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Please follow appropriate health and safety measures when working with materials and equipment. Some general guidelines are presented in this book, but always read and follow manufacturers' instructions.

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Wirework, at its essence, is very beginner friendly. As long as you are able to follow directions, you can create your first project and be proud of how beautiful and unique it is. Very little is required beyond a few tools and your imagination. It’s very satisfying to learn a few basic wireworking skills and immediately begin making pieces that are one-of-a-kind, artful, and wearable.

One of wire’s biggest strengths is that it’s completely open ended because it is not component based. A piece of wire can become anything — a zig zag, a spiral, a stone wrap, a clasp. The only limit is your own creativity!

My designing style is best described as organic. I am always drawn to the brilliant and bountiful, natural world, teeming with endless variety. I love incorporating motifs such as ocean life, flowers, and leaves. I try to create pieces that may not be perfectly realistic copies of nature’s creations — instead, I hope to capture their inner spirit and beauty.

If you have browsed through my other books, you will see that the style of my wirework hasn’t entirely changed, but it has definitely shifted. I am always challenging myself to grow as an artist and create new designs and techniques, and I felt this was the perfect time to chronicle my latest efforts in a series of projects. You’ll notice I am using copper wire in many of the projects. I love the warm, earthy color, and it’s easy to give it a gorgeous patina. I have introduced many coiling elements in this book as well, and this combination of coiling with classic styles creates new looks for traditional designs.

If you haven’t seen my other books, welcome! You will find that this book is beginner friendly, as well as introducing intriguing concepts for more advanced wirework artists.

Every artist evolves as they continue on their creative journey. My life experiences, who I am, what I love — these things influence what I do. This book contains themes, materials, and techniques that are close to my heart, and I hope you’ll find them equally inspiring. There is a journey in every book, and each project is another exciting step toward expressing our creativity and furthering our skills as artists. I hope you’ll join me in this journey!
ZIG ZAG EARRINGS

This elegantly simple project is a wonderful way to celebrate the luminous beauty of freshwater pearls. Learn how to use half-drilled pearls while creating earrings in just 10 minutes.

MATERIALS
- 2 half-drilled pearls (approximately 8x10mm)
- 2 3" segments of 20-gauge silver wire

TOOLS
- Bench block
- Chainnose pliers
- Chasing hammer
- Flatnose pliers
- Large bail-making pliers
- Sandpaper
- Super New Glue
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Using large bail-making pliers, bend the wire about 1" from the end (A).

2. Use flatnose pliers to bend the short end of the wire out at a slight angle (B).

3. Start to zig zag the long end of the wire with chainnose pliers (Basics, p. 13). Make the last segment of the zig zag point downward (C). Trim the end of the earwire approximately 6mm (¼") below the last zig zag.

4. Place the zig zag on the bench block and use the flat (or round) face of a chasing hammer to hammer the zig zag portion of the earwire to flatten and work-harden it (Basics, p. 13) (D). (Avoid hammering both the last segment of the zig zag and everything above the zig zag.)

5. Use sandpaper to smooth the end of the earwire (E).

6. Repeat steps 1–5 to create a second earring (or consider doing parallel steps on both earwires at the same time).

7. Check the fit of the wire in the hole in the pearl. If it is loose, use your chainnose pliers to slightly flatten the end of the wire by squeezing it firmly (F, G).

8. Use your preferred adhesive to glue the pearls onto the end of each wire.

9. Repeat steps 7 and 8 to finish a second earring.
I am always exploring new shapes for wirework components. This elegant, versatile design can be used as a link, a focal point, part of an earring, etc.

Many of my components are asymmetrical, but this shape combines both the simple lines of an organic design with a symmetrical form. There are many ways to vary the design by changing the gauge of the wire, the size of the component, the type of metal, or adding a contrasting coil.

**MATERIALS**
- 28” 14-gauge copper wire (32” for a larger size)
- 8–10” 22-gauge base metal or silver-filled wire
- 4 5mm jump rings, copper
- 12 7mm jump rings, copper
- 3 9mm jump rings, copper

**TOOLS**
- Bench block
- Bracelet-making pliers
- Chainnose pliers
- Chasing hammer
- Flatnose pliers
- Large bail-making pliers
- Liver of sulfur (optional)
- Roundnose pliers
- Ruler
- Sandpaper
- Side cutters
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Use side cutters to cut the 14-gauge wire into seven 4” segments.

2. Start by making an inward open-facing spiral at both ends of one wire segment (Basics, p. 13) (A). Be certain to start at the same spot on the tapered jaws of the round-nose pliers in order to achieve symmetry.

