Beading Daily
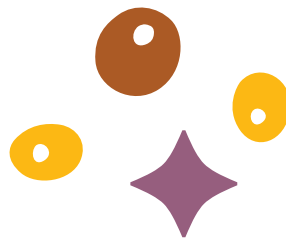
TODAY'S HOW-TO FOR HANDMADE JEWELRY

Learn How to Wire Wrap Jewelry:

6 FREE
Wire Wrapping Jewelry Projects

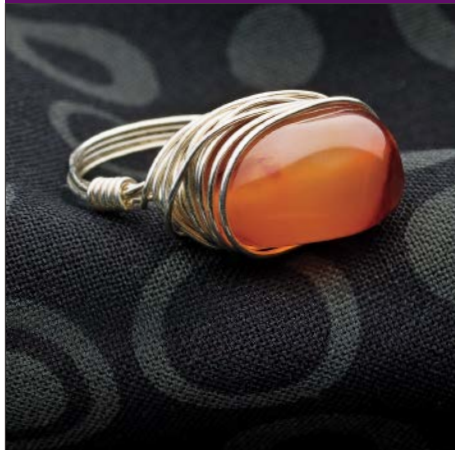# Beading Daily

Learn How to Wire Wrap Jewelry:
6 Free Wire Wrapping Jewelry Projects

Contents

Beading Daily

Learn How to Wire Wrap Jewelry:
6 Free Wire Wrapping Jewelry Projects

Of all the jewelry-making supplies out there, my favorite (next to seed beads, of course) has to be wire. I wasn't always a fan of wire wrapping techniques, but once I saw just how versatile it is, I started reading up on my wire wrapping tutorials wherever I could.

Wire and beads can be used to create simple wrapped loops that can be used to create elegant wire wrapped jewelry, handmade clasps and jewelry findings, and beautiful, intricate wire jewelry. Learning just a few simple wire wrapping techniques can help you turn your beaded jewelry from ordinary into extraordinary, with just a few twists of the pliers!

We've given our wire wrapping eBook a fresh look, and included four new projects for you to help you look at wire in a whole new way!

- Monica Han's Gone Fishing bracelet is fun, light, and airy—and a perfect example of how you can make a complete piece of jewelry with just wire and a handful of crystal beads.

- Even a wire wrapping beginner can make Christine Haynes' Chunky Carnelian Ring using a favorite gemstone nugget and some sterling silver wire. Easy wire wrapping techniques make for a stunning statement ring!

- Sally Stevens' Bird's Nest Pendant uses affordable copper wire and handmade lampwork beads to craft a lovely, peaceful wire wrapped pendant.

- Melissa Senetar's Pendulum Pendant will really give your wire wrapping skills a workout. Showcase a dramatic gemstone bead when you learn how to wire wrap jewelry.

No matter what kind of wire wrapped jewelry you like to make, check out the wire wrapping instructions in our free eBook, *Learn How to Wire Wrap Jewelry: 6 Free Wrapping Jewelry Projects* and see just how far a spool of wire can take you.

Bead Happy,

Jennifer VanBenschoten, Beading Daily editor

gone fishing bracelet

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- 20-gauge dead soft wire, 3'
- 26-gauge dead soft wire, 12'
- 4mm Crystallized™—Swarovski Elements bicones, 6
- Size 0 crimp tubes, 12
- Round nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers, 2 pairs
- Flush cutters
- Ruler

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

## Adorable wrapped fish links.

SKILL LEVEL ⟲ ⟲ ⟲

BY MONICA HAN

Summer's here. While you're enjoying lazy summer days, make yourself this cute bracelet. Materials for this project are for a 7" bracelet with six fish links. Each fish link is about 1.15" long, the last one for the clasp is a little longer. You can adjust the size of the fish links to fit your bracelet length.
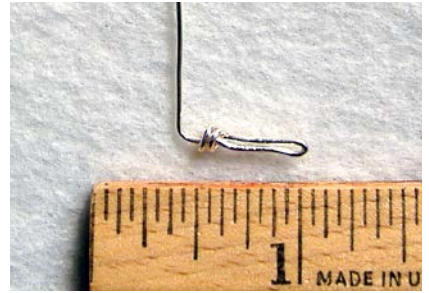
This is freeform weaving. You can also tighten the weaving for a more uniformed look.
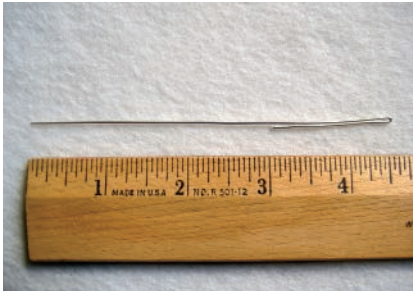
1 Cut 6" of 20g wire. Meaure ½" in from one end and bend the wire back against itself. Squeeze the two ends together.
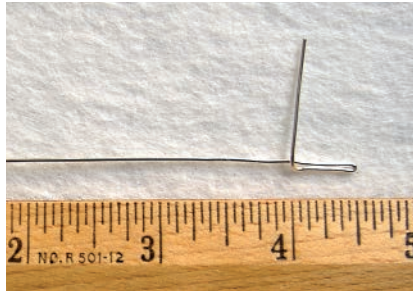
2 Use chain nose pliers to hold both wire ends ½" in from the bend. Bend the short end up. Hold both wire ends at ¾" if making the last fish link for the bracelet.

