

*Angel Babies*  
*Christmas Ornament*



Project Pattern by Lydia Muell



## Introduction

Christmas is my favorite holiday season. . . Since I was a kid, I've enjoyed making ornaments. Even more so, now that I'm all grown up and can wander through the craft store picking up all kinds of sparkly things without having my hands spanked.

During the other eleven months of the year, ribbons and bows don't interest me much. The second that Thanksgiving can be seen in my rear view mirror, I become a ribbon buying, bow making FOOL. These angels are great way to use them up and a perfect excuse to go out and buy more. Sparkling ribbons, shimmering ribbons, satin ribbons, velvet ribbons. . .

I've been making a version of these angels for years and for the life of me can't remember how or when I learned to make them. I guess maybe the year I discovered them, I enjoyed a bit too much holiday cheer. I like this version better because we won't be using any glue. Instead, we'll use wire to bind the elements together along with what we all love most. . . Lampwork beads!!

If you have issues with making or procuring little people bead faces, don't worry. You can make an abstract version by using a standard large hollow. If you don't make lampwork beads, check Etsy. You can likely find plenty of hollow rounds to work with. The reason that I use hollows rather than regular rounds is because they are lighter in weight. If you're using opaque ribbon for the gown, one of your hollows doesn't even have to be pretty, since it will be hidden. The one that I'm using in this illustration is just plain FUGLY. Since it's rude to look under someone's gown, (especially one that's being worn by angel), I assume no one will notice.

**Estimated Project Time:** 45 minutes

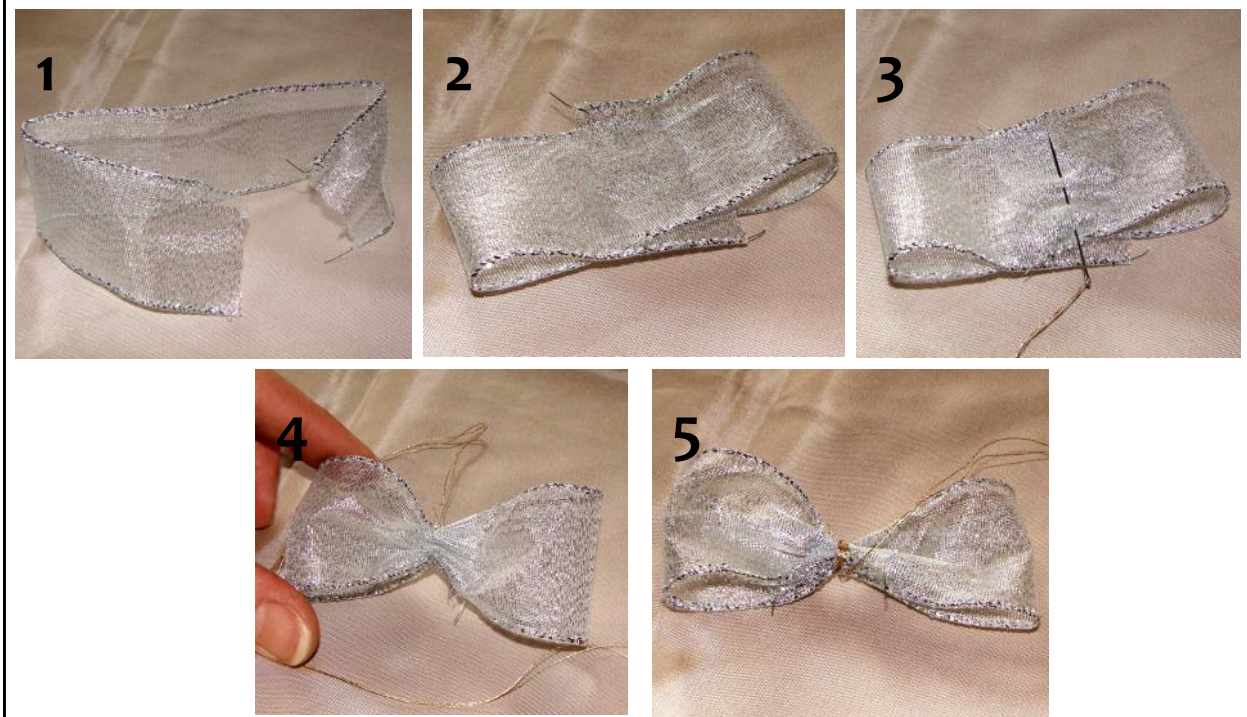
### Tools:

Round nose pliers  
Chain nose pliers  
Wire cutters  
Scissors  
Standard sewing needle

### Materials

Qty 2—Large hollow lampwork beads or 1 large hollow and one face bead (22-24 mm works best)  
Qty 1—Roll 2" wired ribbon  
Qty 1—Roll 1.5" wired ribbon  
2 Feet of 20 gauge craft wire (nickel or brass finish)  
Qty 1—6mm Swarovski crystal rondelle  
Qty 1—Spool of metallic sewing thread





**Step 1:** Cut 9" of 1.5" wired ribbon.

**Step 2:** Lay the ribbon flat, and then fold each side of the ribbon in towards the middle, until the ends of the ribbon overlap by about a half of an inch.

