



LARK JEWELRY
& BEADING



Heat, Color, Set & Fire

Surface Effects
for Metal Jewelry



MARY HETTMANSPERGER



Etched Copper Neckpiece

Add a green patina on etched copper to create a truly individual necklace.

TECHNIQUES

Cutting
Etching
Punching holes
Adding a green patina
Riveting
Wirework

MATERIALS

Copper sheet, 24 gauge,
6 inches (15.2 cm) square
50 flat round copper beads,
each ¼ inch (6 mm)
12 flat round copper beads with
green patina, each ¼ inch (6 mm)
Copper wire, 26 gauge,
10 feet (3.1 m)
Copper wire, 14 gauge,
30 inches (76.2 cm)
12 copper jump rings,
16 gauge, each ¼ inch (6 mm)
Green patina solution
Ferric chloride solution
Black permanent marker

TOOLS

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

WHAT YOU DO

1 Cut a 3-inch (7.6 cm) square from the 6-inch (15.2 cm) copper square and etch this sheet. Clean the etched copper with a green scrub pad and abrasive powder, and then buff it with steel wool.

2 Cut the etched copper into a variety of squares and rectangles (A), measuring ½ x 1 inch to 1 x 2 inches (1.3 x 2.5 cm to 2.5 x 5.1 cm). Round the edges with metal scissors and buff them smooth. Rub each piece with steel wool.

3 Anneal the second 3-inch (7.6 cm) copper square. Cut it into a variety of shapes and pieces to fit on the larger shapes cut in step 2. Round the corners and texture the edges of each piece. Apply the green patina solution to the surface of each piece (B) and let sit until the color appears. After the color has dried, spray the surface with a matte fixative to stabilize the patina. Apply several layers, alternating the liquid patina and the fixative.



A



B

Etched Copper Neckpiece

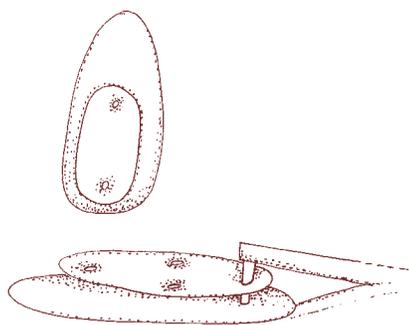


Figure 1

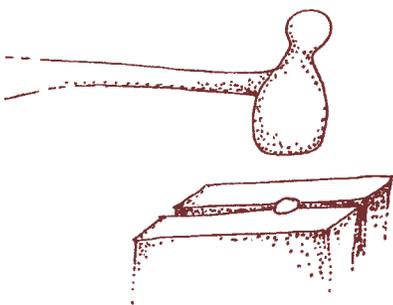


Figure 2

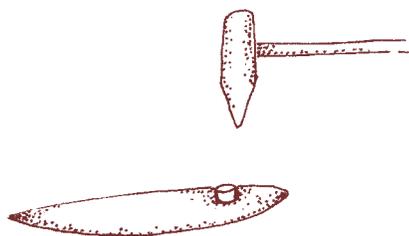


Figure 3

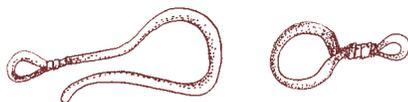


Figure 4

4 When the patinated pieces are completely dry, buff the edges of each piece to expose the copper (C). Make sure to wear a dust mask and work in a well ventilated area.

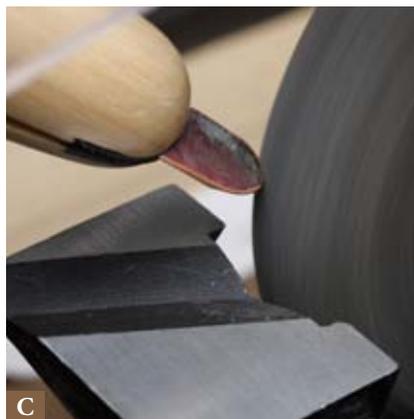
5 Arrange the etched copper pieces. Place the smaller green pieces on top of them in the desired pattern. Punch holes in the green pieces where you want to put the rivets (larger pieces will need two rivets). Using the green pieces as guides, punch one hole at a time in each etched piece (figure 1).

6 Cut a 2-inch (5.1 cm) length of 14-gauge copper wire for each rivet hole. One at a time, place the wires in the bench vise leaving about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.6 mm) or less poking up. Gently hammer the protruding wire with a ball-peen hammer to make a small rounded head on the end (figure 2).

7 Thread each rivet wire through the green copper and the etched copper. Turn the pieces over and cut the wire with sharp flush cutters, about $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (1.6 mm) from the copper sheet. Spread the head of each wire with a hammer (figure 3).

8 Punch a $\frac{1}{16}$ -inch (1.6 mm) hole in the top center of each copper piece. Add one jump ring to the top of each piece and close (D).

9 Gently hammer a 16-inch (40.6 cm) length of 14-gauge silver wire into a circle shape for the choker. Assemble the necklace by threading three small copper beads, one copper piece, three small copper beads, and then one large green bead. Repeat this pattern until all elements are strung.



10 Use round-nose pliers to bend the ends of the wire into a hook and an eye (figure 4).

11 Cut the 26-gauge copper wire into two 5-foot (1.5 m) lengths. Bury one end of the 26-gauge wire under the last bead, and wrap the wire around the 14-gauge wire until you reach the hook (figure 5). Repeat with the second 5-foot (1.5 m) length on the other side of the necklace.

