Bugle Diamonds

“Caught the Bug Project”

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TOOLS REQUIRED

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Split Needle (optional)
Scissors

MATERIALS
15mm Bugle Beads
Size 10 seed beads
Monofilament
Earwires
Jump Rings

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NB: It is essential to use monofilament with the bugle beads as the edges can be sharp and cut normal beading thread. If using a beading needle, flatten the end of the monofilament with pliers to assist threading the needle, also pull the monofilament a short way through the needle hole with pliers if necessary. However the diamond can be made without using a needle at all.
This Diamond has 8 sides, each side a triangle. It is worked in two stages: the top of four triangles and the bottom of four triangles.

1. Leaving a tail of about 20cm (8in) thread on three bugle beads. Keeping a firm tension make a triangle by going through the three bugles again, then through one more bugle so the threads are coming out of each end of the same bugle. Photo 1

2. Thread two more bugle beads then take the needle through the other end of the bugle the thread is exiting, this will make a second triangle attached to the first. Take the needle through the two bugles just added, your thread will be exiting from the central point. Photo 2

3. Make another triangle around the central point. Ensure that you always work into an adjacent bugle bead and don't have threads running across the spaces between the bugle beads.
Add one more bugle to make a set of four triangles. The centre point will rise slightly when you tighten the top row. Photos 3 and 4

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4. With your thread coming out of a bugle at the centre point, thread 20 seed beads. Take the needle down through an opposite bugle then an adjacent base bugle. Thread the tail thread through some beads and knot and trim it. **Photo 5**

5. The bottom of the diamond is the same as the top. Work four triangles coming off the four base bugle beads. Add two bugles to make the first triangle then single bugles beads to create the remaining three triangles. Make sure all of the threads connect each intersection. Tie off and trim the thread. **Photos 6 to 9**

6. To make the diamond into an earring simply open a jump ring, attach an earwire and the loop at the top of the diamond then close the jump ring.