

Egyptian Coiled Spiral Bracelet

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Materials Needed for Main Bracelet:

*Sterling or Colored Wire, 16 or 18g, approximately 7'

Materials Needed for Embellishments:

- * Sterling or Colored Wire, 22-24g, approximately 3'
- * Selection of Lampwork Beads
- * 6/0 seed beads or 4mm crystal
- * heishi bead spacers

Tools Needed:

- * Round Nosed Pliers
- * Flat Nosed Pliers
- * Wire Cutters
- *Optional: Hammer & Surface Plate
- *Optional: File
- *Optional: Ott Light
- *Your Reading Glasses



Thank you your interest in this tutorial! Before you get to work, **please take the time to read the tutorial thoroughly.**

It's a bit like a complicated recipe; you want to have all of your ingredients ready before you start! This tutorial is intended for beginning wireworkers.

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The design for this piece is based off of ancient techniques. This means make it, sell it, enjoy it. If you decide to teach it, though, please write your own directions!

Most importantly, please have fun! Feel free to contact me with any and all questions regarding the information below, and for sources for any of the materials mentioned. I'll do my best to help you track down whatever you'll need!

This tutorial has been written for the Soda Lime Times.



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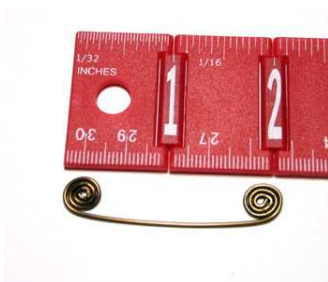
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About the technique

The Egyptian Coil is a technique that has been around since at least 4,000 BC. It makes a strong, supple chain that can be embellished. Samples of this technique are in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and have been found in Egyptian and Mesopotamian Tombs. Our version will have a little bit of added lampwork bling!



Step 1 - Cut your thicker wire into 6" pieces. My final bracelet will end up being about 6.75" I've cut 13 pieces here, but if you want your bracelet a little longer, you might want to cut 15 or more. Set the rest of the wire aside to use for the lampwork beads & the clasp.

Tip: If you are feeling really organized and motivated, you can file the ends of your wire to make them nice and flat.

Step 2 - Curl the ends of the wire to begin your spiral using round nosed pliers.

Tip: Round Nosed Pliers are used to make loops only. If you try to use them to hold onto wire, you'll have a hard time. In addition, they can mar the wire.

Step 3 - Continue to curl the wire towards the center by setting the wire into flat nosed pliers.

Tip: Flat Nosed Pliers are used to hold and work wire. You want them without any sort of teeth or pattern inside them. Although this makes it easier to hang onto the wire, it will mark up softer wires such as sterling.

Step 4 - Continue to curl the wire until you have about 2" between the two. Flatten & harden using a hammer & surface plate, if you'd like

Tip: I don't tend to do this since the curling and bending you do to the piece automatically work hardens it, but some people like the flattened look. Please note, however, that if you do flatten it, coated wire such as the purple Artistic Wire shown on the first page may get damaged.

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Step 5 - Fold the curl in half over the thickest part of the round nosed pliers. You need to make sure you always use the same place on the pliers so that your links are even.

Tip: I think if you turn this over, it looks like eyes and a big nose.



Step 6 - Fold the link again, only the other direction so it now looks 3D.



Step 7 - Here's the only tricky part of making this. Hold one link right side up, the other upside down at a 90 degree angle from one another. Link them together by sliding one "nose" into the other (yah, I know... eew...) then rotating and twisting.



Rotate & turn the links so they catch & are all right side up. The first photo shows them from the back. Squeeze them together so they stay in place. I made two sets of 6 links each, one for each side of the bracelet and then started adding the lampwork. I reserved the 13th piece for use in the clasp.



Join the lampwork beads into the center & sides by simply making a loop with your round nosed pliers and hooking it into the existing chain. Add your bead(s) and then make a round loop on the other side.

Tip: Here is where it will really help you to use hard, heavy wire or do a bit of wirewrap if you know how. Otherwise that link could open up. To harden your wire a little, you can hammer it on the surface plate after you use it.

Add a clasp on the end of your bracelet. I've made my own here, but you can always use a premade clasp and attach it with a jump ring.



Admire your work.
Wear your bracelet and show it off!

Biography – Hannah Rosner



With over twenty years teaching experience combined with twenty-five years as a working artist, I still look forward to teaching both fine arts and craftsmanship skills every day. I've taught college level multimedia and design at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and the Illinois Institute of Art. I have taught beadwork and fine arts for bead stores and bead societies across the US.

I was a semifinalist in the lampwork category for Bead Dreams 2009 and win second place for my bead embroidered collarpiece in the Treasures of Toho 2009 Contest. My lampwork was shown in the ISGB Convergence II exhibit and I won third place in April 2011 in the Beads and Jewelry category at the Vegas Glass Craft Expo.

To see more of my tutorials, kits, beads and finished work, check out my website - <http://www.GoodRiverGalleries.com> and also my Etsy sales site - <http://hannahrachel.etsy.com>

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