



Dynamic silver coils hold a row of tiny faceted beads in this wonderfully simple bangle that recalls the ankle bracelets of India.

Marie Lee Carter, Designer

Rajah Bangle

MATERIALS

10 faceted round beads, 4 mm diameter*

14-gauge sterling silver wire, 8 inches (20.3 cm) long, for the bracelet's armature

22-gauge sterling silver wire, 80 inches (2 m) long, for the wrap

20-gauge sterling silver wire, 75 inches (1.9 m) long, for the wrap

* The holes must be large enough to accommodate 22-gauge wire.

TOOLS

Pliers with plastic-coated jaws

Ball-peen hammer and block

Bent chain-nose pliers

Plastic mallet

Bracelet mandrel (a baseball bat is a fine substitute)

INSTRUCTIONS

Note: Makes one bracelet

1 Straighten the 14-gauge wire by gently pulling it through plastic-coated pliers. Use a ball-peen hammer to flatten each end of the wire (three or four taps should do it). Make a loop at each end with round-nose pliers. Bend them back a bit, to center them over the straight part of the wire. Mark the center of the wire with a permanent marker, then make a mark 1 inch (2.5 cm) from each side of the center point.

2 Put on eye protection to shield yourself as you work with the long pieces of wire. Starting at one loop, wrap the 22-gauge wire onto the 14-gauge wire. When you reach the first mark, thread a bead onto the 22-gauge wire, then hold it there as you make three more wraps. Add another bead and wrap as before, until you've used all the beads; finish wrapping the rest of the 14-gauge wire. Snip the end of the 22-gauge wire and press it into the coils with the bent chain-nose pliers. File any rough edges.

3 Wrap the 20-gauge wire over the 22-gauge wire. At the section with the beads, make two wraps between each bead, checking your work for uniformity. Finish as you did in step 2.

4 Create the hook of the clasp by prying open a loop on one end of the bangle with round-nose pliers. Grasp the hook with flat-nose pliers and turn it 90 degrees. Carefully file any rough edges. Slightly taper the tip of the hook.

5 With the plastic mallet, tap the bangle gently (avoiding the beads, which should face out) against the mandrel until it has a satisfactory shape.

6 Make sure that the hook fits into the loop that serves as the eye, gently twisting either as necessary.