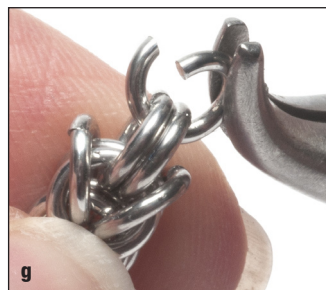
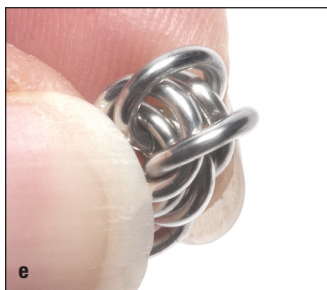




# Crystal cascade necklace

Give Byzantine chain a new visual boldness by adding swags and Swarovski “cabochette” crystal drops.

By Alison Jayne Layton



### Byzantine chain: Main

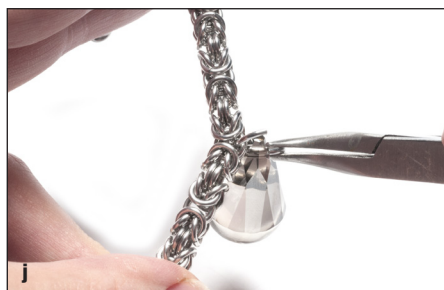
**1** Count out 172 4.1 mm (small) jump rings. Close three small rings (Basics), and open the remaining rings.

**2** To help the swags drape properly, the main chain will begin and end with a single ring. Slide an open small ring through the three closed small rings (**a**), and close it. Slide a second open ring through the same three rings, and close it. This is called doubling. Arrange the rings into a 1+2+2 chain (**b**).

**3** Slide an open small ring through the last pair of rings (**c**), and close it. Double the ring.

**4** Fold back the last pair of rings, one to each side, to expose the middle pair of rings. Use your thumb and forefinger to hold the folded-back rings in place (**d**). Separate the exposed middle pair of rings so that the folded-back rings are visible (**e**).

**5** Slide an open small ring through the folded-back rings (**f**), and close it. Double the ring.



**6** Slide a small ring through the last two rings, and close it (**g**). Double the ring.

**7** Repeat step 6 to add another pair of small rings.

**8** Work as in steps 4 and 5. Not counting the single starter ring, the first full Byzantine pattern is complete (**h**).

**9** Repeat steps 6–8 until you have used all 172 small rings. End this chain with a single small ring.

### Byzantine chain: Swags

**10** Open the remaining small rings. Divide the rings into four groups of 52 rings and one group of four rings. For each of the four Byzantine swags, repeat steps 2–9 using the groups of

## Difficulty level

easy				hard
------	--	--	--	------

## Materials

Necklace 17 in. (43.2 cm)

- 18-gauge (1.0 mm) bright aluminum jump rings
- 3 7.7 mm inner diameter (ID)
- 384 4.1 mm ID
- 3 27 mm cabochette crystal pendants (Swarovski #6026, crystal satin)
- 8 in. (20.3 cm) brushed-gold open-link chain, 9 x 7 mm links
- 26 mm lobster claw clasp
- 2 pairs of chainnose, flatnose, and/or bentnose pliers
- Wire cutters (optional)

