Millie's Storm Clouds Necklace

Ingredients

62cm BT462 0.024 heavy Soft Flex Extreme
40cm JW106 1.2mm half hard silver wire
4m JW235 0.2mm supa lilac soft wire
28 assorted grey, purple & lilac pearls
from 8mm to 12mm in diameter
18 X CC418 silver crystal rondelles
2 x MB668 14mm solid grey black round links
1 x MB669 20mm solid grey black round link
Assorted pink and purple small seed beads
6 x 6mm jump rings
FN024 silver lobster
12 x FN062 silver French crimps

To Make

The Necklace Fronts

Cut the wire into two pieces - 15cm and 25cm long. Curve both pieces gently and turn a loop on each end of each piece that curves down toward the bottom arc of the curve. Place both the wire arcs down on a mat in front of you and, setting aside 6 of the silver rondelles for the strap, divide the rest of the feature beads along the lengths of each wire.

Cut 2.5m x 0.2mm wire and secure to one end of the long length of wire with three neat wraps. Now pick up and secure on the first of your feature beads. For some beads simply bind them onto the wire, for others take the wire through the pearl and make a twist at one side to give a small shank and then wire onto the band. Continue along the length adding beads as you go. Once you get to the far end, secure the wire but do not trim back. Now thread on a few seed beads and curl them around the wire. Pick up a few more and make another twist around the wire. Keep working down the length winding the seed beads into the design. Secure the wire at the far end and trim back neatly.

Use the other metre of 0.2mm wire to secure the rest of the feature beads to the shorter piece of 1.2mm wire. Millie has not used seed beads on this second strand, just feature beads.
You may like to use seed beads on both strands - if you do you will need an additional 1m of 0.2mm wire.

The Necklace Sides

Cut the Soft Flex in half. Slip a jump ring into the centre of the first length and thread both ends through a French crimp, push the crimp up to the jump ring to trap it. Adjust the length so that one side of the Soft Flex is 2cm longer than the other. Secure the crimp. Thread both ends through one of the reserved silver rondelles followed by another crimp. Push up to the first crimp and secure. Onto the end of one strand thread on a crimp, a rondelle, and a crimp. Make a 4mm loop at the end of this wire and secure with the last crimp added. Bring the rondelle and crimp back down to this end. Trim the tail of the wire if necessary so that it will be covered by the rondelle, and secure into place with the other crimp. Repeat on the other end of the wire.
Repeat with the other length of Soft Flex wire to make the other side of the necklace.
Use 6mm jump rings to attach the short sides of the Soft Flex to either end of the short decorated wire and the longer strands to either end of the longer decorated wire.
To complete the necklace attach the fastener with two further 6mm jump rings.

 © The Spellbound Bead Co 2011