

Dentalium Shell Earrings

Developed by Alexandria Troxell
Supported by the City of Kodiak



MATERIALS:

Pliers and wire cutters
2 Earring hooks
2 Crimping beads
Wire .3mm (2) 16" long pieces
4 Dentalium shells
60 Seed beads- Size 11
8 Larger accent beads

Watch a video demonstration at:
<https://vimeo.com/541879841>

Step 1: Cut 2 pieces of wire (one for each earring), 12-16 inches long.

Step 2: Start by stringing two seed beads and one dentalium shell on one of the pieces of wire. Fill inner-shell with seed beads (takes about 5 depending on size of shell). Add extra seed bead. Add 1 accent bead. Add 2 seed beads. Add center accent bead. Add 2 more seed beads. Add accent bead. Add enough seed beads to fill second dentalium shell (so it looks even with the other side). Add 3 more seed beads, one accent bead, and one more seed bead.

Step 3: Pull both ends together and run the wire through a crimping bead, pull tight.

Step 4: Add 10-12 seed beads to one side of the wire to make the hanging loop.

Step 5: Take the other end of wire and run it down through the 10-12 seed beads and the crimping bead.

Step 6: Take the second wire end and run it through the crimping bead. Both wires ends should now be down through the crimping bead, one seed bead, and one accent bead. You should have a nice hanging loop.

Step 7: Pull everything tight, then use your pliers to pinch the crimping bead. This will lock the earring together.

Step 8: Use the wire cutters to trim the extra wire off. Repeat steps to make a second earring.