

Rainbow Hoop Earrings

By: Susan Sunde, The Bead Engineer

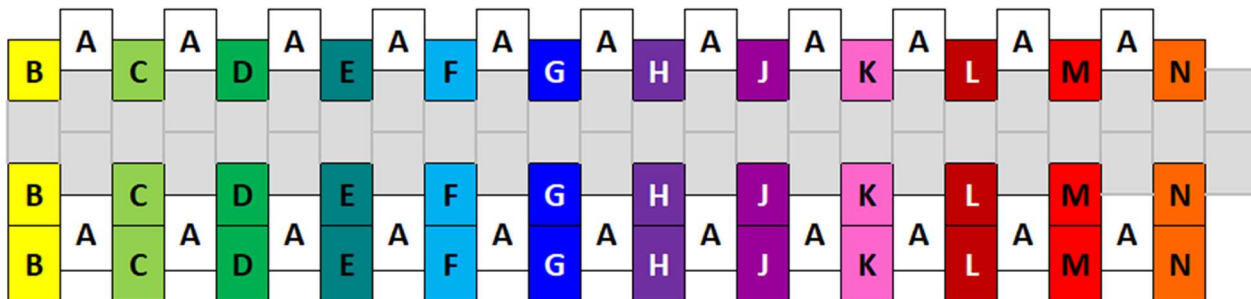
Skill Level: Intermediate



The finished earrings will be approximately 1.3 inches (3.3 cm) in diameter.

The overall process

1. Create the interior with 15/0 round Toho Beads with even count circular peyote (shown in gray below)
2. Create the exterior sides of the hoop with 11/0 delicas.
3. Zip sides together & weave in ends.
4. Make the bail (odd count peyote)
5. Attach the ear wires.



The circular peyote rainbow colors are repeated 3 times in the hoop. Shown once here.

Materials:

- 15/0 Toho Seed Beads (Toho 21F) – Qty 1g.
 - I tried this with Miyuki and it was simply too tight.
- 8/0 Seed Beads (Toho 21F) – Qty 2 beads
- 3mm Fire polish (White) – Qty 4 beads
- Size 11/0 Delica beads – See table for quantities
- Ear wires (I used stainless, but pick your favorite)
- Qty 2, 5mm OD 21 jump ring. 4mm works well too.
- 6 lb crystal fireline (4.1 yards (3.8 m) total needed)
- Size 11 and 12 beading needles
 - Size 12 is used to weave in ends on the hoop.
- Optional: 1 inch tube. A travel sized shampoo bottle worked for me. I added tape to the outside to add contracts for photographs.

Delica quantities provided are rounded up to the nearest tenth gram & are calculated at 180 beads/g. Some shops will use 190 or 200, but in my experience, it varies so it is best to be conservative.

Delica Color Chart

Pattern Letter	Delica Number	Generic Description	Quantity (g)
A	DB200	White	1.3
B	DB1776	Yellow	0.5
C	DB1787	Light Green	0.5
D	DB1788	Dark Green	0.5
E	DB1769	Teal	0.5
F	DB1783	Light Blue	0.5
G	DB1785	Dark Blue	0.5
H	DB1756	Purple	0.5
J	DB281	Magenta	0.5
K	DB2050	Pink	0.5
L	DB280	Dark Red	0.5
M	DB295	Light Red	0.5
N	DB1777	Orange	0.5
Total			7.3

Note: It's helpful if you lay out the beads in color order on your bead mat.

Tension: [Medium](#).

Skills and Techniques: Zipping, Even Count Circular Peyote & Odd Count Flat Peyote,

1. Form the interior of the hoop

a. Important notes:

- Medium** tension is needed, NOT tight.
 - If you pull the first 2 rows tight it will be very hard to get the third row completed. In R1/2, the thread is circular.
 - After row 3 is added the thread path in rows 1 and 2 changes to a wavy circle and thus a bit longer. It will be very hard to take a tight circle and get a wavy circle thread path if the tension is too tight.
- b. On a 4.5 ft (1.4 m) length of fire line add a stop bead with a 6-inch (15 cm) tail.
- c. **Row 1/2:** Pick up 72 size 15/0 seed beads. Form a loop by going back through the first bead.
- d. **Row 3:** Work even count peyote around with 15/0 seed beads and step up. 36 beads are added in this round. Feel free to remove the stop bead after about 5-10 beads are added.
- e. Move tail thread over one row.



i. Tips:

- The beads may not sit nicely at first. Do not rush. Adjust them as required with your fingernail. After 5 or so beads are on this round it will become easier.
- Consider using approximately 1" (25mm) round item to bead around. A small travel shampoo bottle worked for me. Tape was added around it to make pictures easier. I have made this with and without this.
- If you cannot manage a loose tension, add a delica after the 72 beads in Row 1/2 before it is joined to form a circle. As it gets harder to add beads in Row 3, take your pliers and destroy the delica.
- Do not rush this row. Getting this row right will make the rest easier.
- Pulling the tail thread tighten things up if needed.



Beads may seem too loose and/or sit wonky at first. Straighten them out with your fingernail.

The gap from the first bead to the last may look like this. That gap will disappear as beads are added.

See no gap!
Step up.
Move tail thread over.

