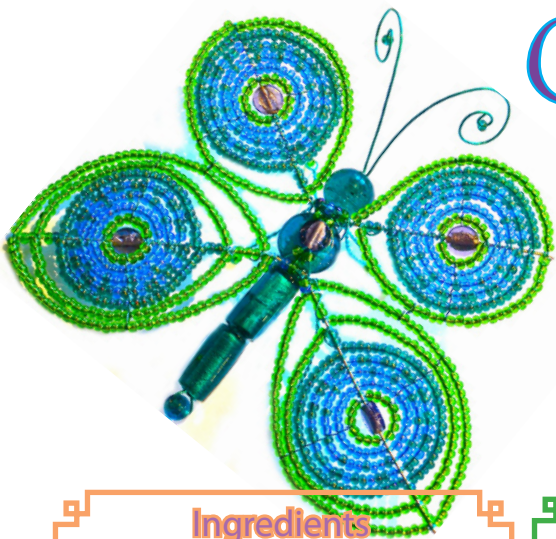


Groovy Butterflies



Hang these giant funky butterflies in the window to catch the light. They are 15cm across when complete.

These instructions are suitable for a beginner but you will need a few basic tools- a pair of wire cutters and a pair of round nosed pliers.

Ingredients

For the gold & purple butterfly you need one pot each of size 6/0 seed beads

- RC275 - silver lined gold
- RC174 - silver lined orange
- RC390 - transparent purple AB
- plus

- 70cm of 1.2mm half hard silver plated wire
- 8m of 0.5mm supa lilac soft wire
- 60cm of 0.7mm supa lilac soft wire
- 1m of 0.3 supa lilac soft wire for binding
- Five GL2378 10mm red silver lined cushion A
- One GL0319 8mm purple round glass bead B
- Two GL1649 25x12mm purple silver lined tube C
- One GL1138 23mm purple silver lined disc D
- One GL1347 18mm purple round bead E

Ingredients

For the green butterfly you need one pot each of size 6/0 seed beads

- RC636 - silver lined lime
- RC567 - turquoise AB
- RC569 - teal AB
- plus

- 70cm of 1.2mm half hard silver plated wire
- 8m of 0.5mm vivid green soft wire
- 60cm of 0.7mm vivid green soft wire
- 1m of 0.3 vivid green soft wire for binding
- Five GL2377 10mm tanzanite silver lined cushion A
- One GL0343 8mm teal round glass bead B
- Two GL1651 25x12mm teal silver lined tube C
- One GL1141 23mm teal silver lined disc D
- One GL1345 18mm capri blue round bead E

Ingredients

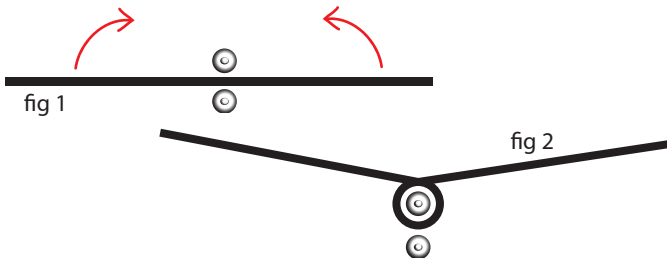
For the pinky purple butterfly you need one pot each of size 6/0 seed beads

- RC174 - silver lined orange
- RC390 - transparent purple AB
- RC394 - transparent cerise AB
- plus

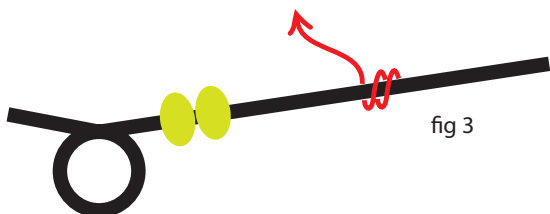
- 70cm of 1.2mm half hard silver plated wire
- 8m of 0.5mm bright violet soft wire
- 60cm of 0.7mm bright violet soft wire
- 1m of 0.3 bright violet soft wire for binding
- Five GL2376 10mm rose pink silver lined cushion A
- One GL0314 8mm pink round glass bead B
- Two GL1654 25x12mm watermelon silver lined tube C
- One GL1137 23mm watermelon silver lined disc D
- One GL1354 18mm pink round bead E

Before you begin - sort out the seed beads into the colour order you want to use. The lists above show the order in which we have used them, but you might want to change them around. Mark the first colour X, the second colour Y and the third colour Z. Put the very thin binding wire away until you reach step 13.

