

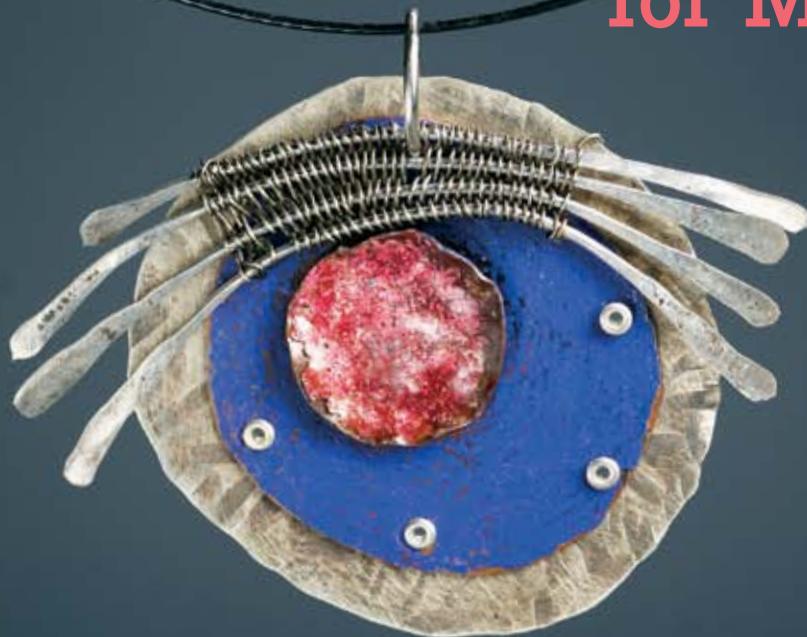


LARK JEWELRY
& BEADING



Heat, Color, Set & Fire

Surface Effects
for Metal Jewelry



MARY HETTMANSPERGER

Liquid Enamel Necklace

Liquid enamel applied over a copper wire coil creates a pendant with great texture. The dark interior and the black half-hitch knots set off the white enamel perfectly.

TECHNIQUES

Cutting
Heat patina
Torch fired enameling
Half hitch knotting

MATERIALS

Copper sheet, 24 gauge, 2½-inch (6.4 cm) circle
Black coated craft wire, 26 gauge, 10 feet (3 m)
Copper wire, 24 gauge, 10 inches (25.4 cm)
Copper wire, 22 gauge, 10–15 feet (3–4.6 m)
Copper wire, 18 gauge, 3 inches (7.6 cm)
Oxidized sterling silver chain, 20–24 inches (50.8–61 cm)
Black automotive paint
Liquid enamel, white

TOOLS

Basic tool kit, page 28
Hot tool kit, page 28

WHAT YOU DO

1 Use the disk cutter to cut a ½-inch (1.3 cm) hole in the center of the copper circle. Apply gel flux to the entire surface of the copper. Anneal and create a red patina with the torch (A). Texture and smooth the edges of the washer with a hammer.

2 Anneal the copper washer again, using gel flux to enhance the patina. Place the hole of the washer over the largest depression in the dapping punch. Use a large dapping punch to depress the inner edge of the washer, creating a lip (B).

3 Bend the lip further with needle-nose pliers. Make a lip in the same direction on the outer edge of the washer with needle-nose pliers (figure 1).

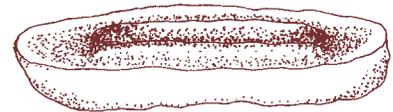


Figure 1





Liquid Enamel Necklace

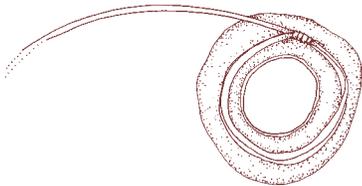


Figure 2

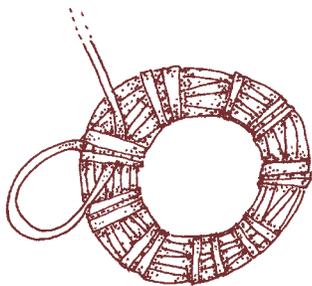


Figure 3

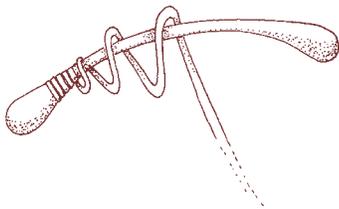


Figure 4

4 Form a circle of 20-gauge copper wire that fits between the bent lips of the washer. Continue wrapping the wire into a coil until the wire fills the space (figure 2).

Once you create a coil of the desired size and volume, secure the wires by wrapping the tail through the center hole all around the coil (figure 3).

5 Dip the wire coil into liquid enamel. Let it dry completely (C).

6 Paint the inside of the washer with black auto paint and let dry (D).

7 Heat the wire coil until it glows red and the enamel becomes shiny and smooth (E). Air cool.

8 Hammer the ends of the 3-inch (7.6 cm) 18-gauge copper wire flat. Cut 2 feet (61 cm) of 26-gauge black wire. Beginning $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (3 mm) from the flattened end, tightly wrap the black wire around the 18-gauge copper wire (figure 4). Snip any excess wire and use pliers to make the wire ends sit flush.