3 Wrap the short end a couple of times around both wires, trim, and press the wire end against the back. Leave a space of ¼" to the left of the loop you just made, and bend the long end up.
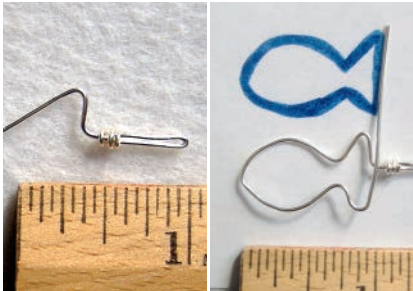
4 Begin making the fish at the tail. Use your fingers or pliers to make the fish frame. The fish should be about 1" long and ½" wide. Draw a template to follow the pattern if needed. Finish back at the tail with the long end up.

5 Wrap the long end around the ¼" leftover space from Step 4 a couple of times, trim, and press the wire end against the back.
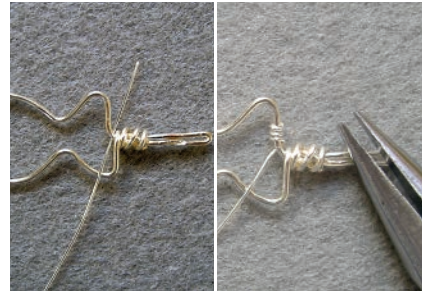
6 Cut 2' of 26g wire. Anchor this weaving wire onto the tail with a couple wraps.

7 Wrap the long end around the bottom of the tail once, so the wire ends up behind the fish frame.

8 Bring the wire through the fish to the front of the frame. Go up and over the upper frame. Wrap once so the wire is behind the frame. Bring the wire through to the front of frame. Go down and over the bottom. Continue weaving until you're about ¼" from the mouth. Squeeze the wraps together if needed.

9 As you near the front of the fish, add a crimp tube, a 4mm bicone, and another crimp tube to the wire. Make sure to leave space in front of the eye to link another fish. Hold the bead in position, and press the two crimp tubes to lock the bead in place.

10 Finish wrapping by simply coiling the wire around the front of the frame. Trim and press in the end. Repeat Steps 1–10 to make five more fish links.

11 Bend the wire at each end of the frame with round nose pliers to make a hook. Connect to the nose of next fish. Close the hooks until you get to the last fish link. The last link should have a longer hook, because it will be the clasp. Bend the fish links a little so the fish are curvy and appear to be in motion. ◎

Monica Han
has been beading since 2002 and teaching since 2005. She has won Swarovski® and Fire Mountain Gems™ and Beads design contests. Her jewelry has been featured in several beading magazines. Monica can be reached at mhan@dream-beads.biz.

*wire*tips

• *Do not overwork the 26g wire, or else it will break. Straighten the wire often to avoid kinks.*

chunky carnelian ring

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- 18- or 24-gauge sterling half hard or gold-filled wire, 36"
- Chunky carnelian nugget bead, or other stone with holes that will accommodate the wire
- Ring sizer or measuring tape
- Flush cutters
- Ring mandrel
- Small rubber mallet
- File

## Natural stone paired with sterling silver.

SKILL LEVEL ◎

BY CHRISTINE HAYNES

   This beautiful carnelian nugget is perfectly at home nested within a hand-wrapped ring of sterling wire. The nesting effect is purposely unstructured, yet elegant. The process for creating this ring actually happened by accident. I cut way too much wire for the original design I had in mind, and I didn't want it to go to waste. The rest is history. This ring is so quick and easy, I made mine while watching television.
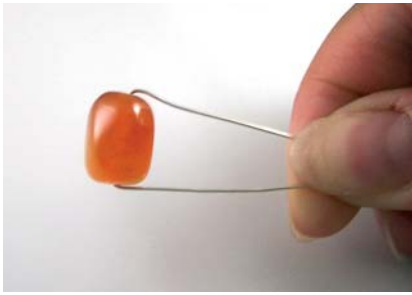
1 Using a ring sizer or measuring tape, measure your ring size. Cut a piece of wire approximately 36" long. String and center the stone on the wire. Fold wire in half, keeping the stone centered.
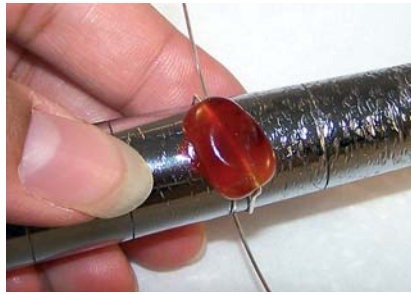
2 Place the ring on the mandrel, at a point that is ½ a size smaller than the finished size. Wrap both of the wires around the mandrel in opposite directions. Keep the wires flat and parallel to one another on opposite sides of the stone, so you have a "top" wire and a "bottom" wire. Wrap the wires around the mandrel two or three times, unless you prefer a wider base. For a wider base, cut a longer length of wire.