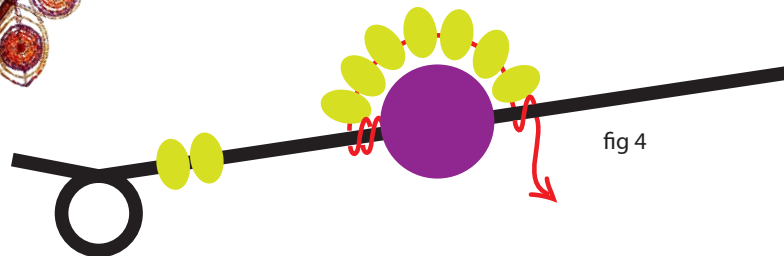
1 Cut the 1.2mm wire in half and straighten out as best as you can. Hold the middle of the first length in your round nosed pliers approx. 5mm from the end of the plier nose. Hold the wire horizontally - following figs 1 & 2 bend the two sides of the wire over the top jaw of the pliers to make a very shallow V shape. This is the underlying frame for the top two wings.



2 Concentrate on one wing at a time. Cut 1.5m of 0.5mm wire. Thread 2Y onto one side of the prepared frame and push down to the loop to be out of the way for now. Approximately 4cm from the central loop of the frame, and on the same side of the loop as the 2Y beads, wind the very end of the 0.5mm wire onto the frame wire - make 2 winds only - make them neat, touching one another and travelling down towards the big loop at the centre of the frame wire (fig 3). Thread 1A onto the frame wire and push up to the winding.

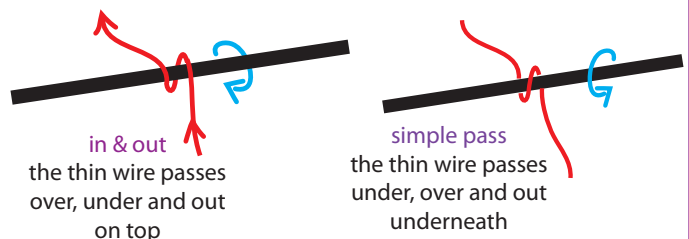


3 Thread 7X onto the end of the 0.5mm wire. Make into a curved shape so they fit around one side of the A bead. Wind the thinner wire around the 1.2mm wire once only on the far side of the A bead (fig 4). Read the **Making it Neat** hints (below) before you move on.

