

Turquoise Sahara Necklace

Project N3045

Designer: Karlin Jones

Make this vibrant wire-wrapped focal necklace featuring a lovely array of turquoise and gold beads. Wear it with a maxi dress or a pair of jeans for an effortlessly chic look.

What You'll Need

Bright 22K Gold Plated Long And Short Chain 2.5x4.5mm - Bulk By The Foot

SKU: CHA-99970

Project uses 20 inches



Artistic Craft Wire, Colored Copper Wire 20 Gauge, 6 Yards, Non-tarnish Brass

SKU: WCR-2033

Project uses 8 inches



Beadsmith Tarnish Resistant Gold Color Copper Wire 28 Gauge 40 Yards (36.5 Meters)

SKU: WNT-2833

Project uses 20 inches



Painted Acrylic Faceted And Tapered Tube Beads 8x4mm - Dark Turquoise (10 Grams)

SKU: BPL-1107

Project uses 25 pieces



22K Gold Plated Stardust Sparkle Round Beads 3mm (50)

SKU: BMB-1813

Project uses 30 pieces



Turquoise Gem Round Beads 4mm / 16 Inch Strand

SKU: SPTU-14

Project uses 10 pieces



22K Gold Plated Curved Lobster Clasps 10mm (6)

SKU: FCL-4720

Project uses 1 piece



22K Gold Plated Open Jump Rings 4mm 20 Gauge 22k Gold Plated (100)

SKU: FJR-3914

Project uses 14 pieces



22K Gold Plated Head Pins - 24 Gauge/1.5 Inches (X50)

SKU: FHP-5216

Project uses 10 pieces



Recommended Tools:

[XTL-5600] Xuron Sharp Flush Cutter Pliers - Wire/Soft Flex, [XTL-5514] Beadsmith Jewelry

Fine Round Nose Micro Pliers, [XTL-5511] Beadsmith Jeweller's Micro Pliers Chain Nose Flat

Nose



Instructions

This necklace measures 20" long. To make your necklace longer, simply add more chain.

1. With your flush cutters, cut two 10" lengths of your chain. Set aside.
2. Open up a jump ring and slide it onto the last link of one of your chain lengths. Also slide on the last link from the second chain length (onto that same jump ring) and close.
3. Open up another jump ring and slide it onto that last jump ring. (You will be attaching this second jump ring to your wire-wrapped focal in an upcoming step).
4. Open another jump ring with your pliers and slide it onto the last link from one end of your chain. Close the jump ring.
5. Open up another jump ring and slide it onto the last link from the other end of your chain. Also slide on the loop from a gold plated lobster clasp and close.
6. You will now start making your turquoise gemstone bead drops.
7. Take 1 turquoise bead and slide a headpin through it. Create a simple wire loop and snip off the excess wire with your flush cutters.
8. Repeat this process 9 more times.
9. You will now begin adding your bead drops to your chain.
10. Open up 10 jump rings with your pliers and slide them through your 10 simple wire loops. Do not close the jump rings up quite yet.
11. Onto the right side of this center point, you will add 5 bead drops. Onto the left side, you will add the other 5 bead drops.
12. Carefully attach each jump ring onto the larger links on your chain. Slide on 5 bead drops on either side with a jump ring and close.
13. You will now make the tear drop shaped wire form that your beads will be wire-wrapped onto.
14. Cut 8 inches of 20 gauge wire with your flush cutters.
15. Cut 20 inches of 28 gauge wire with your flush cutters.
16. Take your thicker 20 gauge wire and with your chain nose pliers, create a tear drop shaped form that is approximately 2.5 inches tall. Bring the two wire ends together up at the top, crossing the left wire over the right wire. Wrap the left wire around the right wire, moving down and to the right. Make 3-4 wraps and trim. Bend the right wire to point straight up. Trim the end to about 3/4" and use your round nose pliers to bend the tail into a flat spiral. See photo for reference.
17. Now you will begin wire wrapping your beads onto the form. Before you begin, watch the video on How to Wire Wrap Rows of Beads onto a Form. .
18. Following what you learned in the video, use your 28 gauge wire length to add the following beads onto your wire form. Wrap the wire 4 times round one side of the form, add 3 turquoise barrel beads and wrap the wire again 4 times onto the other side. Snip off any excess wire after each row with your flush cutters.
19. In the following rows, add these beads: Row 2 - 3 turquoise barrel beads, Row 3 - 4 turquoise barrel beads, Row 4 - 4 turquoise barrel beads, Row 5 - 11 stardust beads, Row 6 - 4 turquoise barrel beads, Row 7 - 3 turquoise barrel beads with stardust beads between them, Row 8 - 9 stardust beads, Row 9 - 3 turquoise barrel beads, Row 10 - 6 stardust beads, and Row 11 - 2 stardust beads with a turquoise barrel bead between them. Refer to the photo often for assistance.
20. Once your beads are all wire-wrapped on, take your wire form and slide it onto the second jump ring on your necklace, through the spiral on top.
21. Close your clasp and you're done!