

Simply Sparkles

by Marcia Balonis

This is a common design with many different variations with many names. I've done this and called it Simply Sparkles for over 10 years. This is a great beginner project.

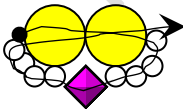


Materials: **Core** beads can be crystal or Fire Polish 6mm beads; **Wing** beads can be seed beads usually size 11; Crystal or Fire Polish 4 mm beads. Fire Line. Use 3 – 3 ½ yards, a little more with larger beads. Lots of options for bead combinations exist with this piece. Try different combinations. Basic bead count: 30 core beads in 6mm; 60 size 4mm; 11/0 seed beads. This count results in a bracelet 7 ½”.

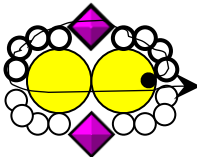
1. Start: **PU shown below is: 2 size 6mm core, 3 or 4 size 11/0 SB; 1 size 4mm; 3 or 4 size 11/0 SB**, wing pick up to fit space. With 6mm round beads core shown, 4 size 11 seed beads were used. You need to check the fit of the “wings” to the core to fill the distance depending on the beads you select and adjust your count to fit the space. *Note you can use 2 or more colors of size 11 SB’s for added interest.*



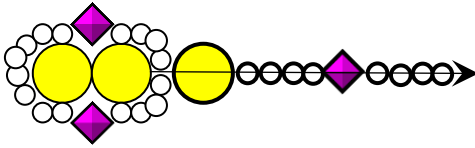
2. Go back through the first two round core beads only, shown in yellow below. This is the first part of the two “Butterfly Wings” that go around the core.



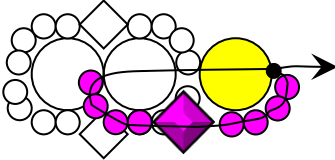
3. Repeat the wing pattern on the other side of the same 2 core crystals.



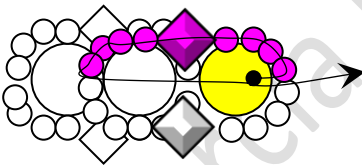
4. Now pick up 1 more core and your bead pattern for the wing. Bring that down to the beadwork.



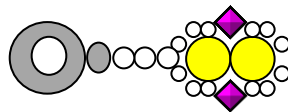
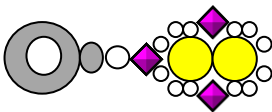
5. Go back through the **LAST TWO** round core beads. You are skipping the first core bead.



6. Repeat the wing pattern on other side and continue in this fashion the length of the bracelet. Note the new pink beads are hiding the previous row of beads. **Also IMPORTANT at this point you are careful that you ADD beads on the SAME side each time you add new wings.** It is critical to be consistent to maintain the pattern.



7. Add on Clasp. I prefer a “snap” clasp also called trailer hitch clasp for this project. Travel around the core and a wing to reinforce clasp on both sides so that you have at least 2 passes thru the clasp. There are two clasp attachment samples below, choose your favorite method of attaching clasp. Often the choice depends on if you need to add length.





Two colors of size 11 used below. Pattern = A/B/A/A/4mm/A/A/B/A

