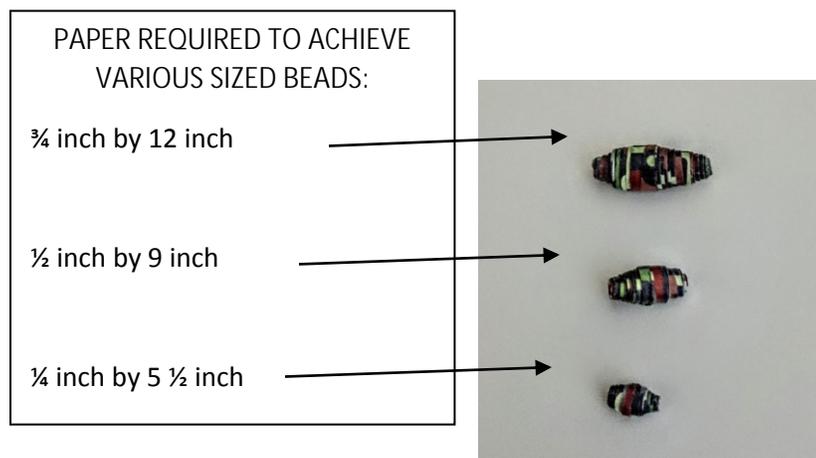


Paper Bead Earrings

Read through the instructions completely before beginning!

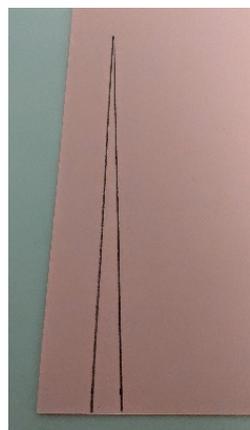
Supplies:

- Paper - Magazine, wrapping, and scrapbook paper work well
- Pencil or pen
- Ruler
- Craft Knife, Rotary Cutter or Scissors
- Self-Healing Cutting Mat (optional)
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Jewelry Wire Cutters
- Floral Wire or toothpick
- Liquid Glue or Glue Stick
- Spray sealant or clear nail polish
- Waxed or parchment paper
- For earrings: Earring wires, various sized beads, headpins, connector rings



Paper Bead Instructions :

1. Place your paper **face down** on your work surface. The side that is down will be the outside of the bead.
2. With a pencil or pen mark the reverse side of your paper by marking-up one short edge of your paper with divisions spaced $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (depending on the size of the bead you are making). On the opposite short edge of your paper make a mark 8-12 inches. Make a triangle matching up the long ends with the one point at the other end of the paper. You should have the makings of a long isosceles triangle when you join two adjacent marks on the first edge with the central mark on the opposing edge.



*At this point it is worth noting that these measurements have been provided as a starting point, but ultimately it is the ratio of these measurements, combined with the overall length of the paper you are using plus the shapes that you use that will determine the dimensions and shape of your finished paper bead. **I have included a sample of various shapes you can make at the end of the instructions.**

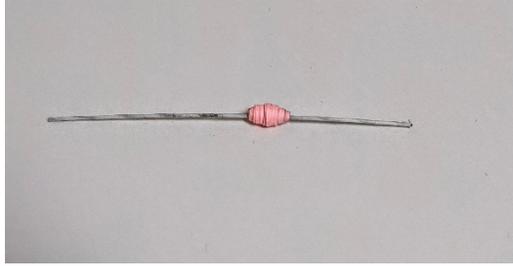
3. Carefully cut out the triangles using scissors or for a more accurate cut use a straight edge and a craft knife or rotary cutter.



4. Take your floral wire or toothpick and starting at the wide end of your paper roll it around the wire or toothpick slightly so that it starts to form a cylinder. **Make sure the pretty side of your paper is 'out'**. Once you are happy with the alignment roll unroll it and apply a little glue across the width of the paper immediately below the line of the skewer. Now carefully roll the paper past the glue and continue onwards ensuring that each spiral at the side of the bead is symmetrical as it forms. **Keep it as tight as possible so that the bead hole is very small** . At intervals apply a tiny bit of glue to secure your work as you go. I like to clip the pointed end of the paper to a desk or counter, it makes it easier to get a tight roll.



5. When the paper is completely rolled make sure the end is securely stuck down with a dab of glue before rolling the bead through your fingers with a light pressure to ensure it is cylindrical and secure. Slide the bead off of the floral wire.



6. Brush each bead with a few coats of nail polish or spray with varnish to seal them. You can lay the beads on a piece of waxed paper or parchment to dry. I have found it is not necessary to suspend them, they don't stick to the paper at all! Let beads dry completely before assembling the earrings.

Earring Instructions:

1. To make earrings: Thread beads on the head pin in whatever order you like. Experiment to find the color scheme and shapes you prefer. The 'head' on a head pin is very small so I always put a very small bead on first and then the paper bead since the hole in a paper bead is usually a little bigger.

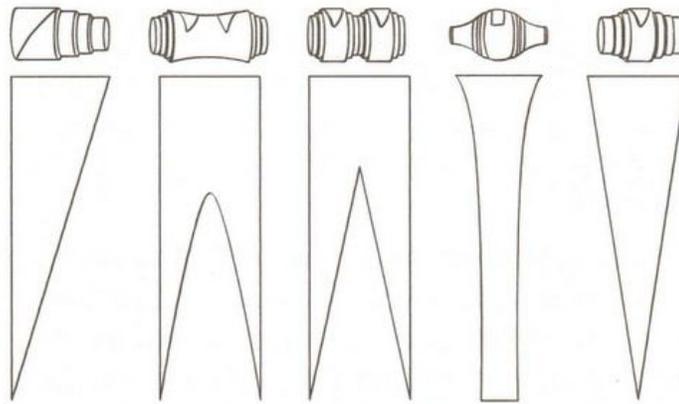


2. Use needle nose pliers to shape the headpin in a loop. Cut the excess head pin off with wire cutters and turn the end in closely to create a tight loop.



3. Attach a connector ring and then add an earring wire. Your earring is ready to wear!





Variations you can use to get different paper bead shapes.

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