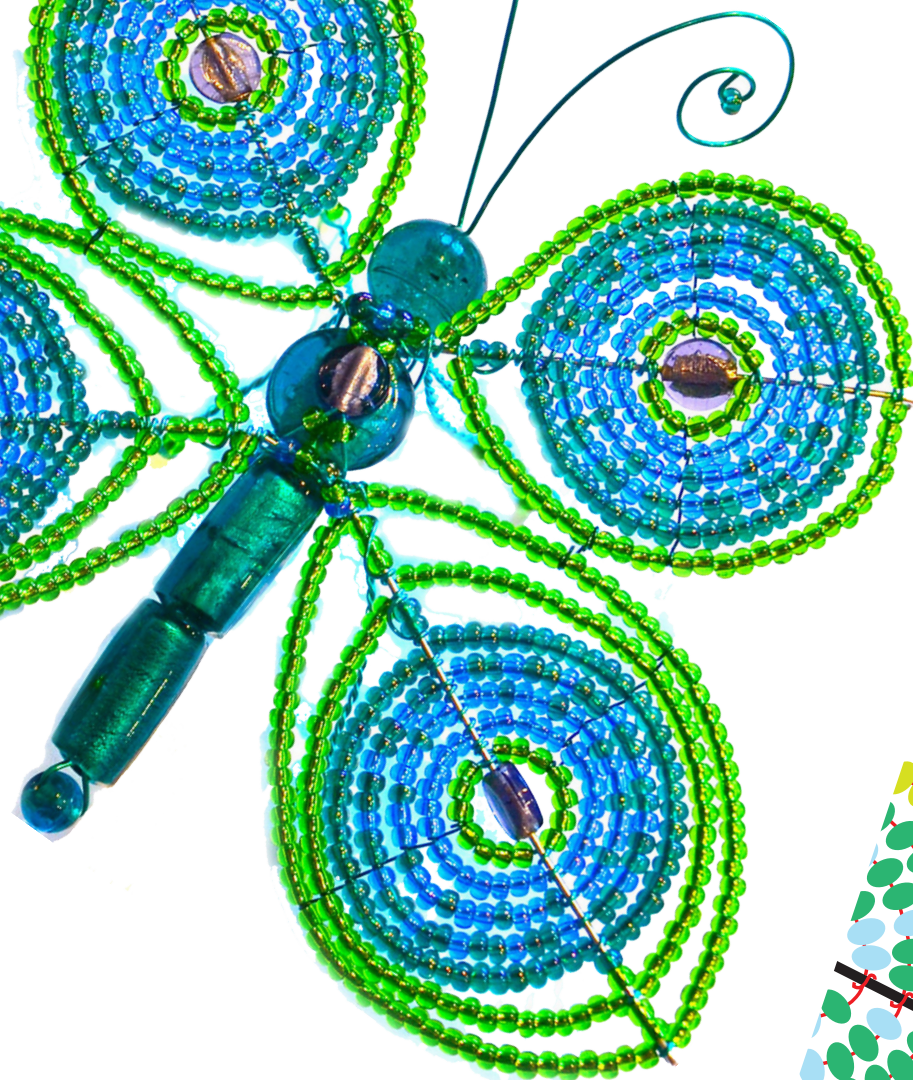


Making it Neat

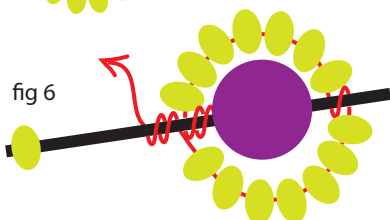
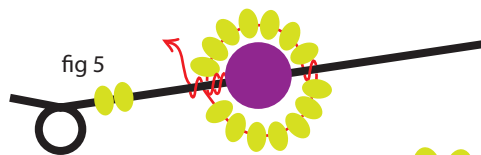
Look at the way the 0.5mm wire wraps around the 1.2mm wire. When you are making the winds around the thicker wire you end up with the thin wire showing an 'in & out' path on one side of the thick wire and a simple pass of wire on the reverse (see below).



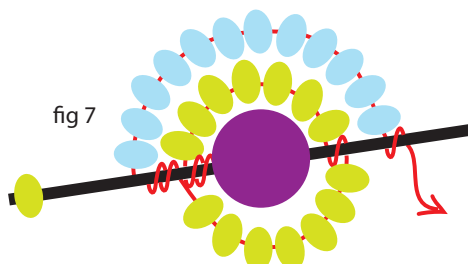
It will give you a better final result if you always wind the wire in the same direction around the thicker frame so you get all of the 'in & outs' showing on one side of the wing and the simple pass on the reverse.



4 Thread 7X onto the wire. Make a curve to frame the other side of the A bead. Wind the thin wire once around the thick wire to close up the complete circle of X beads around the A bead (fig 5). Make one more wind to reposition the thin wire one bead's width out from the edge of the circle just completed (fig 6).



5 Thread on 12Y. Make a curve to frame the first half of the circle made in steps 3 and 4 and wind once over the thick wire to secure (fig 7).



Thread on 12Y and repeat to complete the new circular frame. As before make an extra wind with the thin wire to be in the correct position to start the next frame.

This is the method for building the next three concentric frames.

6 For the next frame thread on 2Y and 1Z six times. Make the first curve and wind off. Repeat for the second half of the frame.

For the following frame thread on 1Y and 2Z eight times for the first half of the frame and the same for the second half.

For the final circular frame thread on 28, 29 or 30 Z beads - use your judgement - the circles need to sit quite snugly together and on the higher bead counts the work can bunch up if you have a couple of skinny beads in the sequence. Use the same rule to complete the frame with between 28 and 30 Z beads.

7 Push the 2X beads threaded onto the thick wire in step 2 up to the last windings of the thin wire. Pass the thin wire over the top of these beads and wind twice onto the thick wire at the far side of these beads (fig 8). Thread on 32 - 34 X beads to reach around to the far end of the circular frames and wind on.

Thread on a similar number of X beads to reach back to the start of this frame. Wind on with two tight turns of the thin wire over the thick wire.