3 To create the nest, keep the ring on the mandrel, and firmly wrap the two wires one at a time around the stone, until you achieve the desired effect. Wrap the top wire once, and the bottom wire once, and repeat. The look is purposely freeform, just be sure to wrap firmly, to prevent the nest from unraveling.

4 Leave about 6" of wire on each end (a left wire and a right wire). Remove the ring from the mandrel. Starting on one side and repeating on the other, loop each wire down through the inside of the nest, thread the wires down and up around the base. Tighten the nest by tugging on the wires gently.

5 To secure, wrap the wires tightly and closely together around the band of the ring at the base of the stone, where the base meets the band, directly under the nest. Snip the wires, and tuck the ends under. If necessary, file the ends lightly.

6 Put the ring back on the mandrel. Gently tap the ring down with a rubber mallet, to harden the wire and size the ring. Repeat until the ring is the desired size and shape. Be careful to avoid the stone. ☻

Christine Haynes
has designed jewelry for talk show hosts, fashion shows and photo shoots. Her work and articles have been featured in several publications and on various web sites such as Sister Speak Online Magazine, and Fire Mountain Gems and Beads. Christine can be contacted through her Web site at: www.fezelry.com

wiretip

- *18g wire will make a chunkier ring. 24g wire will make a more delicate nest.*

bird's nest pendant

Copper wire with lampworked eggs.

SKILL LEVEL 🌀 🌀 🌀

BY SALLY STEVENS

Being a long-time bird enthusiast and photographer, all things bird-related are inspiring to me. Add my addiction to wire wrapping, and this sweet bird's nest pendant evolved. To make the nest more welcoming, I asked my lampwork artist daughter, Shannon, to make three tiny glass eggs to enhance my nest. Voilá!
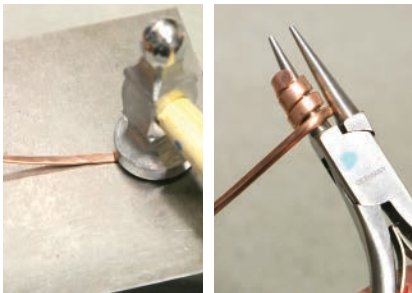
1 To form the branch, cut 5" of 12g wire, and file the ends until smooth with a metal file. Flatten the wire 2" from one end with a chasing hammer. Coil the flattened end around the jaw of round nose pliers three times.
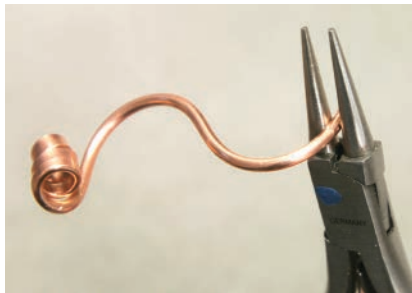
2 While still holding the coil in the jaws, gently curve the tail of wire into an S shape. If necessary, use another pair of round nose pliers to help curve the wire.
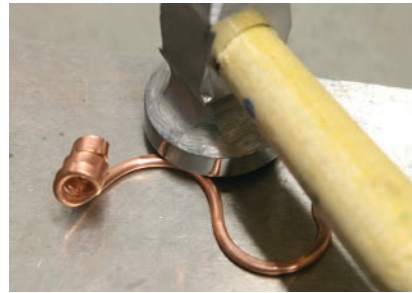
3 Flatten the curves and the uncoiled end of the wire slightly with a chasing hammer.

4 Take the 20g wire, leave a 5" tail, and start coiling it around the mandrel in a freeform criss-cross fashion, until only 18" of uncoiled wire is left.
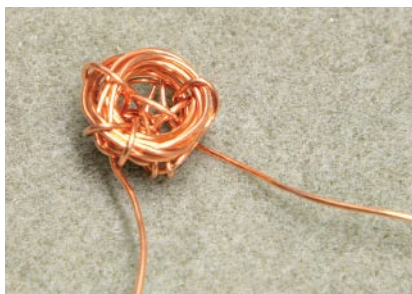
5 Take the bundle of wire off the mandrel, and start to form the bottom of the nest by weaving the long tail in and out of the nest's side wires, until you have a base. Wrap the 20g wire around the entire side of the nest vertically a few times to hold it together. Be sure to leave two 5" tails.
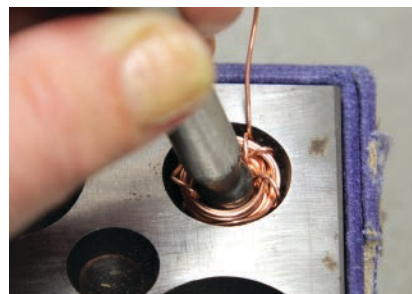
6 Place the nest in the dapping block, where it fits snugly, and use the punch that fits into the nest. Dap lightly with a household claw hammer to form the nest and work-harden the wire. The nest must be firm and well-formed to hold its shape.