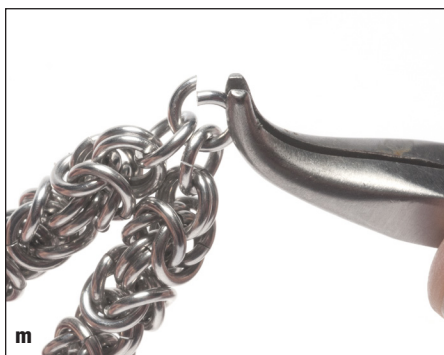
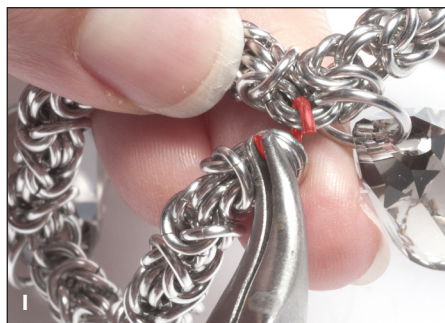
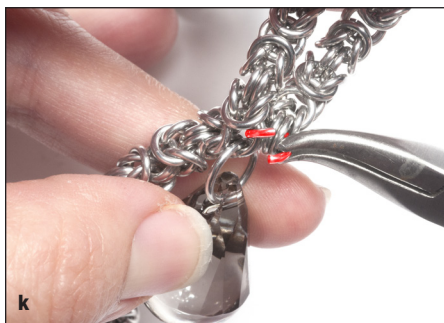
All supplies available from  
That Bead Lady, (905) 954-1327,  
[www.thatbeadlady.com](http://www.thatbeadlady.com).

52 rings; start and finish each swag with a single small ring (**i**). Set aside the remaining four small rings for steps 16 and 17.

## Assembly

**11** Open the three 7.7 mm (large) rings. Locate the center point of the main chain. Slide one large ring through the two center rings, and add a 27 mm cabochette pendant (**j**). Close the large ring.





**12** Open the single small ring on one end of a swag, and slide it through the same center rings on the main chain, next to the large ring (**k**). Close the small ring.

**13** Lay your work on a flat surface to make sure the chains are not twisted. Locate the doubled rings at the midpoint between the cabochette pendant and the end of the main chain. Slide a large ring through these two midpoint rings, and add a cabochette pendant. Close the large ring.

**14** Open the single small ring on the unattached end of the swag, and slide it through the same midpoint rings, next to the large ring (**l**). Close the small ring.

**15** Open the single small ring on one end of another swag. Slide the small ring through the same midpoint rings as in steps 13 and 14, on the opposite side of the large ring. Close the small ring.

**16** Slide an open small ring through the single ring at the end of the main chain and the single ring at the end of the second swag (**m**). Close the small ring, and double it.

**17** Repeat steps 12–16 for the other side of the necklace.

## Finishing

**18** Use pliers to open the appropriate link of the open-link chain, creating two 4-in. (10.2 cm) chains.

**TIP:** If your chain doesn't have links that open, use wire cutters to cut the 4-in. (10.2 cm) chains. Use jump rings from your stash to attach the chains and clasp.

**19** Open an end link of a 4-in. (10.2 cm) chain, and attach the pair of small rings added in step 16 (**n**). Close the link. Repeat for the other 4-in. (10.2 cm) chain on the other side of the necklace. Attach the lobster clasp to one of the chains.



*Alison Jayne Layton is a mixed-media artist originally from the United Kingdom. Now, she is the store manager, designer, and instructor at That Bead Lady, in Newmarket, Ontario, Canada. Ali has been designing and making jewelry for several decades and is inspired by the shorelines and heather-covered mountains of her beloved Scotland. Contact her at [stonescapesjewellery@rogers.com](mailto:stonescapesjewellery@rogers.com).*



## Design option

Looking for a fast and oh-so-giftable variation on this necklace? Try “Pretty in purple” (in whatever color you like, of course!).

### Necklace 18½ in. (47 cm)

- 18-gauge (1.0 mm), anodized aluminum jump rings (purple)
- 1 7.7 mm inner diameter (ID)
- 65 4.1 mm ID
- 1 28 mm meteor crystal pendant (Swarovski #6673, tanzanite)
- 15 in. (38.1 cm) bright silver-plated open-link chain, 9 x 7 mm links
- 12 mm lobster claw clasp

Work as in steps 1–9 to create the main chain, and attach the meteor pendant as in step 11. Then work as in steps 18 and 19 to attach two 7½-in. (19.1 cm) open-link chains and the lobster claw clasp.