3. Continue forming the spirals at each end, a little bit at a time, until the two almost meet (B). As you create the spirals, the center section of the wire should curve, but if it does not, create a gentle curve with your hands (C).

4. Repeat steps 2–3 until you have made six components.

5. Using the last segment of wire, make an open spiral on one side (D).

6. Use the large bail-making pliers to form the straight end of the wire into a hook shape in the opposite direction of the spiral (E). Trim the excess wire.

7. Use a chasing hammer to flatten all of the components, including the hook clasp (Basics, p. 13) (F).

8. As you are hammering the hook clasp, flatten the end of the wire into a paddle (Basics, p. 13). Use sandpaper to smooth the ends (G).
SPINY SPIRAL FRAMED PENDANT

1. Using 6” 20-gauge copper wire, make an open spiral/zig zag component with a loop at the top (Basics, p. 12).
2. Follow steps 5–10 of “Spiny Spiral Pendant” (p. 34) starting further along the open spiral, to embellish the spiral.
3. Use a jump ring large enough to connect a 1½” front-drilled focal bead and an 8mm decorative ring.

SPINY SPIRAL EARRINGS

1. Make two mirror-image open spiral components (Basics, p. 12). (Use jumbo bail-making pliers to make the zig zags.)
2. Follow steps 5–10 of “Spiny Spiral Pendant” (p. 34) to embellish the earrings.
3. Attach an earwire to each spiral component (Basics, p. 10).
Stacking Spiral Rings

Stacking rings are a popular, classic design. My interpretation adds an ethnic touch. Make these rings your own — use a unifying element such as turquoise, or mix silver with different stones — it’s all about what inspires you.

Materials
- 7–8” 22-gauge half-hard copper (or silver-filled) wire per ring
- 18–24” 26 or 28-gauge copper (or silver-filled) wire per ring
- 28 2mm round gemstone or metal beads per ring

Tools
- Chainnose pliers
- Flatnose pliers
- Liver of sulfur (optional)
- Roundnose pliers
- Side cutters
- Stepped ring mandrel
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Starting in the center of the 22-gauge wire, wrap it two times around the stepped ring mandrel on a step 2–4 sizes smaller than the desired ring size (A).

*tip* Starting smaller will help when the wire springs back or gets larger in diameter after being wrapped around the mandrel and becoming slightly work-hardened.

2. Coil the end of the 26-gauge wire around the end of the 22-gauge wire just where it begins to curve (B).

3. String a bead onto the 26-gauge wire. Position it between the two sides of the ring. Coil twice around the other side of the ring (C).

4. Bring the 26-gauge wire to the inside of the ring and coil twice around the first side where you started (D).

5. Continue the pattern.
LOTUS PENDANT

The lotus flower is a universal symbol for many concepts such as serenity and peace and mindfulness, a blend of nature and humanity. I was inspired by beautiful lotus flowers and waterlilies to create this stylized silhouette pendant.

MATERIALS
• 16–20" 18-gauge copper wire
• 3’ 26-gauge copper wire
• 6” 22-gauge copper wire
• 6mm gemstone bead
• 3mm gemstone bead
• 8 3mm jump rings
• 30" Copper chain

TOOLS
• Bench block
• Bracelet-making pliers (optional)
• Chainnose pliers
• Chasing hammer
• Flatnose pliers
• Liver of sulfur (optional)
• Side cutters
• Small bail-making pliers
ORBITING SPIRALS PENDANT

In this project, the bead acts as the armature that supports the coiled wire framework. The design combines a touch of Steampunk with a mixed-metals look. The beads in the tassel echo the colors, themes, and shapes I used to decorate the bead.

MATERIALS
• 5” 20-gauge copper wire
• 14” 20-gauge copper wire
• 24” 26-gauge copper wire
• 24” 26-gauge silver-filled wire
• 15-20 2mm silver round beads
• 10-12 2mm hematite cornerless cubes
• 12x40mm focal bead
• 3 Assorted 5-10mm accent beads
• 3 Headpins, copper
• 6 4mm jump rings, copper
• 2-3” of copper chain

TOOLS
• Chainnose pliers
• Flatnose pliers
• Liver of sulfur (optional)
• Roundnose pliers (or small bail-making pliers)
• Side cutters
NETTED CABOCHON PENDANT

The mineral world is overflowing with amazing stones, and I am always looking for new ways to artfully complement their beauty. In this wrap, the netting technique frames the stone, covering only the very edge.

MATERIALS
• 6–8’ 28-gauge silver wire
• 8” 20-gauge silver wire
• Cabochon

TOOLS
• Chainnose pliers
• Flatnose pliers
• Side cutters
• Small bail-making pliers