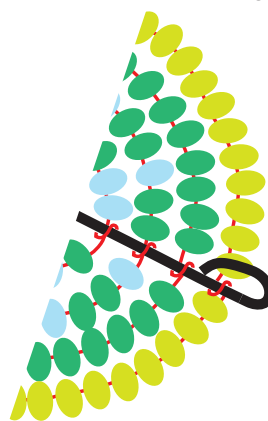


fig 9

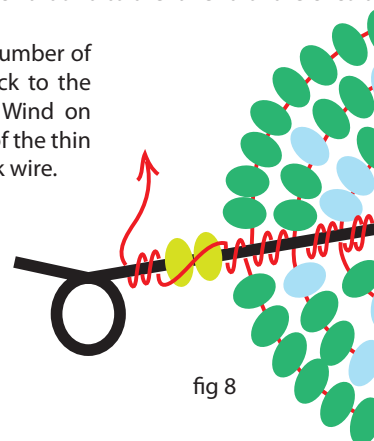


fig 8

8 Repeat on the other end of the thick wire to complete the pair of wings. Gently, if necessary, ease the beading down towards the central loop on the 1.2mm wire until the innermost windings are 3-4mm from the loop. Make sure all the frame spacings are equal and the work is tidy. Trim the excess 1.2mm wire to 6mm at each end. Roll this cut end over to touch back on the underside of the wing to secure the work - repeat at the other side of the wings (fig 9).

9 The lower wings are made in a similar way. Follow step 1 with the second length of the 1.2mm wire. Thread 3X and 2Y onto the end of the 1.2mm wire before you wind the thinner wire into place (as fig 3) - this time make this first wire wind 6cm from the centre loop on the 1.2mm wire. Thread on 1A and make the first five circular frames of this wing in exactly the same way as for the top wings.



10 Push the 2Y beads threaded onto the 1.2mm wire up to the last wind made with the thinner wire. Secure these beads as in fig 8. Thread 1Y and 1X onto the end of the 1.2mm wire. Thread on 33-35 X beads to make the first half of the frame. Wind onto the thicker wire just to the outside of the two beads just added to trap them in place. Make the other side of the frame with the same count of X beads.

11 Push the 3X beads up to touch the last winding and secure as fig 8. Thread 2X onto the end of the 1.2mm wire. Make the final frame as before with between 39 and 42 X beads.

Repeat from step 9 to make the fourth wing.

12 If necessary ease the beading up to 3-4mm from the central thick loop. Trim and turn the excess 1.2mm wire as before to finish off the wings neatly.

Gently bend the 1.2mm wire either side of the central loops so the upper wings curve one way and the lower wings the other (fig 10) - note how they sit together so you can thread them on correctly in step 14.

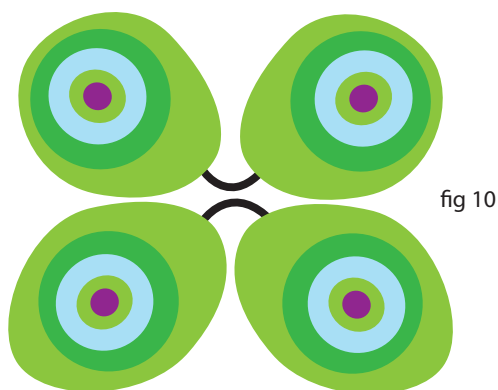


fig 10

13 To strengthen the wings you will need to add an extra fine wire across the rows at 90° to the 1.2mm wire.

Cut 10cm of the 0.3mm binding wire.

Tease apart beads 3 and 4 of the first row of the first wing. Wind the end of the new length of wire onto the 0.5mm wire that you can just see between these beads.

This wire needs to link across the frames on this side of the wing to stabilise the shape.

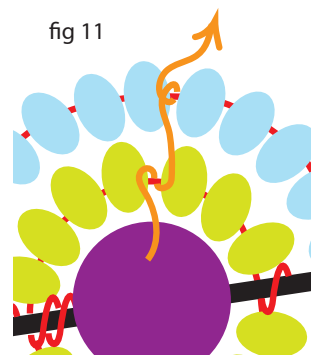


fig 11

Gently tease apart the middle two beads on the second frame and wrap the wire onto the 0.5mm wire there (fig 11).

