



“Frida” Earrings

Material (for one pair of earrings):

- Matubo Z Beads 10mm (10-12 pcs)
- Miyuki Round 11/0 (approx 0.3 gram)
- Miyuki Round 15/0 (approx 0.5 gram)
- 3mm firepolished beads (12-14 pcs)
- Eyepins (or headpins) (2 pcs)
- Earring findings (1 pair)
- Accent beads (2 pcs)
- Tassels (2 pcs) (you can find more info about tassels and accent beads in the “Before you start” section)

Beading needle and thread (Nymo, Fireline...)

Difficulty: For beginners/intermediate

Before you start:

Tassels (and alternatives):



In this pattern we will create a small bead cap that will be used to decorate a tassel – I personally like to create two versions of these – **larger one (6 Z beads around)** which I like to combine with a flower-shaped tassel which is pre-glued in a 7mm wide bead cap – or a **smaller one (5 Z beads around)** which I use in combination with smaller yarn tassel, approximately 5mm in diameter.

You can get your tassels online, in your local bead store or craft store or you can even try making your own tassels. If you are not a fan of tassels, large drop-shaped beads can be used (for the larger caps I use drop beads that are approximately 25mm long and 12mm wide).

Accent beads:

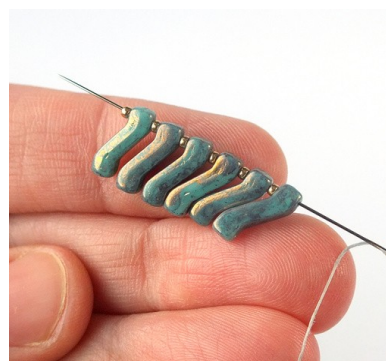
If you're using tassels with pre-glued bead caps, there is a chance the loop of the tassel or the eye of the pin will extend above the upper part of the beaded component, therefore I recommend using large hole accent beads - like Matubo 2/0, lampwork beads, ceramic beads or pretty much any kind of large hole beads that are about 6-8mm in diameter.

If you're using plain tassels without any bead caps, you can use pretty much any round or rondelle-shaped bead, around 6mm in diameter.

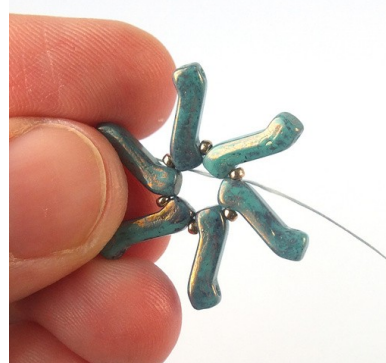
Can the finished piece be used as a keychain?

It can, but keep in mind that these tassels - like most beadwoven items - are rather fragile and can easily get damaged if used as keychains or bag charms. Beads or threads in the beadwoven part may break under strain and tassels can get frayed or even unraveled with extensive wear.

Tip: Frayed tassels can often be fixed by dunking the tassels in water and then hanging the item to dry.



1) String one Z Bead and one 15/0 - five or six times total (depending on the desired size of the finished piece. All Z Beads should be strung in the same direction.



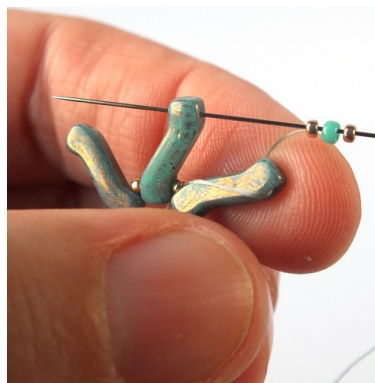
2) Slide all the beads to the end of the thread and tie a square knot to form a circle. Keep your tension as tight as possible.



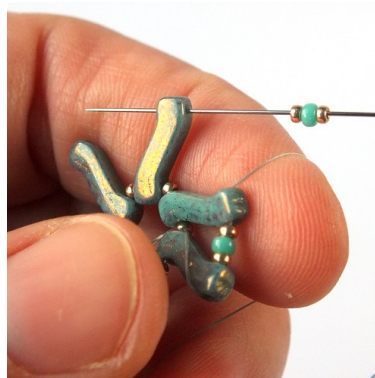
3) The knot lies between one Z bead and one 15/0. Pass the needle through the free hole of the nearest Z bead - from the other side from the knot.