2. Form the exterior sides of the hoop

a. Side 1:

- i. **Row 4:** Work even count peyote repeating the rainbow sequence 3 times
 1. B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N....repeat 2 more times. Step up.
- ii. **Row 5:** Work even count peyote with A beads around. Step up. The beadwork will begin to curl.
- iii. **Row 6:** Repeat Row 4. It will be off by one due to the step up. Ensure the colors match Row 4.

b. Side 2:

- i. Weave to the other side of the hoop.
- ii. **Row 7:** Repeat Row 4. Ensure the color you start with matches side 1. Step up.
- iii. **Row 8:** Repeat Row 5. Step up.

A	WHITE
B	YELLOW
C	LT GREEN
D	DK GREEN
E	TEAL
F	LT BLUE
G	DK BLUE
H	PURPLE
J	MAGENTA
K	PINK
L	DK RED
M	LT RED
N	ORANGE



3. Zip sides and weave in ends

- a. Before you zip, move the tail thread up through Row 8 to make it easier to weave in ends.
- b. Zip side 1 and 2 together. Pull the thread taunt every few beads to ensure it snaps together.
- c. With the size 12 needle, weave in ends and trim thread.
- d. If the hoop is slightly out-of-round one may shape it at this time.



4. Make the Bail

a. Important notes:

- i. The bail is formed with 24 rows of odd count peyote.
- ii. The rainbow color sequence is repeated in the bail once.
- iii. The bail is zipped around the hoop. This thread also serves to attach beads for the earring finding.
- iv. Each bail needs 24 inches (61 cm) of fireline with a 4–5-inch (10–12.7 cm) tail.

b. **Row 1/2:** A, B, A, B, A (even count peyote turn)

c. **Row 3:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

d. **Row 4:** C, C

e. **Row 5:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

f. **Row 6:** D, D

g. **Row 7:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

h. **Row 8:** E, E

i. **Row 9:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

j. **Row 10:** F, F

k. **Row 11:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

l. **Row 12:** G, G

m. **Row 13:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

n. **Row 14:** H, H

o. **Row 15:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

p. **Row 16:** J, J

q. **Row 17:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

r. **Row 18:** K, K

s. **Row 19:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

t. **Row 20:** L, L

u. **Row 21:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

v. **Row 22:** M, M

w. **Row 23:** A, A, A (odd count peyote turn)

x. **Row 24:** N, N

y. **Zip:**

- i. Weave in tail thread.
- ii. With the working thread, wrap the bail around the hoop and zip the ends of the bail together. Reinforce the join.



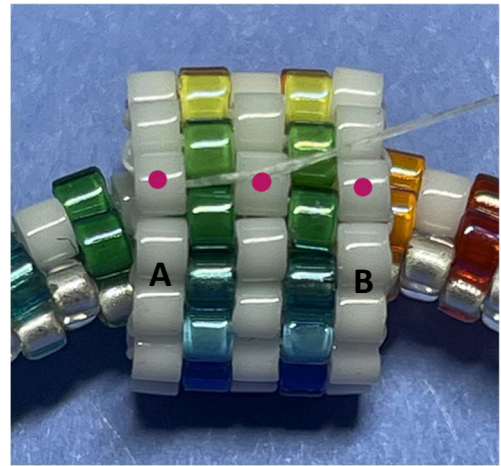
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5. Attach the ear wires

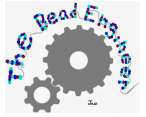
a. Important notes:

- i. Feel free to choose a different location for the ear wire attachment as the entire bail will not be visible from the front. About 5 colors will be visible.
 - ii. The visible colors will be the 5 colored beads either forward or behind the row marked with the pink dots.
- b. Weave to where you want to attach the ear wire and enter the first column of white beads marked "A".
- c. Pick up a 3mm fire polish, 15/0, 8/0, 15/0, and 3mm fire polish. Go through the "B" bead.
- d. Weave through beadwork. Turn and go back through the beads from the prior step.
- e. Weave in thread changing direction to secure.
- f. Add a jump ring to the 8/0 bead. Add the ear wire prior to closure of the jump ring.



Turn & weave through beadwork.

Turn again & reinforce thread path through fire polish & seed beads.



Caring for your beadwork

After so much time, everyone wants their items to last. Here are some general care instructions for your beadwork.

- Avoid dropping, scratching, and tossing it onto hard surfaces.
- Keep it out of reach of small children and pets.
- Please store in a cool, dry place away from direct light.
- Do not store your beadwork in a hot attic. It is unknown how the heat will affect the beadwork over time.
- Moisture can damage thread, cause metals to tarnish and, in general, is not good for beadwork of any kind.
- Do not subject beadwork to water or soap.
- If metal tarnishing is a concern
 - An airtight bag will help protect the beadwork from dirt and tarnish. The addition of anti-tarnish strips to the bag is recommended.
 - Consider applying a thin coat of protectoclear. Know that it will also stiffen the beadwork.

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Thank you for respecting the copyright of my design. This pattern is for personal use only. You may sell beadwork you make from my design; but not hire others to do so under your name. If you would like to publicly display your finished work made with this pattern, please credit Susan Sunde, The Bead Engineer for the design. This pattern may not be distributed or rewritten and distributed for sale. If you would like to teach this pattern, each student must purchase their own copy. Happy Beading!!!

Questions

Please feel free to contact me through the Etsy conversation at https://www.etsy.com/shop/TheBeadEngineer?ref=simple-shop-header-name&listing_id=1133211125 I do have a full-time job other than beading, for which I do not always have access to a computer. Please allow me time to respond to you.

Thank you! I hope you enjoy making these as much as I have.

Susan