



A New Twist on a Classic

A fitted pinstripe jacket tops off a teal cotton sweater and a pleated silk skirt accessorized with a canvas handbag and leather pumps.

According to fashion magazines, the fitted jacket is the new classic cardigan. For those who practically live in cardigans, myself included, this notion seems a bit scary at first, but with the many options in fabric and styles, all sorts of brilliant jackets are available now, from cotton sateen (like the jacket pictured), to denim, brocade, and even bouclé. The black and teal pinstripes on this winter-white jacket are the accents that tie the entire look together. The black silk skirt is full of flirty movement, especially with the fun stripe at the bottom. The pointy-toed mules and comfy cotton sweater add to the classic look, but if you're feeling a bit more adventurous, try a V-neck silk tunic trimmed with lace and some saucy espadrilles that crisscross up your legs. Either way, the fun handbag with its crystal embellished buckles is a fabulous addition.

Whether you lean toward the classic look or something more bohemian, this sparkly bracelet is the perfect finishing accessory. Turquoise is hot again in the jewelry world, and chunky bracelets are the current rage. The irregularly shaped pieces of turquoise might at first seem out of place with the gray Swarovski pearls, but the combination plays both sides of the pretty fence. The crystal and sterling silver rondelles, the gorgeous aquamarine rondelles, and the modern two-tone toggle clasp add yet another level of balanced imperfection. To be a true fashionista, make many of these bracelets and stack them on your arms. You'll be an instant sensation!



Reference: Jacket from Express, skirt and sweater from Gap, Aimee Lynn handbag and Franco Sarto shoes from Foley's.

Turquoise with a Twist

Materials

- 12 aquamarine 4mm rondelles
- 6 sterling silver 5mm satin rondelles with crystal inlays
- 26 irregularly shaped 8-12mm turquoise chips
- 3 grey 12mm Swarovski crystal pearls
- 2 sterling silver 2mm crimp tubes
- 2 sterling silver crimp covers
- Sterling silver toggle clasp
- 10" of .019 beading wire

Tools

- Crimping pliers
- Wire cutters



Step 1: Attach the wire to one half of the clasp using a crimp tube. Use the rounding notch of your crimping pliers to place a crimp cover around the tube.

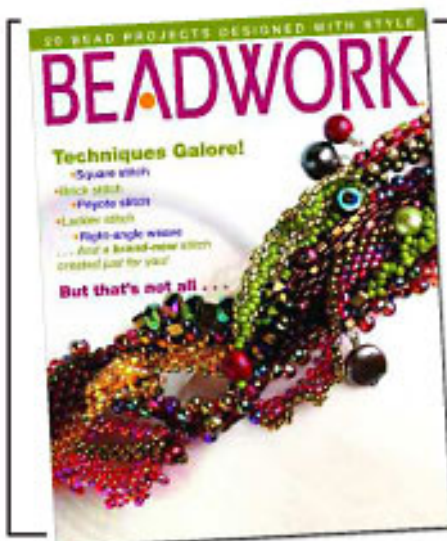
Step 2: String 10 chips. String 1 aquamarine, 1 satin rondelle, 1 aquamarine, 1 pearl, 1 aquamarine, 1 satin rondelle, 1 aquamarine, and 3 chips three times. String 7 chips.

Step 3: String 1 crimp tube and the other half of the clasp. Pass back through the tube and crimp. Use the rounding notch of your crimping pliers to place a crimp cover around the tube.

RESOURCES

Check your local bead shop or contact: Aquamarine rondelles: Avian Oasis, (602) 571-3385, www.avianoasis.com. Sterling silver satin rondelles: Knot Just Beads, (414) 771-8360. Turquoise: Gems Resources Enterprise, Inc. (wholesale only), (800) 992-8483, www.gemsresources.com. Swarovski crystal pearls: Beadtime, (407) 854-3515, www.bead-time.com. Crimp covers: The Bead Shop, (650) 328-7925, www.beadshop.com. Clasp: Saki Silver, (513) 861-9626, www.sakisilver.com.

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