



WIRE HEARTS BRACELET

KRISTAL WICK

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Hearts are always trending. This project looks great in other color mixes of wire and beads. Add more links to create a matching necklace or add ear wires to individual links for matching earrings to complete a suite!

Skill Level: Beginner to advanced

Techniques to know: Opening and closing a jump ring

Finished size: about 8"

MATERIALS

18 inches NTW Wire Black 20 Ga

18 inches NTW Wire Silver 20 Ga

17 size 8mm Twisted jump rings, Antique silver

2 size 6mm Twisted jump rings, Antique silver

5 size 6° seed beads, black

5 size 6° seed beads, crystal

Lobster clasp, silver

Nylon Wire Straightener

Round nose and chain nose pliers

Flush cutter

Bench Block

Domed Chasing Hammer

Rawhide or Nylon Mallet

Optional: Sharpie Marker

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FIGURE 1

Step 1. Using the Wire Straightener, straighten a long length of wire right on the spool. Cut six 3-inch pieces of black 20-gauge wire and silver 20-gauge wire. Make a slight bend in the middle of each piece of wire using the round nose pliers.

FIGURE 2

Step 2. Place the round nose pliers in the middle of the wire where you made the slight bend, cross both wire ends over each other.

TIP: Use a Sharpie, mark a line on the tool's nose where you want to make your loop so it's consistent each time you do this step.

FIGURE 3

Step 3. Start at one end of the wire using the very tip of the round-nose pliers, make a tiny loop wrapping towards the inside of the wire. **NOTE:** Make sure the loop you make is large enough to accommodate the jump rings you'll use in Step 8 to connect the links.

FIGURE 4

Step 4. Use the flat-nose pliers to grip the loop, tightly coil the wire until it is $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the middle loop.

FIGURE 5

Step 5. Repeat the previous on the other wire end and push the coils together until they touch.

Repeat Steps 4 and 5 until all links are complete.

FIGURE 6

Step 6. Carefully hammer each link using a bench block and hammer to work harden the wire. **NOTE:** You may want to use a rawhide mallet on enameled wire to prevent scuffing or marks. I carefully use my chasing hammer and that does the trick! Use uncoated wire if you want to see the hammered marks. Personally, I love the hammered marks for most of my designs, they give the piece a handcrafted artisan flair.

FIGURE 7

Step 7. Attach two hearts using an 8mm jump ring in the center of their coil. Repeat with the other center coil to create a link.

FIGURE 8

Step 8. Attach two links through the loop using an 8mm jump ring. Add one black 6° and one crystal 6° to each 8mm jump ring before closing it.

FIGURE 9

Step 9. Repeat Step 8 until you have connected all your links. Attach a lobster clasp to one end of the bracelet using a 6mm jump ring.

FIGURE 10

Step 10. Attach a 6mm jump ring to the other end of the bracelet.

Residing in breathtaking Colorado with her rescue pups Sparkle & Twinkle, International award-winning designer and past Swarovski Instructor **KRISTAL WICK** has creations in galleries spanning the globe. She teaches worldwide at jewelry, fiber, quilt shows, on cruises, and with Creative Mindfulness workshops for Google. Her invention of Sassy Silkies and Batik Beauty hand-painted silk beads rocked the bead market and inspired four published books. Check out her healthy dog treats, too! www.KristalsCriticCreations.com.

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WIRE HEARTS BRACELET photos by KRISTAL WICK

FIGURE 1

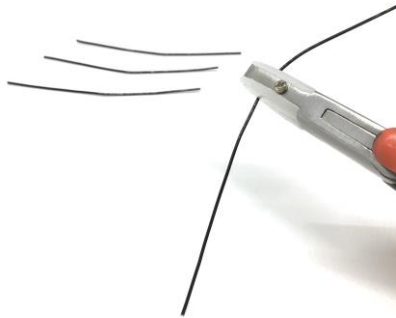


FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3



FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5



FIGURE 6



FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8



FIGURE 9



FIGURE 10