8 Use the two 5" tails to connect the nest to the branch. Wrap snugly against the curve with the coil, and go through the nest wires and around the branch until the nest is secure.

9 Add three glass eggs by placing them into the bowl of the nest, and wrapping their wire tails around the nest to secure.

10 Bring any leftover tails from the eggs to the top of the nest, and coil them with the tips of round nose pliers to resemble tendrils. Tuck the tendrils in so they won't catch on anything.
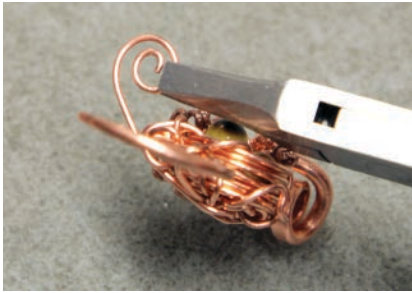
11 Cut the tails of 20g wire to 1½" and spiral them toward the nest. Bend the spirals away from the nest, flatten them slightly with the chasing hammer, and place them back into position. Patina the piece using liver-of-sulfur, and polish with steel wool if you wish. ☺

*wire*tips

• *The pendant may be worn on a ribbon, chain or collar or used as an ornament. Try using sterling wire or different colored eggs for a new look. Substitute pearls for the glass eggs, or try using half round wire for the branch.*

Sally Stevens

is a published wire wrap artist and jewelry designer from Maryland, who teaches locally and at several of the Interweave shows. She and her lampwork artist daughter Shannon Stevens sell their work at bead shows, primarily in the Mid-Atlantic region. They can be reached through their Web site: sunroomstudiosonline.com.

pendulum pendant

Hourglass wirework with a floating bead.

SKILL LEVEL ◎ ◎ ◎ ◎.

BY MELISSA SENETAR, Ph. D.

This pendant uses wrapping and coiling techniques to cage an artisan lampwork glass bead. With an area of open space left above the bead, this unique design gives the illusion of floating. The woven bail provides an extra pop of color and gives the piece a sizzling hourglass shape that is sure to bring the wearer compliments.

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- 21-gauge half round half hard wire, 12"
- 22-gauge square half hard wire, 27"
- 24-gauge colored craft wire, 36"
- 18mm lampwork lentil bead
- Flat nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers
- Round nose pliers
- Flush cutters
- Ruler
- Ultra-fine point marker
- Medium round ink pen, or 5/16" round dowel
- Painter's tape

Resources: Wire from Rio Grande, riogrande. com. Lampwork bead from Linda Pennington, lindygirl82082@yahoo.com. Complete kits from PhbeaD.com.

Photo of finished piece by Jim Lawson, all other photos courtesy of the author.
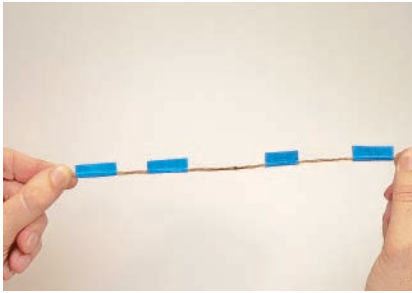
1 Cut three 9" lengths of 22g wire. Bundle the three wires with the flush ends together, and tape. Measure 4½" from the end, and mark the center.
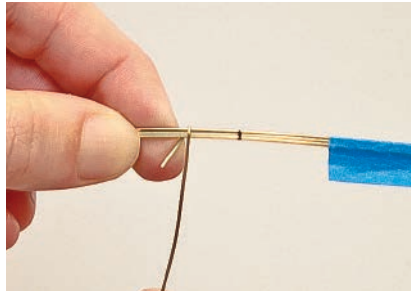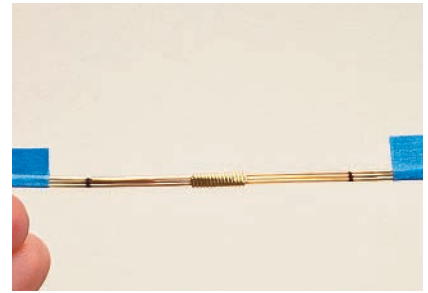
2 Make a hook near the end of the 21g wire using the tips of the chain nose pliers. Attach the hook of the 21g wire to the left of the center mark with the flat side of the 21g wire flush against the square wires.

