



Contact: Jaime Guthals  
(502) 243-6834  
Cell: (502) 387-2383  
[JaimeG@interweave.com](mailto:JaimeG@interweave.com)

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## ***Create Jewelry Stones: Stunning Designs to Make and Wear***

**by Marlene Blessing and Jamie Hogsett**

By adding a few or many semiprecious stones to jewelry, designers can punctuate or entirely shape the look and feel of a piece. In ***Create Jewelry Stones: Stunning Designs to Make and Wear*** (Interweave Press, September 2008, \$22.95), Marlene Blessing, editor-in-chief of *Beadwork* magazine and co-host of PBS's *Beads, Baubles and Jewels*, joins forces with jewelry designer Jamie Hogsett to offer gorgeous designs to inspire and delight the modern jewelry maker.

From classic elegance to fashion-forward, *Create Jewelry Stones* presents projects ranging in difficulty from easy stringing pieces to bead-weaving designs. *Create Jewelry Stones* is divided into three main sections: "The Classics" include traditional strung pieces, like a lengthy lariat in peach moonstone; "Special Occasions" features striking pieces, including three-strand citrine, chalcedony and agate necklace that can be worn three different ways; and "Fashion Forward" designs showcase dramatic designs for day or night, like a carnelian bracelet featuring square-stitched rings. Stone basics are described, including the difference between precious and semiprecious stones, where to find them, how they are valued, plus a six-page guide of stones used in the book.

More than 20 stunning, wearable designs draw on a wide range of exciting materials, colors, and shapes. Gorgeous jewelry photos are accompanied by step-by-step photos and instructions that are easy to follow so readers can easily create their own designs. Projects include:

- **Modern Art:** Organically shaped matte black onyx beads are fresh and fun in this no-clasp necklace.
- **Opulent Cowgirl:** Turquoise has the sort of élan that allows it to be elegant and rustic at the same time. Full strands of three different cuts of turquoise need only the small bit of sparkle from muscovite and smoky quartz to bring out their veining in this necklace.
- **Ring of Sapphires:** Brilliant yellow sapphire briolettes of slightly different hues are stitched together to form tiny bits of sparkle in this gorgeous bracelet.
- **Earth and Sky:** Long chrysoprase drops, cut to include the earth around them, become elegant earrings with the peyote bails stitched to the top.

- **Stone Soup:** Anchored by a faceted glass focal bead resembling a geode, bright colors of amethyst, carnelian, and serpentine mix together in this festive piece.

A section on techniques and findings is a useful refresher for methods used within the book. Accompanying the projects are quotes, anecdotes, and images of semiprecious stones through the years that round out this informative and entertaining book.

**CREATE JEWELRY STONES:  
STUNNING DESIGNS TO MAKE AND WEAR  
by Marlene Blessing and Jamie Hogsett**  
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**About the authors:**

**Marlene Blessing** has worked as an editorial director in western book publishing for two decades. Marlene is the editorial director for *Beadwork*, *Stringing*, and *Step by Step Beads* magazines and she is the co-host of *Beads, Baubles and Jewels*, public television's only show about beading and jewelry-making, now in its 9<sup>th</sup> season. She lives in Longmont, Colorado.

**Jamie Hogsett** is a freelance jewelry designer and the author of *Stringing Style*. Jamie has taught beading classes in Colorado, Washington, Oregon, and California. She lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

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