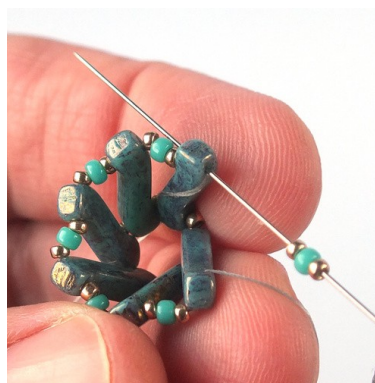
4) This is what we should get. The thread should be wrapped around the Z bead, just like in the photo. If we keep this thread on the inside of the bead cap, it won't be visible.



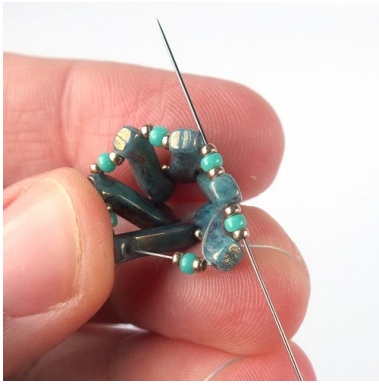
5) Add one 15/0, one 11/0 and one 15/0 and pass through the free hole of the next Z Bead.



6) Repeat step 5 ...



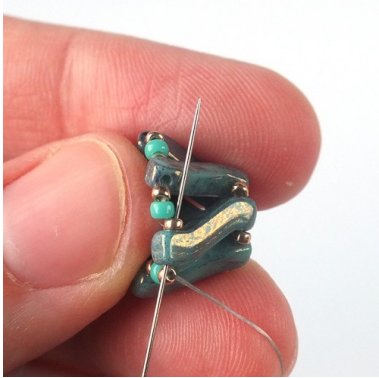
7) ... until you reach the end of the row.



8) Then weave through the entire row one more time. The current row might look a little crooked or uneven right now, but we are going to fix it very soon.



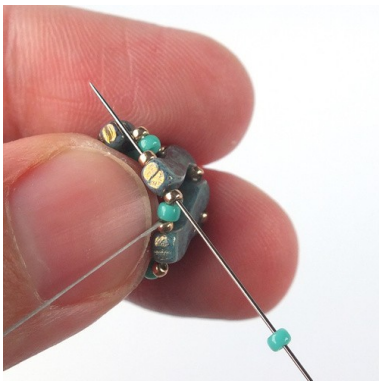
13) Pass through the nearest 11/0 you added in this row.



9) After reinforcing the last row you want to exit from the 15/0 before the 11/0 – just like in the photo.



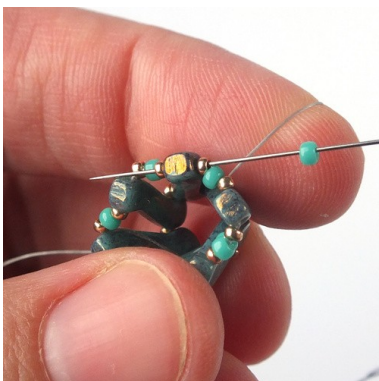
14) Add one 15/0, one 3mm FP and one 15/0, and then pass through the next 11/0 in the row.



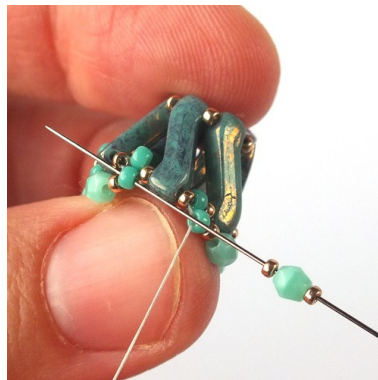
10) Add one 11/0 and pass through the next 15/0, the nearest hole of the next Z Bead and through the next 15/0.



