

# April Showers Earrings

## Supplies:

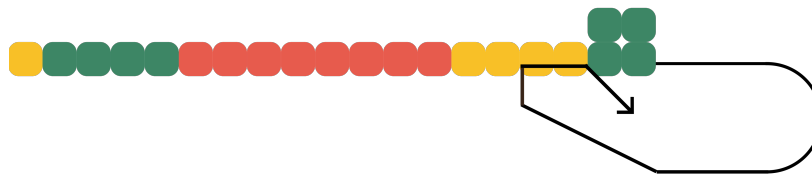
2-3 g Size 11 Seed Beads Color A  
2-3 g Size 11 Seed Beads Color B  
2-3 g Size 11 Seed Beads Color C  
1 pair of earwires  
Nymo D or C-Lon to match color A  
(Fireline will also work if that's what you have.)  
Wax  
Size 12 Beading Needle  
Scissors

## Instructions:

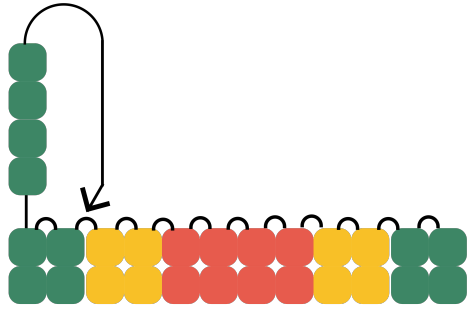
1. Wax a 2 yard length of thread. Tie on a stopper bead. Pick up 4A, 4B, 8C, 4B, and 4A.
2. Pass through the second to last pair of A beads from the tail end towards the working end. Pull tight. Now pass through the last pair of B beads from the tail end towards the working end. Pull tight.



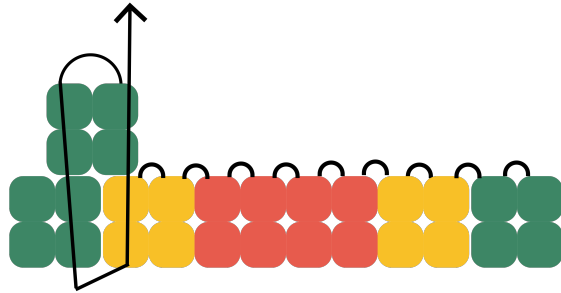
3. Repeat passing through the next two beads on the stack until you have a bead ladder that is two beads high and 12 beads long. Remove the stopper bead.



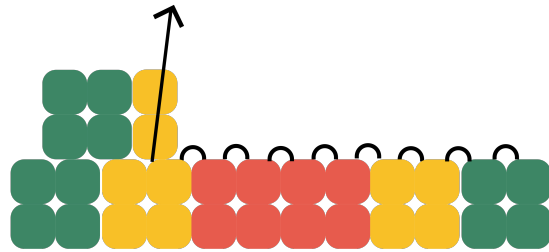
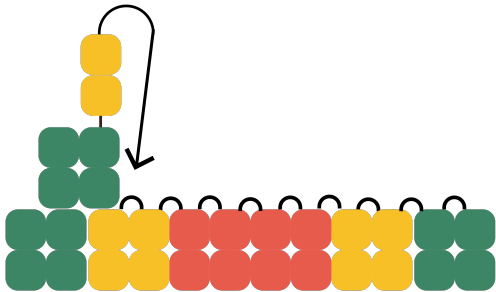
4. The earring is made with two bead brick stitch, decreasing at the beginning of each row. Pick up 4A. Pass the needle under the second thread loop and up through the 2 bead stack directly above the loop. This is the basic brick stitch, but you will need to anchor the first group of beads.



5. Pass down the column of beads on the left, and down into the second column of beads below it. Bring the needle up through the third column of beads on the row below, and then up through the second column of beads on the new row.

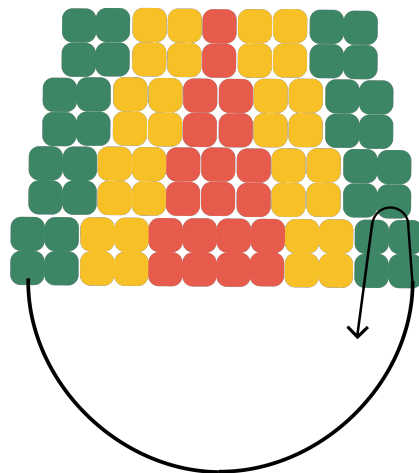


6. The rest of the row you will only add two beads at a time. Pick up 2 B and bring the needle under the next thread bridge and up through the 2 B just added. Repeat this step once more.



7. Pick up 2 C and bring the needle under the next thread bridge then up through the 2C just added. Repeat twice more.
8. Do two stitches with 2B.
9. Do two stitches with 2A.
10. At the beginning of the next row you will repeat steps 4 and 5 working back in the other direction. This row will be laid out in this order: 2A, 2A, 2B, 2B, 2C, 2C, 2B, 2B, 2A, 2A.
11. The next row is 2A, 2A, 2B, 2B, 2C, 2B, 2B, 2A, 2A.
12. Row 5 is 2A, 2A, 2B, 2B, 2B, 2B, 2A, 2A
13. Row 6 is 2A, 2A, 2B, 2B, 2B, 2A, 2A.

14. Row 7 is 2A, 2A, 2B, 2B, 2A, 2A.
15. Row 8 is 2A, 2A, 2B, 2A, 2A.
16. Row 9 is 2A, 2A, 2A, 2A.
17. Row 10 is 2A, 2A, 2A.
18. Row 11 is 2A, 2A.
19. Pick up 6 A beads and pass down the second column of beads on the top row. Reinforce this loop once more.
20. Bring the thread down one side so that it is exiting the first column of beads of the first row.
21. This portion of the project has some wiggle room. Shorter swags will make a stockier tear drop shape, longer ones will make a more elongated shape. The shape of your seed beads will also contribute to the size of the swag. On my first pair the beads were all pretty much the same shape and size. On my second pair, one color was a smidge smaller and I had to make some count adjustments. This is all to say, use the bead counts as a guide, make some notes as you do it, and just make the second one the same as your first one.
22. Pick up 28 A beads. Bring the needle up through the last column of beads on the first row. Be mindful of your tension. Too tight, and it won't hang nicely, too loose and you will have thread gaps.
23. Bring the needle down through the column of beads to the left of the one the thread is exiting. The illustration shows the thread path minus the beads.



24. Pick up 24 A beads. Bring the needle up through the second column of beads.
25. Bring the needle down through the column of beads to the right of the one the thread is exiting.
26. Pick up 15 B beads. Bring the needle up through the third column of beads from the end.

27. Bring the needle down through the column of beads to the left of the one the thread is exiting.
28. Pick up 10 B beads. Bring the needle up through the fourth column of beads.
29. Bring the needle down through the column of beads to the right.
30. Pick up 5 C beads. Bring the needle up through the 5th column from the end.
31. If you have room, you can add a couple of beads under the last two columns of beads. I didn't have room on my sample.
32. Tie off your thread in the swag, then make a second earring.
33. Add earwires and enjoy!

### Notes:

This pattern has lots of potential for experimentation. Make the top a single color and make the swags multicolored. Try it in a single version versus double brick stitch. Try it in the tiny cubes, try it in size 8s. The triangle by itself is a perfectly lovely earring. Or add straight fringe instead of a swag. If you need graph paper for designing your own triangles, [firemountaingems.com](http://firemountaingems.com) has free graph paper in their resource center. Look for the two drop peyote paper, and just turn it sideways. Voila, two drop brick stitch paper.

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