**Step 3:** Loosely sew the middle of the ribbon with a simple stitch.

**Step 4:** Pull the thread until it cinches the ribbon into a snug bow shape.

**Step 5:** Wrap the thread ten times around the center of the bow. Knot the thread and put the bow to side.



**Step 6:** Cut two 6" sections of 2" ribbon. Lay one of the strips of ribbon on top of the other, shiny side up.

**Step 7:** Fold the ribbons in half, so that the back of the ribbon is showing on each side.

**Step 8:** Join the ends of the ribbons together with a simple stitch and tie it off.

**Step 9:** Turn the ribbon inside out, so that decorative side is facing out.

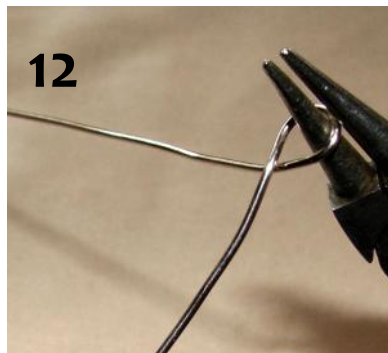
**Step 10 & 11:** Now for the fun part. . You'll need to dig around in one end of the ribbon tube until you find the ends of all four ribbon wires. Once you've found them, clamp all four of them with your chain nose pliers and pull as tightly as you can. Knot the wires and set the ribbon tube to the side.

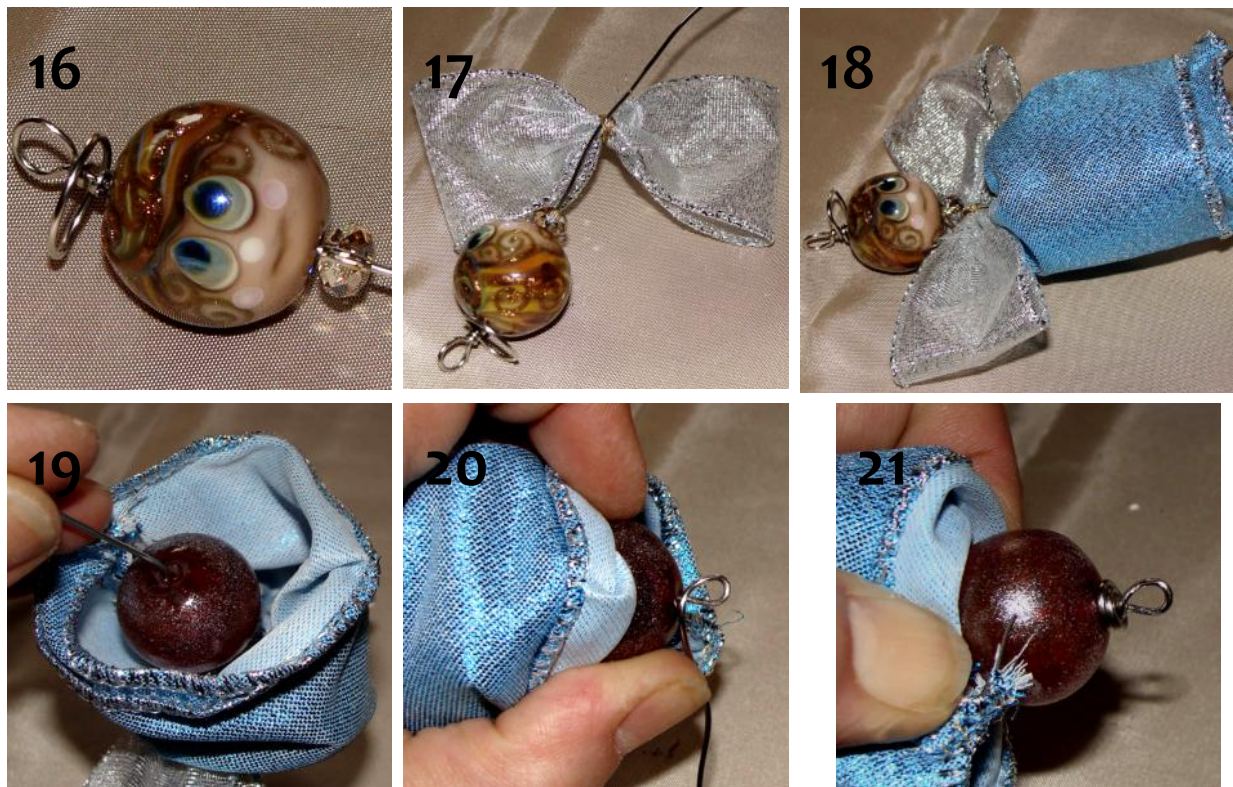
**Step 12:** Cut an 8" piece of 20g wire. Make a 4mm loop 3.5" from the end of the wire.

**Step 13:** Make two tight wire wraps, just below the loop.

**Step 14:** Wrap the wire again, but this time in a large loop, forming it a bit with your fingers so that it's nice and round, like a halo.

**Step 15:** Make another tight wire wrap just below the halo. Crimp it down with your chain nose pliers.





**Step 16:** Slide one of your large beads and your crystal onto the wire assembly.

**Step 17:** Poke the end of the wire underneath the wraps of thread that bind the wings together. Slide the wings up so that that they are positioned under the crystal.

**Step 18:** Add the ribbon "gown" to the assembly, by sliding the wire through the cinched hole that you made in step 10 & 11.

**Step 19:** Slide your other large hollow onto your wire assembly.

**Step 20:** Push everything up so that it's all tightly assembled and make a small loop at the bottom of the hollow.

**Step 21:** Wrap the wire 2 to three times so that it's secure, then clip it off with your nippers.

Hope you all enjoy making LOTS of angels this holiday season! Merry Christmas!!