

Raise the Bar by FusionBeads.com



Approximate finished length: 1.5 inches

Beads and other products needed for one pair of earrings:

130 beads - 2x6mm Matte Metallic Bronze Iris CzechMates 2 Hole Bar Czech Glass Bead (GL4216)
2 - 4mm Antique Brass Plated Base Metal 20 Gauge Open Jump Rings (BM2749)
2 - 6mm Antique Brass Plated Base Metal 18 Gauge Open Jump Rings (BM2842)
2 - 20.5mm Natural Brass 11 Gauge Open Jump Rings by Vintaj (NB0730)
1 pair - 11mm Antique Brass Plated Base Metal French Ear Wires with 1.5mm Ball (BM3094)
1 - Smoke Gray FireLine Braided Bead Thread .006 diameter (SM1000)

Tools needed to complete the earrings:

Chain nose pliers
Xuron Thread and Fiber Scissors (TL3000)
Size 12 English Beading Needles (TL1647)

Beading Techniques needed to complete the earrings:

Opening and Closing a Jump Ring
Basic Right Angle Weave

Instructions to complete “Raise the Bar” earrings:

Tip

These earrings are made with a variation of right angle weave using 2-hole bar beads. After weaving a strip, additional beads are placed between edge beads, and the strip is rolled into a wheel shape. If you are not familiar with right angle weave, learn and practice the Basic Right Angle Weave Technique first using conventional beads before beginning these earrings.

Step 1

Thread a needle with 6 feet of beading thread. Using 4mm 2-hole bar beads, weave a 12-unit strip of the initial row of right angle weave (see Steps 1 – 14 of the Basic Right Angle Weave Technique).

Step 2

As you create your 13th and last unit on this center row, you will roll the strip into a circle and “zip up” the two ends. Exiting the last center bar bead, add one bar bead and then string through the center bar from the first unit in Step 1. Jump to the opposite hole on this bead and pass down through it. Add one more bar bead and pass through the center bar that you exited in the beginning of this step. This will complete the 13th unit.

Step 3

Exit from the outer hole of the first bead on one long edge. String one hole of one bead, and pass through the outer hole of the next bead along the same long edge. The strung bead will sit between the first and second beads.

Step 4

In the same manner as in the previous step, continue placing one bead between every two beads along the same long edge of the strip until you reach the opposite end.

Step 5

Repeat Steps 3 – 4 on the opposite long edge.

Step 6

Flip all the beads added in Steps 3 – 5 toward the center of the tube (like wheel spokes). Sew through the inner hole of all the flipped beads on one side of the “wheel”.

Step 7

Pass the needle through beads to the opposite side of the “wheel.” Repeat Step 6 on the other side.

Step 8

Secure the thread by weaving back and forth through several beads. Trim the thread.

Step 9

Open one 20.5mm jump ring (see Opening and Closing a Jump Ring Technique), and attach it to the wheel through the “axle.” Close the jump ring.

Step 10

Open one 4mm jump ring, and attach it to the loop on one ear wire. Close the jump ring.

Step 11

Use one 5mm jump ring to attach the jump ring from Step 9 to the jump ring from Step 10.

Step 12

Repeat Steps 1 – 12 for the second earring.

For step-by-step photos and instructions on these and other techniques, visit FusionBeads.com and select Beading Techniques from the top navigation bar. You'll find more Inspiration jewelry ideas at FusionBeads.com!