

Caribbean Holiday by FusionBeads.com



Approximate finished length: 2.5 inches

Beads and other products needed for one pair of earrings:

- 1 gram - Size 15 Silver Lined Matte Gray Light Aqua Round Japanese Seed Beads (SB3546) **(B)**
- 2 grams - Size 11 Silver Lined Matte Gray Light Aqua Round Japanese Seed Beads (SB1682) **(A)**
- 2 grams - Size 11 Opaque Orange Coral Luster Round Japanese Seed Beads (SB1854) **(C)**
- 1 gram - Size 11 Dark Nickel Plated Round Japanese Seed Beads (SB1979) **(D)**
- 4 - 1x5mm Antique Silver Plated Pewter Beaded Heishi Beads by TierraCast® (SP0104)
- 2 - 20mm Turquoise Round Gemstone Cabochons (SE5139)
- 1 pair - 18mm Sterling Silver Ear Wires with 3mm Bead and Coil by TierraCast® (SS2604)
- 1 - 4.25x5.5 in. Black Beading Foundation (CR0932)
- 1 - 8.5 in. Silver Pearl Ultra Suede (CR0947)
- 1 - Superlon Beading Thread Size AA – Turquoise (SM4369)

Tools needed to complete the earrings:

- Size 12 English Beading Needles (TL1647)
- Beading Scissors 1-1/4 in. Blade (TL0302)
- Perfect End Thread Burner (TL1006)
- E6000 Adhesive 0.18 oz. Tube (TL2921)

Beading Techniques needed to complete the earrings:

- Gluing and Cutting Lacey's Stiff Stuff
- Peyote Stitch Bezel
- Bead Embroidery
- Brick Stitch Around a Bead
- Using a Perfect End Thread Burner

Instructions to complete “Caribbean Holiday” earrings:

Tip

The letters A – D indicate the various seed beads; use the materials list above for the key. A round of bead embroidery surrounds a cabochon, which is then encased in a peyote-stitched bezel. After the bead embroidery is completed, a variation of brick stitch is used to finish the edge. If you are not familiar with all of these techniques, practice them first before beginning these intermediate-level earrings.

Step 1

Using scissors, cut a piece of beading foundation 2 inches wide by 2 inches long.

Step 2

Using E6000 adhesive, glue one cabochon to the center of the foundation (see Gluing and Cutting Lacey’s Stiff Stuff Technique). Allow the adhesive to dry for 20 – 30 minutes.

Step 3

Thread a needle with about 6 feet of beading thread, and tie a double knot at the end of the thread (see Bead Embroidery Technique). Stitch through the foundation from back to front near the cabochon.

Step 4

Using A, work one round of four-bead backstitch. End with an even number of beads.

Step 5

Using A, work one round of peyote stitch (see Peyote Stitch Bezel Technique).

Step 6

Using B, work two more rounds of peyote stitch. Weave the thread back and forth through several beads, trim the thread, and burn the end with a Perfect End Thread Burner (see Using a Perfect End Thread Burner Technique).

Step 7

Thread a needle with 5 feet of beading thread, and tie a double knot. Pass the needle through the foundation from back to front near the bezel. Using C, work one round of four-bead backstitch around the bezel. Pass through all beads in this round three times.

Step 8

Place one heishi near the C round. Pass up through the foundation from back to front, through the heishi and through one A. Pass back down through the heishi and foundation. Reinforce the attachment. Finish off the thread.

Step 9

Repeat Step 8 on the opposite side of the cabochon.

Step 10

Using C, work one semi-circular round of two-bead backstitch around each of the two heishi beads.

Step 11

Using A, work one semi-circular round of two-bead backstitch around the previous round of C. Finish off the thread.

Step 12

Trim the beading foundation carefully to about 1/16 inch from the stitched design, being careful not to cut any threads.

Step 13

Cut a square of ultra suede 2 inches by 2 inches.

Step 14

Glue the embroidered foundation piece to the ultra suede. Allow the glue to dry.

Step 15

Trim the ultra suede to match the shape of the beading foundation.

Step 16

Starting at one narrow end of the piece, finish the edge with one round of brick stitch (see Brick Stitch Around a Bead Technique) using D.

Step 17

Exit the D bead nearest the end where you began Step 16, and string two D, the loop on one ear wire, and two D. Pass down through the adjacent D bead in the brick stitch round. Reinforce the attachment.

Step 18

Repeat Step 1 – 17 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!*