rondelles.

3 Strand 3: Cut a 26-in. (66 cm) piece of beading wire. Center 7¼ in. (18.4 cm) of rondelles on the wire. On each end, string two 6 mm spacers, an 8 mm metal bead, and two 6 mm spacers. String 1½ in. (3.8 cm) of rondelles, a 5 mm metal bead, and 3¼ in. (8.9 cm) of rondelles.

4 Strand 4: Cut a 28-in. (71 cm) piece of beading wire. Center 4½ in. (11.4 cm) of rondelles on the wire. On each end, string two 6 mm spacers, an 8 mm metal bead, and two 6 mm spacers. String 5 in. (13 cm) of rondelles, a 5 mm spacer, and 2¼ in. (5.7 cm) of rondelles.

5 Strand 5: Cut a 30-in. (76 cm) piece of beading wire. Center 9¾ in. (24.8 cm) of rondelles on the wire. On each end, string a 5 mm spacer and 2¼ in. (5.7 cm) of rondelles. String two 6 mm spacers, an 8 mm metal bead, two 6 mm spacers, and 3¼ in. (8.3 cm) of rondelles.

6 On each end of each wire, string a 5 mm spacer, a crimp bead, a Wire Guardian, and the corresponding loop of a five-strand connector bar (see “Finishing tip,” p. 35). Check the fit and add or remove beads if necessary. Go back through the last few beads strung and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead (Basics) and trim the excess wire. Close a crimp cover over the crimp.



7 Open a 9 mm jump ring (Basics) and attach the remaining loop of a connector bar. Close the jump ring. Attach two more jump rings and a hook clasp.

8 On the other end, use a 9 mm jump ring to attach the connector bar and the loop half of a toggle clasp. To make an extender chain, attach eight consecutive pairs of 10 mm jump rings to the loop.

“Follow your heart
— make things
you’d be proud
to wear yourself.”



Finishing tip

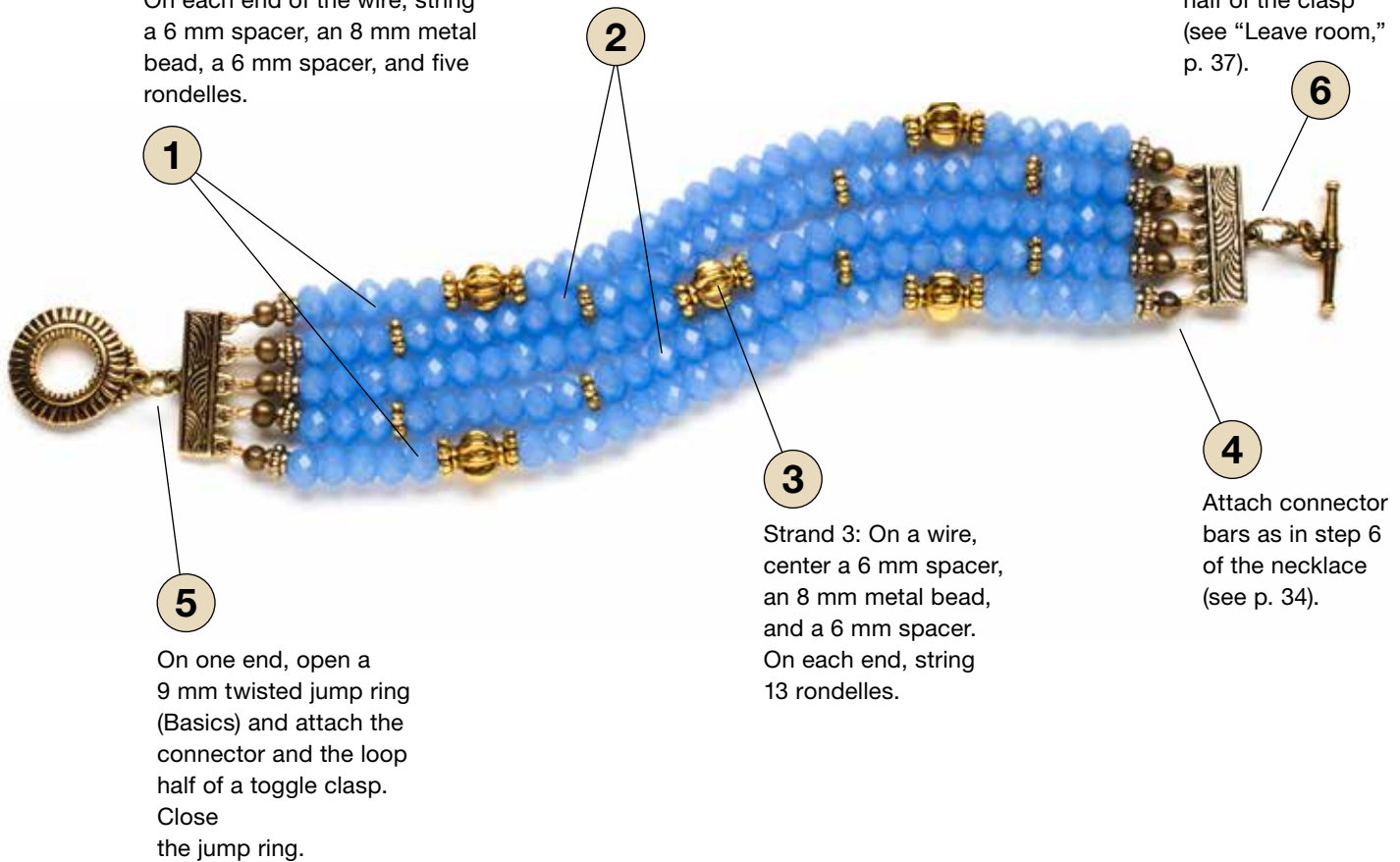
The Wire Guardians must be small enough to fit through the holes of the connector bar — I used 4.5 x 4 mms. If they still don't fit, use a bead reamer to widen the holes in the connector bar. Wire Guardians are optional, but they do protect the wire from abrasion and give a polished appearance.

