



by DonnaMarie Bates

Iridescent crystal clusters sway from the bracelet—glistening music to your eyes

# Dripping with glamour



Whether vintage or new, 12mm crystals demand attention. Their many facets shimmer and shine and often come in finishes, such as Aurora Borealis (AB), that reflect even more light. Though you may not find an exact contemporary match for vintage crystals, select your cubes and bicones to closely coordinate with the main crystal color for a monochromatic masterpiece.



#### EDITOR'S TIP

To hide the crimp bead, slide a crimp cover over the crimp bead and close it using the notch closest to the tip of your crimping pliers. A crimp cover looks like a round spacer bead when closed.

## SupplyList

crystals

- 11–13 12mm faceted rounds
- 10–12 8mm bicones
- 20–24 4mm cubes
- 4 4mm bicones
- 1g 11° seed beads
- 30–36 1½-in. (3.8cm) head pins
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 2 crimp beads
- 10–12 4mm soldered jump rings
- toggle clasp
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters



**1** String a cube crystal on a head pin. Make a plain loop (Basics, p. XXX) above the bead. Make a total of 20–24 cube dangles.

String an 8mm bicone crystal on a head pin. Make a plain loop above the bead. Make a total of 10–12 8mm bicone dangles.



**2** Open a cube dangle's loop and attach it to a soldered jump ring. Close the loop. Attach an 8mm bicone dangle and another cube dangle to the same jump ring. Attach two cube dangles and one 8mm bicone dangle to each remaining jump ring.



**3** Determine the finished length of your bracelet. Add 5 in. (13cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length. String a round crystal, a jump ring with dangles, and two 11° seed beads on the wire. Repeat this pattern until the bracelet is within ½ in. (3.8cm) of the desired length, ending with a round crystal.



**4** On each end, string a 4mm bicone crystal, a crimp bead, a 4mm bicone, and half of the clasp. Go back through the last beads strung and tighten the wires. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Make a folded crimp (Basics) and trim the excess wire. ❖

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