



DANGLES

Tutorial for multi-part earstuds

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INTRODUCTION

DANGLES

The tradition of wearing ear jewellery goes far back into history of mankind. Fashion and its purpose changed, ear jewellery as an essential part of accessories and decoration stayed.

In ancient Egypt religious and symbolic aspects played a main role in wearing ear jewellery besides aesthetic reasons.

Greek and roman women wore antique pottery or small figurines in their ears to attract good spirits and repel the bad.

In the european Middle Ages ear jewellery was seen as a privilege of the upper classes. It was reserved for the wealthy bourgeoisie and nobility.

In the 17th century earrings and earbolts were used as amulettes to be protected from diseases of the eyes.

In the Biedermeier (1815 –1848) earrings and studs became a common and widespread part of women's jewellery, manufactured in the same appearance as necklaces, bracelets and brooches to form a unity.

Classical ear jewellery is symmetric, persisting of two perfectly consistent pieces, which decorates and frames the face from both sides.

On the contrary, the dangles we are introducing to you in this tutorial, are pairs including two unequal studs, which differ in their appearance but still build a unity by color and forms.

Funny, flamboyant and remarkably creative on one side, simple and plain the other – this ear jewellery brings attention and creates smiles.



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THE IDEA



Dangles are based on the following concept:

Work the head of the animal directly onto the stud. It is put through the hole in the earlobe like any other earstud. Then place the bail with the body behind the ear on the stud. Last the nut is added to close the dangle.

You can wear your dangles in different ways – with or without the body added behind or in front of the ear.



DANGLES – DANGLING EAR JEWELLERY

WHAT YOU NEED

Surgical steel earstud XL by Vetromagic clamped in a screw joint fixed on a mandrel (see 2nd picture)

Peg bails small (surgical steel) on a „styrofoam bed“ | tweezers

brown glassrod | brown stringer | ivory stringer

thin white stringer | thin black stringer | pliers

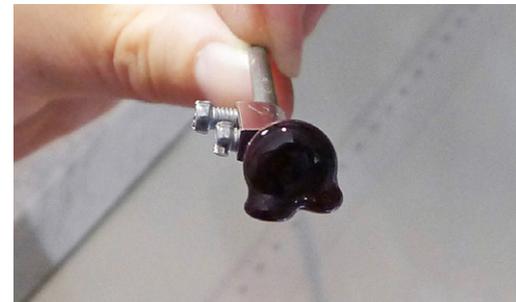
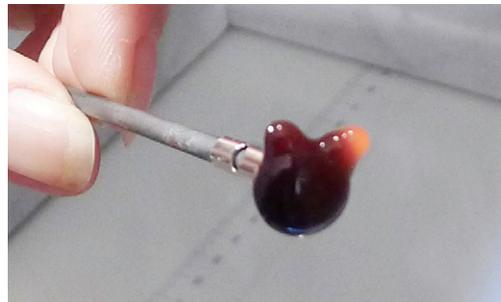
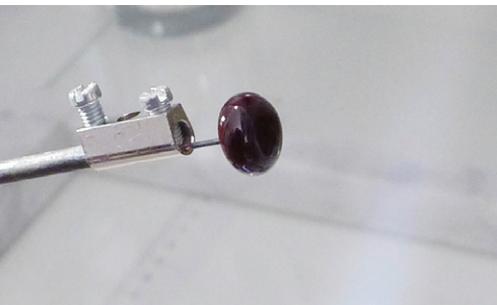
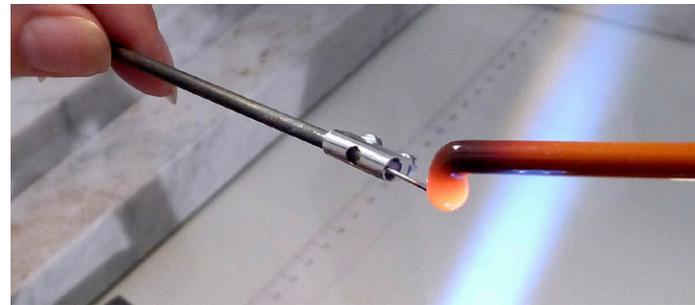
knife/tool for engraving | vermiculite/oven



No. 1: The head

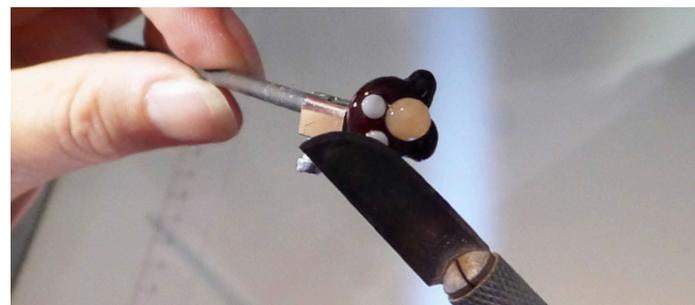
For the head start with heating the brown rod and melt a peasized blob. Heat the tip of the peg bail and apply the glassblob, form a ball and flatten it a little.

Add two dots für the paws.



