

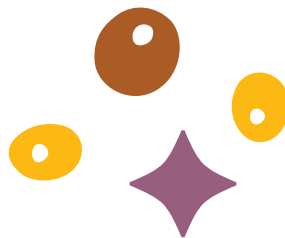


Beading Daily

TODAY'S HOW-TO FOR HANDMADE JEWELRY

*Free Patterns for
Beaded Chain Maille:*

**JEWELRY PROJECTS
AND CHAIN MAILLE
INSTRUCTIONS**





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FREE PATTERNS FOR BEADED CHAIN MAILLE: *Jewelry Projects and Chain Maille Instructions*

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FREE PATTERNS FOR BEADED CHAIN MAILLE:

Jewelry Projects and Chain Maille Instructions

The ancient art of chain maille was regarded as a technological advance in the art of war when it was used to create thick layers of metal rings in order to protect soldiers in battle. Some of these same chain maille weaves and techniques are being used to create beautiful jewelry and other items for self-adornment. (No need for protecting oneself from a sword these days!)

Chain maille jewelry is more popular than ever these days, and for good reason. By learning just a few basic chain maille jewelry patterns, you can learn how to make chain maille jewelry for any occasion and using just about any kind of bead you like for adornment. Chain maille supplies can be found at just about any local bead shop or craft store, and you can get started right now using jewelry tools that you already have at home.

Creating chain maille jewelry can be a soothing, meditative project as the chain maille rings are linked to each other, one at a time. Basic chain maille patterns can be adapted to create any kind of jewelry – necklaces, bracelet, and earrings can all be made using the same weaves from your favorite chain maille patterns.

We put together four of our favorite chain maille jewelry patterns just for you!

- Sara E. Graham's Foxy Roxy necklace is a vibrant take on basic foxtail chain maille weave with colorful jump rings and handmade lampwork or ceramic beads. Who knew that chain maille jewelry could be so colorful?

- Deanna Kittrell's Gridlock Chain Bracelet is a soothing chain maille jewelry project for your favorite two-strand jewelry clasp. Create this Byzantine weave variation one unit at a time for a substantial, intricate chain maille bracelet.
- Advance your chain maille jewelry skills when you learn how to capture your favorite glass or gemstone beads in Melissa Senetar's Celtic Cage Earrings. They also make fabulous chain maille bracelet or necklace components, or a single spectacular pendant.
- Jaclyn Craft's Victorian Floral Necklace uses a Japanese 12-in-2 chain maille weave to create an impressive bib-style necklace, accented with your favorite glass or gemstone round beads.

Are you ready to explore the rich tradition of chain maille jewelry? Take a look at these four free chain maille jewelry patterns and start learning the ancient art of chain maille today!

Bead Happy,

Jennifer VanBenschoten, Beading Daily editor



Free Patterns for Beaded Chain Maille: Jewelry Projects and Chain Maille Instructions

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foxy roxy necklace

Combine foxtail chain with rocky ceramic beads.

SKILL LEVEL ☺☺☺

BY SARA E. GRAHAM, Associate Editor

Lately, I have had a lot of fun with lightweight anodized aluminum jump rings in my chain maille designs. I also had some Happy Beads tucked away in a container. I found jump rings that matched the beads, made foxtail chains, linked all the beads together with simple loops, and combined them. Make the chains match your beads, or play around with different color combinations.

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- 20-gauge silver craft wire, 1'
- 18-gauge 8mm OD anodized aluminum jump rings in one or more colors, approximately 437
- Ceramic 20mm Happy Beads, 6
- Hook or toggle clasp
- 2 pairs flat nose pliers
- Round nose pliers
- Flush cutters
- 16-gauge mandrel or thin knitting needle
- Small paper clip or scrap wire (optional)

Resources: Happy Beads from Some Enchanted Beading, someenchantedbeading.com. Wire from Parawire, parawire.com. Jump rings from The Ring Lord, theringlord.com. Clasp from Star's Clasps, starsclasps.com.

Photo of finished piece by Jim Lawson, all other photos courtesy of Michael Richardson.



1 Cut a 2" length of wire. Slip it through a bead, and make simple loops on each side. Repeat for the other beads. Link by opening one loop on the right side of the bead, and threading on the loop of the next bead. Close the loops.



2 Take six silver rings, and open four of them. Link them together in a two-by-two-by-two pattern. Twist a scrap piece of wire or put a small paper clip on the end to keep your place.



3 Pick up all the rings and flop the top rings down to each side. Thread the thin mandrel through the middle rings now at the top. Slide the mandrel to the left and thread it through one of the jump rings you flopped to the side. Slide the mandrel to the right to catch the other flopped side ring. You should have what looks like a clover.