3 Bind by wrapping the 21g wire around all three square wires 15 times. Slide the binding to the center to show, so the eighth wrap is on the mark. Trim the ends and secure with flat nose pliers. Measure ⁷/8" from each side of binding, and mark. Remove the tape as needed.
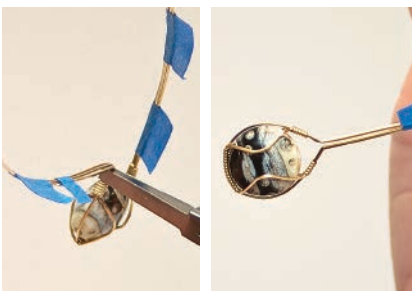
4 Make another hook with the 21g wire as in Step 2 and place it on one of the marks. Wrap five times to show. Trim the ends and secure. Repeat for the other ⁷/8" mark. You should have three bindings.
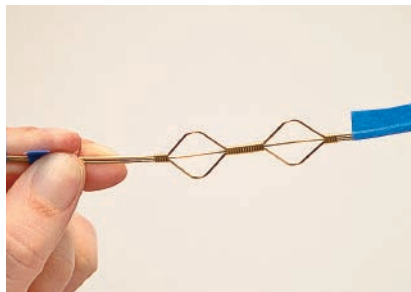
5 Pry the square wires apart between the side and center bindings, either by pulling them open by hand or using pliers. Check that the bindings are secure. Repeat for other side. You should have two "bubbles" along the bundle.
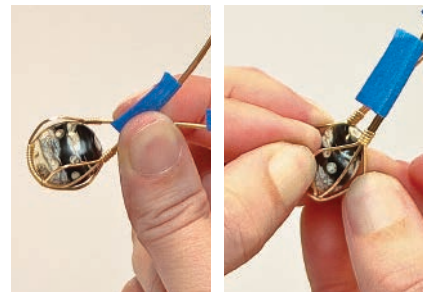
6 Position the lampwork bead in middle of center wrap with the trimmed wire ends against the bead. Shape the cage around the bead. Pull the wire around bead on both sides. The bead should stay in position within the wire cage.

7 Place flat nose pliers flush against the top binding, and bend the wires toward you slightly. Repeat for the other side. Align the six wire ends back to back. Bundle the six square wires together with tape.

8 Make another hook with 21g wire as in Step 2. Bind the six wires together by wrapping five times to show. Push the binding down flush with the top bends in the cage wires. Trim the ends and secure.

9 Remove all the tape. Bend the front two wires down to make a V-shape. These wires will serve as the frame for the handwoven bail.
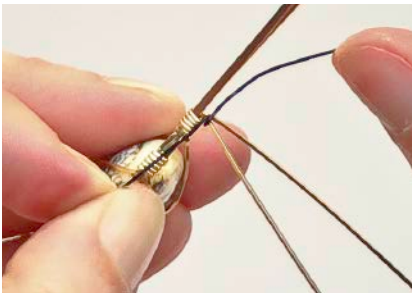
10 Secure one end of the 24g colored wire with a couple tight wraps around the left wire at the base of the V.

11 Bring the colored wire across and under the other wire of the base of the V. Anchor another complete wrap around this wire.

12 Continue weaving as in Steps 10–11 to cover 1¼" of the V. Trim and secure the ends. For a tapered bail, weave approximately ¾" of the V, and then pinch the V wires toward one another, and continue to weave to 1¼".
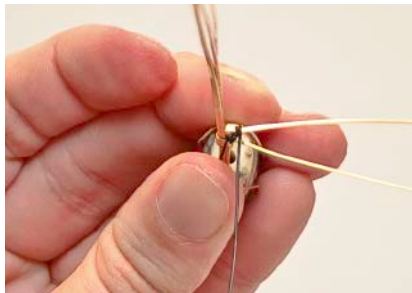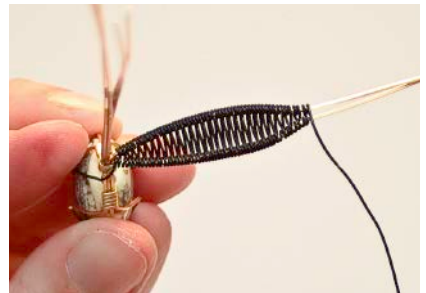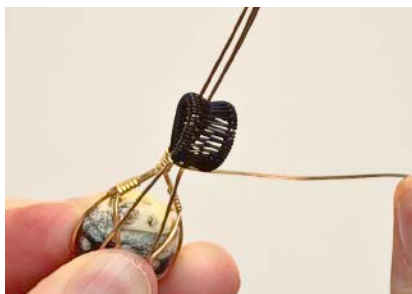
13 Wrap the bail around a pen or dowel to shape.

14 Wrap the two ends of the V frame with one 22g square wire from behind. Bind by wrapping five times to show. Trim the ends and secure.

15 Pull the two wires from the front upward, and pull the two wires from the back to the front. You should have one wire sticking straight up from the back, and four wires sticking straight out from the front. Position the bail upright using the pen or dowel.
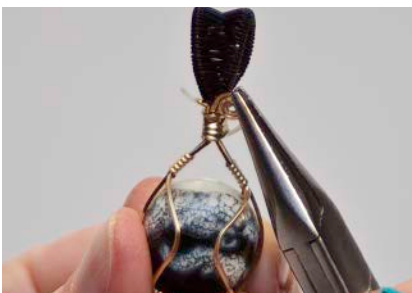
16 Trim all five remaining wires to ⁷/8" Place the round nose pliers at the very tip of the back wire, and begin to make a spiral. Continue spiraling using chain nose pliers. Position the spiral the base of the bail.

17 Spiral the front four wires as in Step 16 to form a bundle. Finish by positioning all the spirals using chain nose pliers. ☺

Melissa Senetar, Ph.D.
began beading as a fashionable way to relax from dissertation research. After receiving a Doctorate degree in Biochemistry, 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. 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.