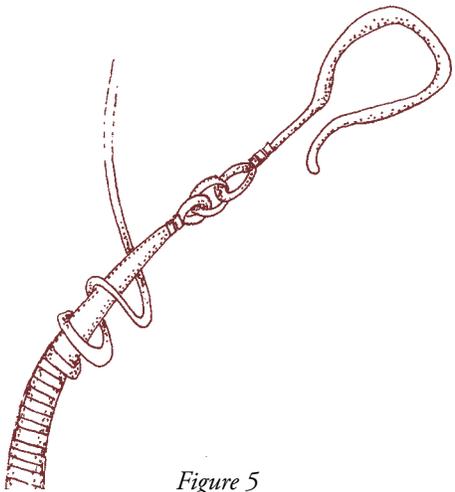
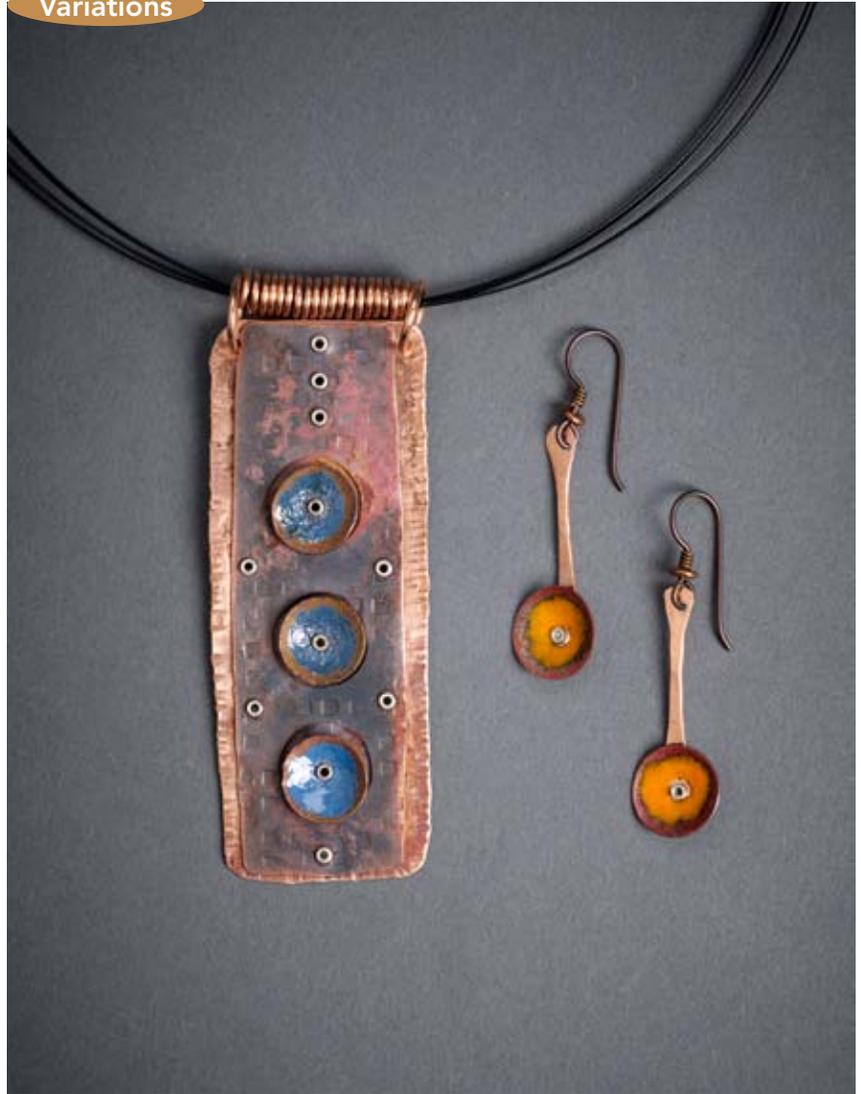


Figure 5

Variations



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

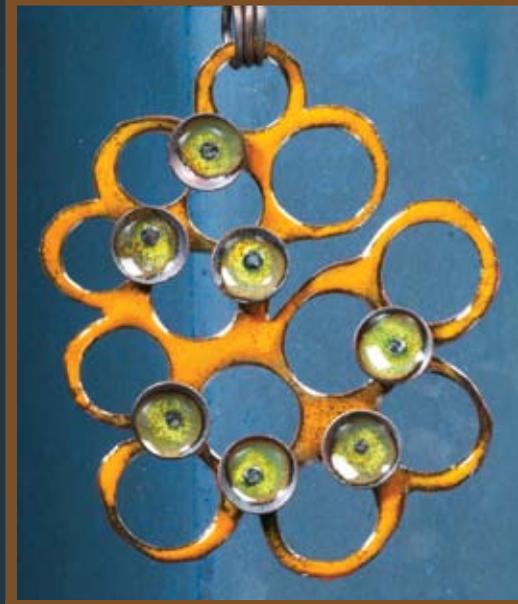


"THERE is something about adding color and alternative surfaces to metal that inspires and ignites creativity," writes Mary Hettmansperger, author of *Wrap, Stitch, Fold & Rivet*. In *Heat, Color, Set & Fire*, she teaches you a variety of techniques through a series of exquisite jewelry projects that 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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