4 Thread a silver jump ring through the four rings on the mandrel, and close. Thread another jump ring through the same path. Close. Take the chain off the mandrel, and add two more rings to the top of the chain, and close both.



5 Repeat Steps 3–5 several more times to form the chain.



6 At any point, switch to the colored rings and back to the silver rings. Repeat Steps 3–5 until you make a chain about 5½" long. Repeat Steps 2–6 to make an identical chain for the other side of the necklace.



7 On one end of a chain, thread on a single jump ring through two end rings, and attach it to the first loop of the beaded section. Close the ring. Repeat on the other chain.



8 Link two jump rings on the end of the chain. With the second jump ring, attach one half of the clasp. Close the rings. Repeat on the other end of the chain. ☺



Sara E. Graham is the associate editor for *Step by Step Wire Jewelry, Easy Wire, and Jewelry Artist*. She designs with

wire, beads, and chain maille in her spare time, when she's not indulging in music and creative writing, or planning for her upcoming wedding. E-mail sgraham@interweave.com.



gridlock chain bracelet

Featuring an unique variation of Byzantine.

SKILL LEVEL ☉☉☉

BY DEANNA KITTRELL

Gridlock is a variation of the Byzantine chain maille weave. It looks very complicated, but I have some secrets for making it quite easy. This is an elegant, heavy chain, and a great way to show off a special double-stranded clasp. It feels so good on your wrist, and will be a bracelet to treasure. Make the segments first, then assemble the chain.

Editor's note: Colored jump rings are used for illustration purposes.

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- 16-gauge 5mm ID jump rings, 168
- 16-gauge 5.5mm ID jump rings, 42
- 18-gauge 5mm ID jump rings, 84
- 18-gauge 4mm ID jump rings, 8
- 2 pairs flat or bent nose pliers
- Double-stranded clasp

Resources: All jump rings from dsdesigns jewelry.com. Clasp from Jess Imports, jessimports.com

Photo of finished piece by Jim Lawson; all other photos courtesy of the author.



1 Open 84 16g 5mm rings, all 42 16g 5.5mm rings, all 84 18g 5mm rings, and all eight 18g 4mm rings. Take an open 16g 5mm ring. Put two closed rings of the same size on it. Close the ring. Add another open 16g 5mm ring in the same path. You should have a 2-in-2 chain, two links long. Make 42 of these segments.



2 Take an open 16g 5.5mm ring, put one link (two rings) of a segment on the open ring. Add another segment in the same path on the open ring. Close the ring.



3 Add another 16g 5.5mm ring through the same path, as in Step 2. Close the ring. You should have a chain that is five links long, with two larger rings in the middle. Set this segment aside.



4 Continue making five-link segments, until you have used all the small links. You should end up with 21 of these segments.



5 Just like in Byzantine, you will flip back the rings on the ends of the segments. Take a segment, and flip back the two rings on each end. (See photo) Set it aside. Repeat on another segment.



6 Take an open 18g 5mm ring (in gold). Thread this ring through the two flipped back rings of one segment (in copper). Note that you are not going through the rings at the end as in Byzantine chain, but go through on the side. Do not close the ring.



7 Still holding the open ring, add on another segment just like in Step 6. Close the ring.



8 Add another open 18g 5mm ring (in silver, underneath gold), following the same path as in Step 7. Close the ring.



9 Flip the chain over, so the side of the chain you just connected is closest to you. Still working with the same segments, make sure the rings on the ends of both segments are flipped back. Take an open 18g 5mm ring, and thread it through the rings that are flipped back, as in Step 6. Thread this through the flipped back rings of the other segment. Close the ring.



10 Add another open 18g 5mm ring, following the same path as the ring added in Step 9. Close the ring. You should now have a chain that looks like the photo.



11 Flip back the end rings of another segment. Take an open 18g 5mm ring, and thread through the flipped back rings of the segment already on the chain, and the flipped back rings of the new segment. Close the ring. Add another ring in the same path (in gold).



12 Repeat Step 11 for the other side of the chain. Continue adding segments to the chain, until the chain reaches the desired length.



13 To add the clasp, take an open 18g 4mm ring. Go through the two flipped back rings on the end of the chain, and one of the loops of the clasp. Close the ring. If possible, add another 18g 4mm ring in the same path for security. Repeat for the other ring of the clasp, and attach the other end of the clasp in the same way. ☺

wiretip

You can change the fit of the bracelet by adding or subtracting the segments made after Steps 1-4.



Deanna Kittrell

Deanna's passion is chain maille jewelry. She enjoys sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm with others, and especially enjoys demystifying chain maille techniques. She has taught at Bead Fest and the Bead & Button Show. She works and teaches at Piece of Mind Bead and Jewelry studio in Sacramento, Calif. and considers Gretchen Schueller, her mentor and inspiration. Deanna sells jump rings, kits, and finished jewelry at dsdesignsjewelry.com.





celtic cage earrings

Capture beads in chain maille cages.