Bangle Bracelet

design by Connie Fox

Frank DeSantis

Practice with copper wire first before moving to the more expensive sterling silver. This beginner project includes step-by-step photographs.

MATERIALS

1½' of 14-gauge copper dead soft wire
1½' of 14-gauge sterling silver dead soft wire
2' of 18-gauge sterling silver dead soft wire
Beads and spacers with holes large enough for 14-gauge wire
Head pins or eye pins for optional embellishments
4 sterling silver jump rings, approx. 5mm inner diameter
Liver-of-sulfur

TOOLS

Long round nose pliers
Ball peen or chasing hammer
Steel bench block or anvil
Wire cutters
Chain nose pliers
Indelible ink pen

DESIGN

Choose the beads you'd like to incorporate into your finished piece. I have chosen lampwork beads made by Donna Struthers that are earthy and tribal. African bronze and Karen Hilltribe beads complement the lampwork beads. Notice how I use the design principle of repetition in this brangle. The following elements are repeated throughout the entire piece: "eye" beads, the colors black and terracotta, bronze beads, and silver spacers. Using repetition allows the eye to travel around the brangle and gives continuity to your work.

For other design options: Use a color wheel to achieve complementary, analogous, or split complementary color combinations. Combine mixed metals, such as silver, brass/bronze, and copper. Use high polished beads with clean lines to create a contemporary design. Use beads from one area of the world to develop a theme.

MEASUREMENTS

My favorite brangle design is made up of a central section and two arms. One of the arms includes the clasp. The mandrel measurements of these three pieces depends on the size of your wrist, the diameter of the jaws of your round nose pliers, and the size of the beads you use. You will need to experiment with your copper wire to arrive at your ideal mandrel measurement.

The brangle in this article fits a 6" wrist and was made with beads that range from 10-12mm in diameter. The mandrel lengths for the three pieces are: central section — 4-3/4", left arm — 4", and right arm — 3-3/4". It isn't necessary for the arms to be the same length, in fact, I prefer an asymmetrical design.

CENTRAL SECTION

Step 1 Cut 2' of 18-gauge sterling silver wire to use for coiling. Place the 18-gauge wire on top of a piece of 14-gauge wire (copper or silver) to form a cross.
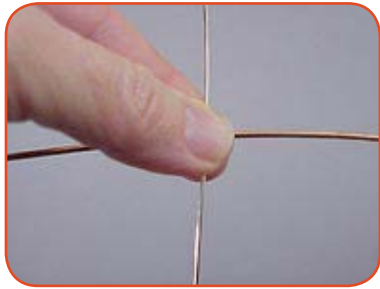
Step 2 Rotate the upper wire away from your body. Continue rotating the 18-gauge wire onto the 14-gauge to form a coil. When the upper, 18-gauge wire is completely coiled around the 14-gauge mandrel, reverse the piece of 14-gauge wire and coil the remaining 18-gauge wire.
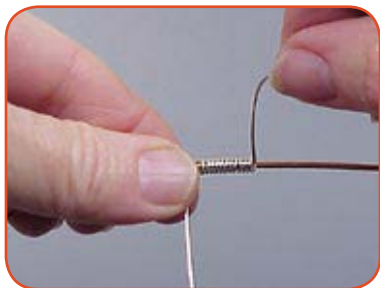
Step 3 Determine how long you want the central section to be. Mine is 2½" long, not including the eyes. String beads, spacers, and coiling on to a long piece of 14-gauge wire.

Step 4 With an indelible pen, mark the bottom of your round nose pliers. Grasp one end of the 14-gauge wire at the mark on the bottom of your long round nose pliers.
Rotate your hand away from your body to form a loop.

Step 5 Introduce the tips of your chain nose pliers into the joint and rotate towards your body.

Step 6 Place your round nose pliers in the loop and close the gap. Now you must determine where to cut the other end of the mandrel wire in order to get an eye of the same size.
Using the same long nose pliers, grasp the end of a 4-5" piece of 14-gauge copper wire, at the mark and with no wire peeking through the jaws of the pliers. Rotate your hand away from your body to form a loop.
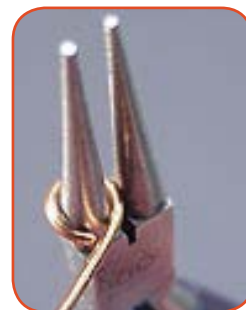
Step 7 Mark the joint with an indelible pen. Unravel the wire and measure from the ink mark to the end of the wire. This is the length of wire it will take to make an identical eye.

Step 8 Cut the 14-gauge mandrel wire, allowing for the additional wire needed to make the second eye — the measurement from Step 7. Make the second eye the same way you did the first. When you place the central section on a flat surface, the eyes should be perpendicular to the surface.

Arm One
Step 9 Determine how long you want the arm to be. The sample is 1¼" long, not including the eyes. Follow the same procedure that you used for the central section. There is one difference — one eye will be parallel to the surface when your brangle is placed on a table, the other eye (the one that will connect to the central section) will be perpendicular to the surface.