Turn the page for a bracelet and earrings!

bracelet • Cut five 13-in. (33 cm) pieces of beading wire. To make strands 1 and 5: On a wire, center 14 glass rondelles. On each end of the wire, string a 6 mm spacer, an 8 mm metal bead, a 6 mm spacer, and five rondelles.

Strands 2 and 4: On a wire, center nine rondelles. On each end, string: 6 mm spacer, six rondelles, 6 mm spacer, three rondelles.

On the other end, attach a twisted jump ring. Attach two 5 mm jump rings, then the bar half of the clasp (see "Leave room," p. 37).



5 On one end, open a 9 mm twisted jump ring (Basics) and attach the connector and the loop half of a toggle clasp. Close the jump ring.

3 Strand 3: On a wire, center a 6 mm spacer, an 8 mm metal bead, and a 6 mm spacer. On each end, string 13 rondelles.

4 Attach connector bars as in step 6 of the necklace (see p. 34).



1 **connector-bar earrings**
For each earring: On a decorative head pin, string three glass rondelles alternating with two 6 mm spacers. Make a plain loop (Basics). Make two short bead units.



2 To make a long bead unit: On a decorative head pin, string: two rondelles, 6 mm spacer, 8 mm metal bead, spacer, two rondelles. Make a plain loop.



3 Open the loop of the long bead unit (Basics) and attach the center loop of a three-to-one connector bar. Close the loop. On each side of the center dangle, attach a short bead unit.



4 Open the loop of an earring wire and attach the dangle. Close the loop.

hoop earrings • For each earring: Cut a 5-in. (13 cm) piece of beading wire. Center a 6 mm spacer, an 8 mm metal bead, and a 6 mm spacer on the wire. On each end, string two rondelles, a 5 mm spacer, and four rondelles.

1



2

String each end through a crimp bead in opposite directions. Crimp the crimp bead (Basics). Open the loop of an earring wire (Basics). Attach the hoop and close the loop.



Leave room

Be sure to include the two 5 mm jump rings in step 6 to allow enough room for the bar half of the clasp to fit through the loop.



What you'll need

for necklace or bracelet

- ◆ flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- ◆ 10 crimp beads
- ◆ 10 Wire Guardians
- ◆ 10 5 mm crimp covers
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ crimping pliers (optional)

necklace 20–23 in. (51–58 cm)

- ◆ 7 16-in. (41 cm) strands of 6 mm glass rondelles
- ◆ 10 8 mm fluted round metal beads
- ◆ 32 6 mm beaded spacers
- ◆ 20 5 mm beaded rondelle spacers
- ◆ 16 10 mm twisted jump rings
- ◆ 4 9 mm twisted jump rings
- ◆ 2 21 mm five-to-one connector bars
- ◆ loop half of a toggle clasp
- ◆ hook clasp

bracelet 7½ in. (19.1 cm)

- ◆ 2 16-in. (41 cm) strands of 6 mm glass rondelles
- ◆ 5 8 mm fluted round metal beads
- ◆ 18 6 mm beaded spacers
- ◆ 10 5 mm beaded rondelle spacers
- ◆ 2 9 mm twisted jump rings
- ◆ 2 5 mm jump rings
- ◆ 2 21 mm five-to-one connector bars
- ◆ toggle clasp

connector-bar earrings

- ◆ 20 6 mm glass rondelles
- ◆ 2 8 mm fluted round metal beads
- ◆ 12 6 mm beaded spacers

- ◆ 6 2-in. (5 cm) decorative head pins
- ◆ 2 three-to-one connector bars
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

hoop earrings

- ◆ 24 6 mm glass rondelles
- ◆ 2 8 mm fluted round metal beads
- ◆ 4 6 mm beaded spacers
- ◆ 4 5 mm beaded rondelle spacers
- ◆ flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ 2 crimp beads
- ◆ 2 pairs of chainnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ crimping pliers (optional)

Glass rondelles from JBC Beads, 630.963.0460, jbcbeads.com.

Metal beads and findings from Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, 800.355.2137, firemountaingems.com.

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