By Melissa Senetar, Ph. D.

The Celtic Cage design represents an original variation of the Helm (or Parallel) weave in which a straight chain is joined in the round to resemble a Celtic knot. Two Celtic knots are then linked together to form a chain maille cage around a bead. Using sterling jump rings and black onyx beads, these earrings have a timeless appeal that is sure to get lots of compliments!

tools & supplies

- 18-gauge sterling (0.04", 1.024mm diameter) 6mm ID jump rings, 48
- 18-gauge sterling (0.04", 1.024mm diameter) 3.5mm ID jump rings, 32
- 22-gauge sterling (0.0254", .65mm diameter) 2mm ID jump rings, 18
- 8mm round black onyx beads, 2
- Flat nose pliers
- Chain nose or bent nose pliers
- Scrap wire or twist tie
- Earwires, 2

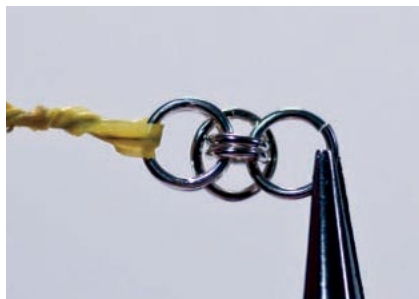
Resources: All materials from Rio Grande, riogrande.com. Complete kits from Phbead.com.



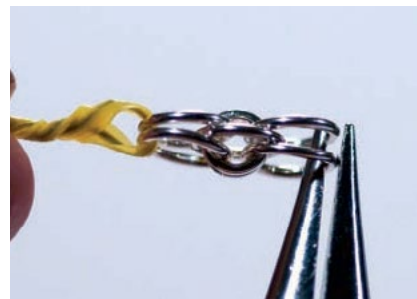
1 Close two 18g 6mm jump rings and slide them onto a piece of scrap wire or a twist tie. Twist the wire to close. Add two 18g 3.5mm jump rings to create a 2-in-2 chain.



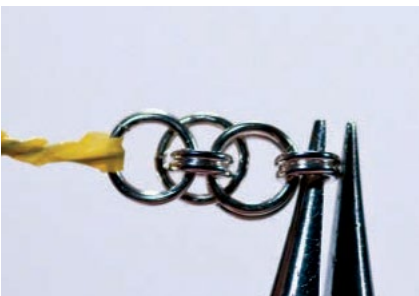
2 Weave one 18g 6mm jump ring between the two 18g 6mm jump rings and around the two 18g 3.5mm jump rings from Step 1. Close the ring.



3 Add one 18g 6mm jump ring to the two 18g 3.5mm jump rings from Step 1. Close the ring.



4 Add an additional 18g 6mm jump ring as in Step 3, but on the opposite side. You should now have a line that when viewed from the side reveals a repeated pattern of doubled rings (Steps 1, 3-4) that are separated by a floating ring (Step 2).



5 Attach one 18g 3.5mm jump ring to the two 18g 6mm jump rings from Steps 3-4. Close the ring. Add an additional 18g 3.5mm jump ring through the same path. Close the ring.



6 Repeat Steps 2-5 until you have used a total of eleven 18g 6mm jump rings and six 18g 3.5mm jump rings. Remove the scrap wire, and shape the chain into a U to prepare to join the two ends.

wire tips

Using two pairs of bent nose pliers makes opening and closing jump rings easier.



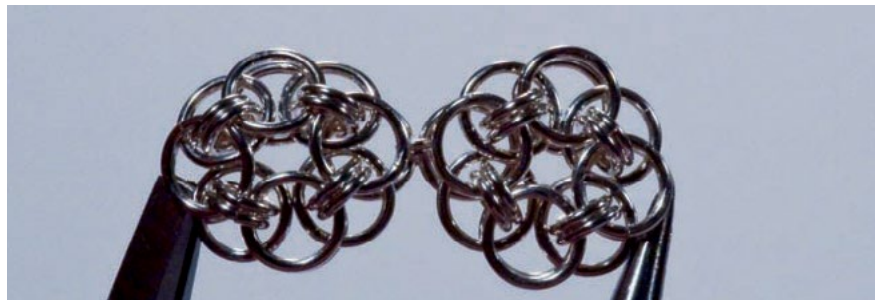
For a clean, professional look, close all the jump rings so the openings are imperceptible. That also makes the rings fit together better.



7 Join the four 18g 6mm jump rings (two from each end) with one 18g 3.5mm jump ring. Close the ring. Add an additional 18g 3.5mm jump ring through the same path.