Arm Two
Step 10 You will need approximately 1½" for the clasp. This measurement will vary depending on the diameter of the jaws of your round nose jaws.

Add to this, the measurement for your beads, spacers, and coiling (mine is 1-3/8"), plus the allowance for your eye. I suggest you work with a little more wire than you think you will need — it's easy to snip off some, but not easy to add.

Step 11 Start this piece by making the clasp first. Hammer ¼" of one end of your 14-gauge wire on a steel bench block (anvil) until it is pretty flat.

With your round nose pliers, make a small loop. I have used small round nose pliers in the image, but, the tips of your long round nose pliers may be used as well.

Step 12 Place the wire (right next to the small loop) in the bottom of your long round nose pliers.

Using the bottom of your round nose pliers, rotate your hand away from your body and in the opposite direction of the small loop.

Step 13 Hammer the curve, and extend your hammering ¼" beyond the small loop. This will act as a stop so that your beads don't slide onto the clasp.

Use a bead with a fairly small hole at the end so it is less likely to slide.

Step 14 String your beads, spacers and coiling onto the mandrel wire. Make an eye on the end of the mandrel and be sure it's perpendicular when you place the arm on a flat surface.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER AND MAKING ADJUSTMENTS

Step 15 When you reach this last step, you will thank your lucky beads you are working in copper wire. Link the sections together using 2 jump rings at each join. My jump rings are 5mm inner diameter, but you can use the size you like.
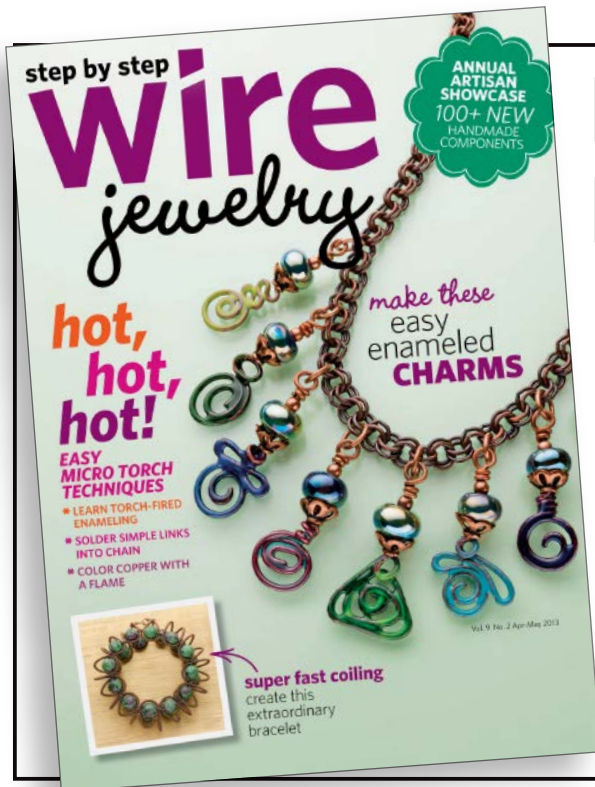
Place the brangle on your wrist and think "Goldielocks." Too big? Too small? Or, just right! If the brangle is too large you have a big decision to make — which of those treasured beads are you going to eliminate? Be careful about removing too much coiling since this allows the brangle to curve. If the brangle is too small, decide where you will add length. Work in copper until you get a good fit. Disassemble the brangle, measure your mandrel wires, and reproduce in silver.

EMBELLISHMENTS

Step 16 Consider hammering the eyes for a little extra polish, but, make sure you have a good fit before doing this. Dangles made with accent beads on head or eye pins can also be added. And lastly, oxidize your brangle in liver-of-sulfur to achieve depth and contrast in the coiling. Putting it all together and making adjustments

Connie Fox is a full time wire artist and frequent contributor to Lapidary Journal. You can view her work, learn how to make your own jump rings and eye pins along with other basic wire skills, and contact her through her Web site, www.conniefox.com.

Ballpoint Earrings

design by Karen Tihor

Originally published in *Easy Wire,* 2007

These are easy little earrings that can be made very quickly with the simplest of tools. The earring is worn by actually winding the spiraled part of the wire through the ear, making them easy to wear, but next to impossible to lose! Once you've made your first pair, you'll be struck by the many variations possible with this design. Try using round beads, oval beads, stone chips, or don't use any beads at all. Try hammering flat the end of the wire, or even wrapping the inner wire around a tiny knitting needle for a spiral within a spiral!

Frank DeSantis

KAREN TIHOR grew up around jewelry making and designs her own chainmail and wire jewelry. She is a juried member of the International Guild of Wire Jewelry Artists and an active member of the online Creative Wire Jewelry forum on Delphi.