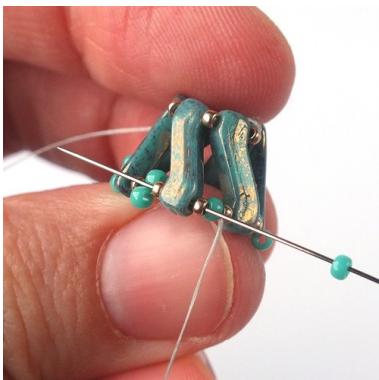
15) Repeat step 14 ...



11) Repeat step 10 ...



16) ... until you reach the end of the row.



12) ... until you reach the end of the row.



17) Pass through the first group of (15/0, 3mm FP, 15/0).



18) Add one 15/0 and pass through the next group of (15/0, 3mm FP, 15/0).



19) Repeat step 18 ...



20) ... until you reach the end of the row. Optionally you can weave through the entire row one more time, then tie a few half-hitch knots and cut off the remaining thread.



21) Prepare the tassel. I am using the flower-shaped fabric tassel with pre-glued cap, so I just connected the eye on the cap to the loop on the eyepin.



22) Put the finished bead cap on the eyepin, open side first.



23) Then add your accent beads (I am using Matubo 2/0 and 3mm FP).



24) If necessary, shorten the remaining length of the eyepin to approximately 6–8mm and make a right angle bend.



25) Then use round nose pliers to shape a loop.



26) Add earring components of your choice.



27) The earrings are finished.



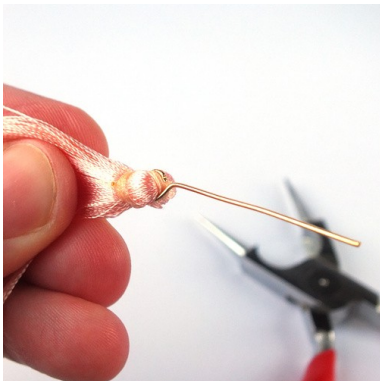
28) If you want to use a drop-shaped bead, use a headpin instead of an eyepin, string the drop bead, then your beaded cap, then your accent beads. Then proceed to make the loop and finish the earring (like in steps 23-25).



29) If you want to use a tassel without a pre-glued bead cap, use a headpin - but instead of using it as it is, open the loop and make it slightly larger. It does not really have to be all neat and pretty - it just have to be big enough to accommodate the tassel.



30) If you take a good look at the top of your tassel, you might notice a small opening above the thread that holds it together. Take your enlarged eyepin and push it through that opening. Be careful not to damage the tassel.



31) Then close the open loop of the eyepin around the top part of the tassel. Again, it does not have to be super neat as it will be hidden inside our bead cap, but it has to be secure.



32) Put the finished bead cap on the eyepin, open side first.



33) Then add accent beads of your choice (I used 6mm round bead and a 3mm FP).

34) And just like in steps 23-25 shorten the eyepin, make a loop ...



35) ... and attach earring findings (or other jewelry findings of your choice).

Colorways:



Z Beads 10mm 63130/15496
Miyuki Round 11/0 429 Opaque Luster Salmon
Miyuki Round 15/0 4204 Duracoat Galv. Champagne
3mm FP 03000/34303
Accent beads 6mm round imitation turquoise, 3mm FP



Z Beads 10mm 83120/85001
Miyuki Round 11/0 4248 Duracoat S/L Dark Lilac
Miyuki Round 15/0 4222 Duracoat Galv. Pewter
3mm FP 03000/90215
Accent beads large-hole rondelle 5,5x8mm 83120/15464, 3mm FP



Z Beads 10mm 93200/15496
Miyuki Round 11/0 1233 Matte Opaque Mustard
Miyuki Round 15/0 462 Metallic Gold Iris
3mm FP 13740
Accent beads 5mm round coral, MC rondelle topaz, turquoise mini rondelle



Z Beads 10mm 63030/86805
Miyuki Round 11/0 2028 Matte Opq Seafoam Luster
Miyuki Round 15/0 4222 Duracoat Galv. Pewter
3mm FP 54220
Accent beads 3mm FP, 6mm round, 25x12mm drop imitation howlite



Z Beads 10mm 63130/15496
Miyuki Round 11/0 2034 Fancy Frosted Rose Beige
Miyuki Round 15/0 4204 Duracoat Galv. Champagne
3mm FP 70350, 54220
Accent beads 3mm FP, Matubo 2/0 00030/26440