8 Weave one 18g 6mm jump ring between the four joined 18g 6mm jump rings, and around the two 18g 3.5mm as in Step 2. Close the ring. You should now have a Celtic knot. Repeat Steps 1-8 to make another Celtic knot.



9 Attach one 22g 2mm jump ring to the inside ring of one of the doubled ring pairs of a Celtic knot. Add a second Celtic knot via the inside ring of one of its doubled ring pairs. Close the ring. Add an additional 22g 2mm jump ring through the same path. Close the ring. You should now have two Celtic knots joined by two small rings at one station.



10 Repeat Step 9 two times to the inside rings of two other doubled ring pairs. You should now have two Celtic knots joined at three stations.



11 Place a bead within the cage, then join the inside rings of the last doubled ring pairs as in Step 9. You should now have two Celtic knots joined at four stations. This is your first Celtic cage.



12 Attach one 22g 2mm jump ring through one of the 22g 2mm jump ring pairs that join the Celtic knots. Close the ring. Use this ring to attach an earwire. Repeat Steps 1-12 for the other earring. ☺



Melissa Senetar, Ph.D.

began beading as a fashionable way to relax from her dissertation research during graduate school.

After receiving a Doctorate degree in Biochemistry, she moved to Wisconsin where she continued her research as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, and continued learning about beading as a member of the Madison Bead Society. Melissa realized she was a beader at heart. She resides in Berea, Ky. with her husband and two cats. To see more of her handcrafted chain maille, wire wrapped, and beaded jewelry, visit her Web site at Phbead.com.

skill level ○○○



victorian floral necklace

Substantial Japanese
12-in-2 bib.

By Jacklyn Craft

This necklace started as a simple project before taking on a life of its own. Originally thought of with only one floral section in mind, it expanded from there creating a dramatic statement.

tools & supplies

- 20-gauge 3mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ " ID nickel jump rings, 282
- 18-gauge 4.5mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ " ID nickel jump rings, 127
- 18-gauge 6mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ " ID nickel jump rings
- 1" eyepins, 22
- 6mm turquoise beads, 22
- Hook clasp
- Flat nose pliers, 2 pair
- Round nose pliers
- Flush cutters

Resources: Beads, clasp, and eyepins from Fire Mountain Gems and Beads, firemountaingems.com. Jump rings from the The Ring Lord, TheRingLord.com.



1 Close two 4.5mm jump rings. Weave a 3mm jump ring through both of the closed 4.5mm rings.



2 Continue to add 3mm jump rings until there are 12 woven through the two 4.5mm rings.



3 Insert two 4.5mm jump rings through two of the 3mm jump rings.



4 Continue to loop two 4.5mm jump rings through two 3mm jump rings until you have six petals completed.



5 Start to join the petals together by inserting two 3mm jump rings through two petals.



6 Continue to join the petals until all six are completed. Repeat Steps 1-6 eight more times until there are nine completed flowers in total.



7 Join two flowers together using two of the 3mm jump rings.



8 Rotate the piece slightly until the petals fit tightly together. Join the second petal to the first with two more of the 3mm jump rings above the two 3mm rings that were previously attached.



9 Use two more of the 3mm jump rings to finish attaching the petals together. This will secure the two flowers.



10 Repeat Steps 7-9 on the opposite side. This will create a curved look. Make one more set of three following Steps 7-9. This will be used for the top row of the necklace.



11 To finish the top row of the necklace, use two sets of two 3mm jump rings to attach another flower. Repeat once more on the opposite side. You will now have five flowers attached together for the top row.



12 Lay out the finished sections. There will be a row of five, a row of three, and a single piece for the bottom. Using sets of two 4mm jump rings, attach the rows together in the four places shown in the picture.



13 Place a 6mm turquoise bead on an eyepin. Using round nose pliers, make a simple loop on the other side, to make a double eyepin bead link. Repeat for all the beads. (See *Wire Basics*).



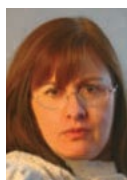
14 Connect each beaded eyepin using 3mm jump rings. Continue until you have two chains each 11 beads long.



15 Add two 3mm jump rings to each side of the top row of the necklace. Use a 6mm jump ring to join each set of the two 3mm jump rings to the beaded chains.



16 Attach a 3mm jump ring and the hook clasp to one end of a beaded chain, and a 3mm and a 4.5mm jump ring to the other.



Jacklyn Craft

was born and raised a “military brat” in Canada having lived in several provinces before settling in North Bay, Ontario. After watching her brother make armor out of chain maille, the ideas flowed, and her chain maille creations have taken the form of jewelry, lampshades, dreamcatchers and other projects.

You can contact her at jacklyn.craft@gmail.com and check out other projects at TheCraftNymphs.com, a Web site shared with her sister, Beth.