MATERIALS
8" 20-gauge round
sterling silver wire, half-hard
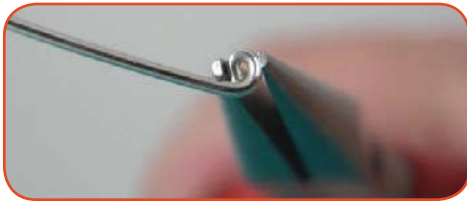6 6mm garnet rondelles
2 2mm sterling rounds

TOOLS
Round nose pliers
Chain nose pliers
Wire cutters
Ballpoint pen barrel with
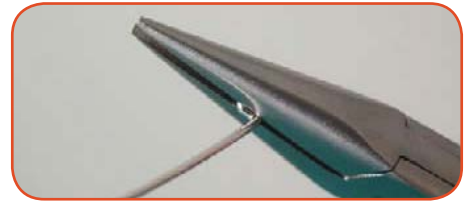the ink tube removed
File or cup burr

Step 1: Cut your silver wire into two 4" lengths. Use the very tip of your round nose pliers to make a tiny loop in the end of each wire.

Step 2: Use the tip of your chain nose pliers to squeeze the loop closed.

Step 3: Grip the loop sideways with your chain nose pliers.

Step 4: Bend the wire around the loop to form a spiral.

Step 5: Use the tips of your chain nose pliers to grip the wire just above the spiral.

Step 6: Bend the wire about 90° so that the spiral is centered on the wire tail.

Step 7: Slide your beads onto the wire so that they rest on the loop.

Step 8: Use the tips of your round nose pliers to form a 90° bend in the wire.

Step 9: Without changing the position of your pliers, bend the wire back over the end of the top jaw as shown in the picture.

Step 10: Grip the wire just past the bend with the tips of your chain nose pliers.

Step 11: Bend the wire tail back just enough to align it in a straight line with the beads. This slight bend in the wire will ensure that the beads stay in place on the wires.

Step 12: Use your thumb to hold the wire steady as you bend the tail over and around the pen barrel to form a hook.
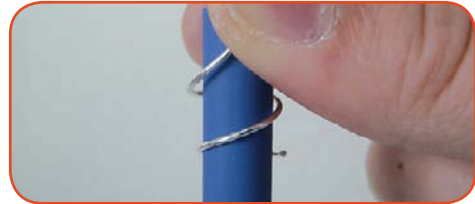

Step 13: Slide the beaded part of your earring into the barrel of the pen and hold the wire tail firmly against the barrel of the pen.

Step 14: Bend the wire tail sharply to one side. You will do this in the opposite direction for the other earring to create a mirror image.

Step 15: Wrap the wire tail tightly around the barrel of the pen to form a smooth spiral.

Step 16: Slide the earring off the pen barrel and use your fingers to shape the spiral to your liking. You may need to use the tips of your chain nose pliers to gently coax the end of the wire tail to curve smoothly. Form the second earring in the mirror image of the first.

Once you're happy with the shapes of your earrings, use your file to smooth the ends of the wires. Remember, these are the wires that will go through the ear, so smoother is better!

Basic Techniques

These basic instructions are adapted from *The Beader's Companion* (Interweave, 2005). Don't have this popular book? Visit interweavestore.com.

SIMPLE LOOP

To form a **simple loop,** use flat-nose pliers to make a 90° bend at least ½" from the end of the wire. Use round-nose pliers to grasp the wire after the bend; roll the pliers toward the bend, but not past it, to preserve the 90° bend. Use your thumb to continue the wrap around the nose of the pliers. Trim the wire next to the bend. Open a simple loop just as you would a jump ring.

WRAPPED LOOP

To form a wrapped loop, use flat-nose pliers to make a 90° bend at least 2" from the end of the wire. Use round-nose pliers to grasp the wire after the bend; roll the pliers toward the bend, but not past it, to preserve the 90° bend. Use your thumb to continue the wrap around the nose of the pliers. Wrap the tail tightly down the neck of the wire to create a couple of coils. Trim the excess wire to finish.

DOUBLE SIMPLE LOOP

To form a *double simple loop,* make the 90° bend at least 1" from the end of the wire. Make a simple loop and continue wrapping the wire around the round-nose pliers to form two complete loops.

OPENING JUMP RINGS

To open a **jump ring,** grasp each side of its opening with a pair of pliers. Don't pull apart. Instead, twist in opposite directions so that you can open and close without distorting the shape.

WRAPPED-LOOP BAILS

Wrapped-loop bails turn side-drilled beads, usually teardrops, into pendants. Center the bead on a 3" or longer piece of wire. Bend both ends of the wire up the sides and across the top of the bead. Bend one end straight up at the center of the bead, then wrap the other wire around it to form a few coils. Form a wrapped loop with the straight-up wire, wrapping it back down over the already formed coils. Trim the excess wire.

COILS

To make a coil, use one hand to hold the end of your wire against a mandrel. With the other hand, wrap the wire around the mandrel in tight loops. To remove the coil, slide it off the mandrel and cut. Add vertical loops on either end to use the coil as is, or cut the coil at certain intervals to make jump rings or split rings.

SPIRALS

To start a spiral, make a small loop at the end of a wire with round-nose pliers. Enlarge the piece by holding on to the spiral with chain-nose pliers and pushing the wire over the previous coil with your thumb.