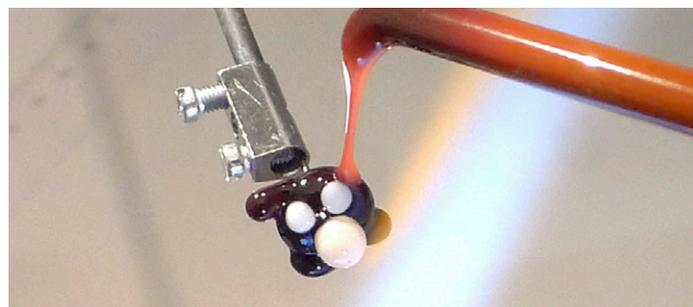
Add a bigger ivory dot near the paws for the snout.

For the eyes apply two equally sized dots with the white stringer. Flatten them a little while melting them in.



Two equal brown dots form the ears – melt them in and flatten them with the tweezers.

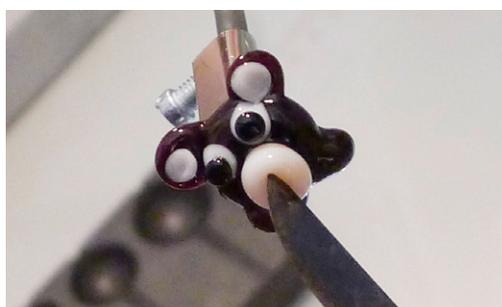
With the ivory stringer then add two small dots onto the front of the ears and flatten them.



With the thin black stringer apply the pupils and heat them.

Then warm up the snout and engrave it vertically.

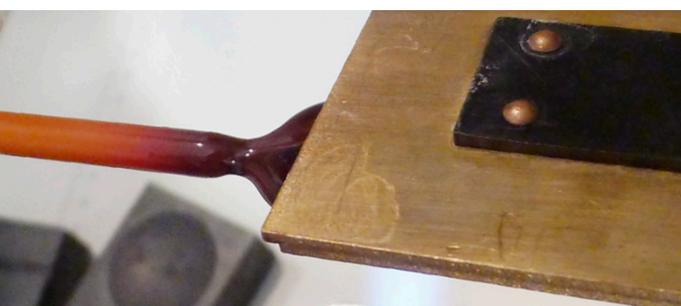
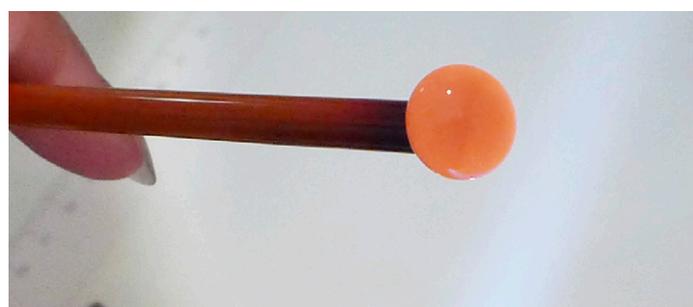
With the black stringer then add a small dot on the snout for the nose. Flatten it a little and straighten the top (to get kind of a heartshape).



Warm the head thoroughly and then into the oven or vermiculite it goes.

No. 2: The Body

For the body we work off-mandrel: Therefore take the brown rod and make a blob the size of a hazelnut.



Flatten the blob to a round disc with your pliers, and pull apart both hands while squeezing, to get a thin neck between lolly and rod.

Carefully heat the lolly to remove cooling grooves.

Then take the ivory stringer and attach a dot onto the lolly as a belly. Carefully melt the dot and flatten it with a knife in between the heating.



For the paws apply two dots, carefully warm them to fuse them with the body and flatten them from below.

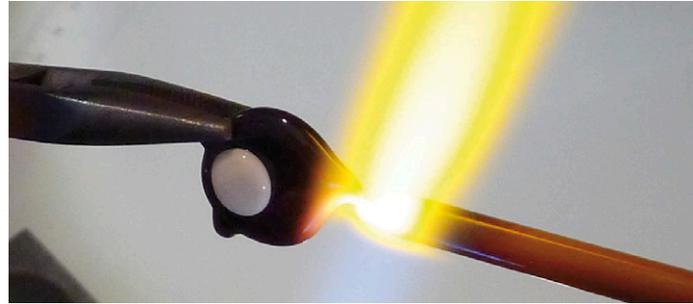


On the back of the body now add a tail with a dot of your brown stringer.

If the paws got deformed by the heat in the meanwhile, you can now get them back into shape.

Now switch the glass rod with the body to your right hand:

With pliers (or tweezers if you have more pairs) in your left hand grab the body, heat the narrow part of the rod and carefully pull to melt off the rod from the body.



With the tweezers pick up the peg bail, heat the upper end of the body, warm the tip of the peg bail by holding it into the flame for just a second and then stick the tip into the hot soft glass.

Warm the whole body and then put it into the oven or vermiculite.

For the second ear make your preferred shape, dangles are asymmetric, so feel free and be wild =)

To find out more about our frit, accessories and tutorials, visit

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After cooling down, polish the heat tinted peg bail (video & manual how to polish surgical steel on vetromagic.com).



MORE IDEAS ...



HERE YOU FIND SOME MORE EXAMPLES,
WHICH DANGLES WE MADE!



ENJOY MAKING
YOUR OWN DANGLES,

CHRISTA KLEPP & BURGI SAUSENG



AND EVEN MORE DANGLES ...



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NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!



Dangles-Set **Mono**: 20 pairs of XL-earstuds +
20 Peg bails (surgical steel)

Dangles-Set **Duo**: 10 pairs of XL-earstuds +
20 Peg bails (surgical steel)

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