

# FREE-FORM PEYOTE EARRINGS

by Cathy Benton



Okay, so you're sick of sticking beads on headpins to make earrings and you've made tons of those brick stitch triangles with assorted fringes and you can only wear your Santa earrings one month of the year so you need something NEW and definitely "outside the box." FREE FORM peyote earrings! Yesssssss! You know peyote stitch, you have way too many beads in every imaginable size *and* shape *and* color, so you're ready to bead.

There's absolutely no right or wrong way to do this but here's how I *think* I made the one above:

- 1) String on an even number of size 11 seed beads to any length you like. I use about 16 beads. That's your first *and* second row (remember, this is peyote.)
- 2) Work back with size 11's for one row. Pretty boring so far, right?
- 3) Now, change to size 8's for the next row and you'll see that the piece starts to bow outward.
- 4) On the way back, I added the little coral bead (at the bottom) and continued with 8's for a few beads and then switched to the silver 11's.
- 5) I think I made the loop for the ear wire next and then strung the turquoise nugget and some additional 11's and attached that strand (which is just dangling there) to the bottom of the first part.
- 6) Since the coral was kind of sticking out, I just played around with more 11's until it all "fit" together.

That's really about it. I'm thinking of making some with 15's and 11's and Swarovski crystals. Wanna join me?