9 Cut the 24-gauge copper wire in half. Use it to make a wrapped loop on each side of the black-wrapped wire (figure 5).

10 Thread a wire from each wrapped loop through an end of the oxidized chain. Make a second wrapped loop on each side to secure the chain (figure 6).

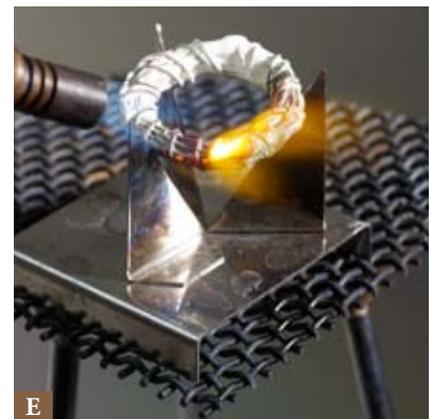




Figure 5

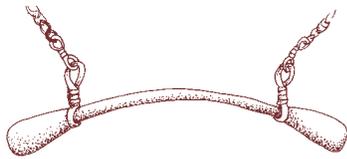


Figure 6

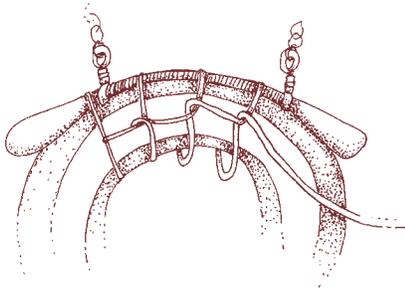


Figure 7



Variations



11 Wrap a new length of black wire through a copper wire on the back of the enameled piece. Place the enameled piece inside the washer, with the black wire sticking out from the side. Wrap the wire around the washer through the middle to the front, and connect using a half hitch knot (F).

12 Continue knotting around the circle, making your stitches about $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (0.6–1.3 cm) apart.

13 When you have almost finished stitching, place the wire paddle on top of the washer. Anchor the hanger in place by looping half hitch stitches around it (figure 7). End the stitching by tightly wrapping the black wire around the 18-gauge copper wire. Snip off any excess wire.

Tool Kits

Basic Tool Kit

Abrasive powder cleanser
Anvil or bench block
Awl
Ball-peen hammer
Bench grinder with de-burring wheel
Chain-nose pliers
Dapping block and daps
Disk cutter and punches
Eyelet setter
Flat file
Green scrub pad
Hole punches, $\frac{1}{8}$ and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch
(3 and 1.6 mm)
Liver of sulfur
Measuring tape or ruler
Metal cutters
Needle-nose pliers
Ring clamp
Ring mandrel
Round-nose pliers
Safety glasses
Sharpened flat-head screwdrivers
Steel wool, #2 coarse and #0 fine
Texturing hammer
Vise
Wood block

Hot Tool Kit

Gel flux
Old pliers
Paintbrushes
Pickle and warming pot
Propane torch and fuel
Rotating tripod stand
Safety glasses
Tripod with screen
Water bowl

Fast and Easy Ways to Transform the Look of Metal Jewelry

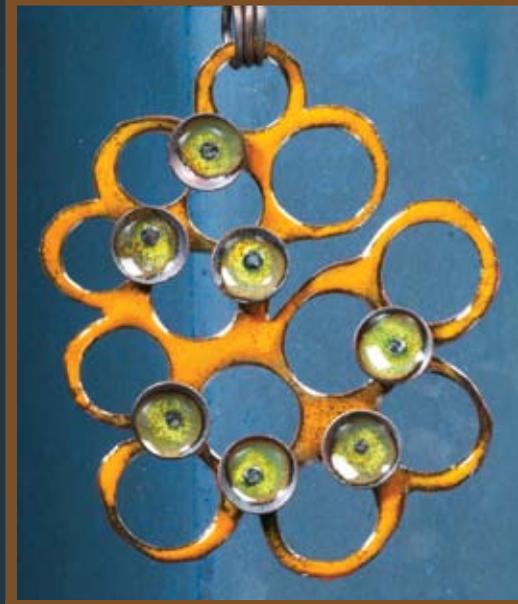


"THERE is something about adding color and alternative surfaces to metal that inspires and ignites creativity," writes Mary Hettmansperger, author of *Wrap, Stitch, Fold & Rivet*. In *Heat, Color, Set & Fire*, she teaches you a variety of techniques through a series of exquisite jewelry projects that will become uniquely your own. Embossing, paints, and colored pencils are used to achieve vibrant and distinct coloration, for instance, while epoxy resin and epoxy putty are applied to bring a new added surface to metal. Other techniques include fusing, enameling, and etching. From earrings to rings to necklaces, here's how to give metal jewelry a beautiful, personalized look.

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