Repeat until you reach the edge of the wing (fig 12). Trim the wire ends very neatly.

Repeat, with a new length of wire, on the opposite side of this wing.

Now move on to repeat this all of the other wings - the wings will feel much more firm.

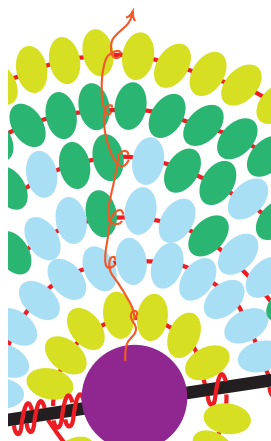


fig 12

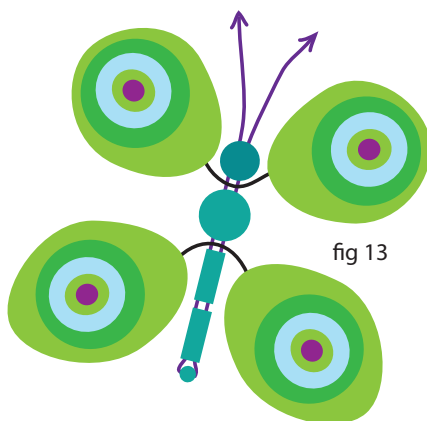


fig 13

15 Now you need to secure the wings. You have long tails of 0.5mm wire on each of the wings. Wrap each tail, one at a time, just twice tightly into the gap between the D and E bead (top wings) and the C and D beads (lower wings).

16 The remainder of the wire tails are used to decorate the abdomen and make the legs. Choose the longest wire end from the lower wings and bring to the front of the abdomen between the C and D beads.

Thread on 1X, 1A and 1X. Holding the A beads flat in the centre of the D bead pass the wire underneath the neck of the butterfly between the D and E beads. Thread on 1X. Pass the wire back through the A bead and thread on 1X.

Wrap the wire around in the gap between the D and C beads to secure (fig 15).

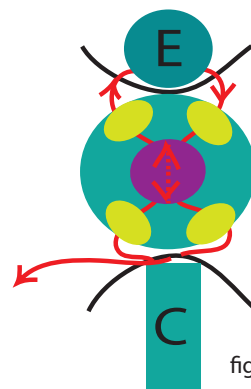


fig 15

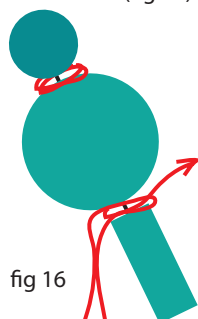
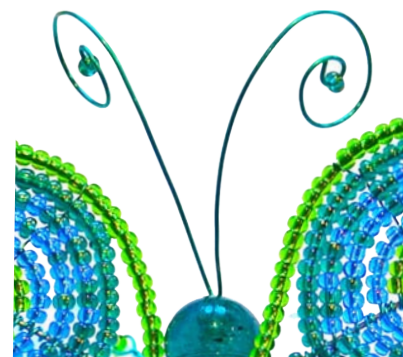


fig 16

17 The Legs - bring all of the wire ends to the underside of the butterfly. Choose one end and thread on 1X. Fold the wire about the bead leaving it at the bend of a loop 5cm long (fig 16). Twist the two sides of the loop together to form the leg. Wrap the tail of the wire around the butterfly abdomen as before to secure. Repeat with the other three wire ends. You need to add two more legs between the D and E beads to make a proper butterfly. If you have enough wire remaining on these ends make the legs with these wires - if not just join on a new length of wire and complete the last two legs.

18 If you wish you can thread on a selection of X, Y and Z beads to make a strap to cover the two gaps you have been winding into between the C, D and E beads to make it neat and tidy. Make sure all of these wing wire ends are secure and trim.



19 Finishing off. Make sure that the wings are correctly positioned - the edges of the wings should just touch - if not adjust the curves in the 1.2mm wire that you put in on step 12. Use a 5cm length of 0.5mm wire to link the top wing and the lower wings together just where they touch one another at the edges.

Trim the antennae to 10-12cm long. Curl the ends of the wire around a cylinder and turn a large loop at the end to tuck in the sharp wire end. If you wish you can add 1Y bead to each loop.

Position the legs correctly (four forward and two backwards) and hang up your groovy butterfly!