

# Cloisonné Drops

by Judy Markwell



## Materials Needed:

- 2 Ear Wires
- 2 Heart Drops
- 8 2" Head Pins (Extra for practice)
- 2 Heart Cloisonné Beads
- 2 6mm Round Cloisonné Beads
- 4 8mm Round Cloisonné Bead
- 6 Tube Cloisonné Beads
- 12 4mm Heishe Beads
- 14 4mm Pink Crystal Bicones

## Tools Needed:

- Wire Cutters
- Chain Nose Pliers
- Round Nose Pliers

These are the easiest of earrings - they basically use only one technique.

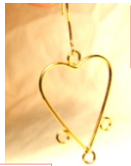


## Making a Loop



**1** First, open the loop on the ear wire to attach it to the heart drop.

Make sure you twist it to the side as shown here, and don't just pull it open.



**2** Thread the ear wire onto the heart drop as shown, closing the loop by twisting it back into position.

**3** Thread a heart bead with the point on the bottom, then a crystal onto a head pin. Follow the directions in the large box at right to learn how to make a loop.

**4** With the loop open (twist it from side to side if you need more room) work the loop onto the drop as shown in Pic.5 and close it. This is the hardest part of the earring.

**6** Now you're home free. You know how to make a loop, so thread your head pins as shown in the pic of the finished product, and make a loop at the top to attach the head pin to the drop. Note that I used a larger bead on the wire in the middle.



**5**



Use your fingers to bend the wire over as closely as possible to the beads you've threaded onto the head pin.



Grasp the wire with your round nose pliers right there at the bend as shown here.

Start by wrapping your head pin around the round nose pliers as shown. This is about as far as you'll be able to get in the first pass.



Now move your pliers so that you're holding the loop at the top, and continue wrapping. As you try one you'll get the idea. Wrap the wire all the way around so that you have the angle shown here.



This is what you should have at this point. The wire is sticking out at almost a 90° angle. The arrow shows where you want to make your cut - you want it close enough that your loop will close tightly.

Since we're assuming that this is new to you, let's cover actually making the cut. There is a right way and a wrong way to make a cut with your flush cutters. One way leaves a point, and the other a nice flat cut. If you can't understand it from these pictures, make a practice cut, turn your cutters over and make another cut.



Right



Wrong

There's a rule of thumb that you might want to remember - in wire work it takes 3 times to learn a new technique, so don't get discouraged if it doesn't work right at first.

When you compare the two ends, you'll see that one end is pointy - you DON'T ever want this.