

Michael's

Made by you™



Layering Necklaces
Part 1 Wrapped Focals

John Bead
ESTABLISHED 1954

Materials

John Bead Czech Glass Seed Beads in Size 6/0
Retro Blue SKU 10416599

Faceted Glass Rondelles
Light Blue AB SKU 10594113
Aqua SKU 10547850
Grey Black AB SKU 10594105

Baroque Pearl, Dark Grey SKU 10550332

10mm Gray Agate Faceted Round SKU 10547835

Hematite Rhodium Oval SKU 10594012

6mm Stripe Agate White SKU 10549785

Germany Style Wire
18 gauge SKU 10390887
22 gauge SKU 10121778

Artistic Wire® Twisted™, Round, 20 Gauge SKU 10267003

Chain Nose Pliers SKU 10121794
Round Nose Pliers SKU 10121796
Flush Cutters SKU 10121797
(Optional) Bail Forming Pliers SKU 10223254

Beading Mat SKU 10348546

Skill Level - Beginner
Time to Complete - 1 Hour

Part 1 of this class will create two wrapped focal pieces that will be integrated into a layered necklace design in part 2 of this class.

Any beads will work. The sample designs used a combination of seed beads, glass beads, gemstone beads and pearls. There is not requirement to have the beads be any certain size. This technique should work for many bead sizes.

Step 1 Create the Connector

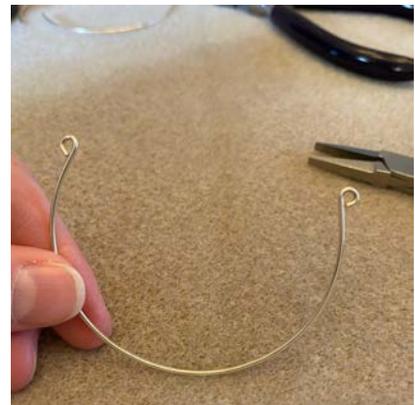
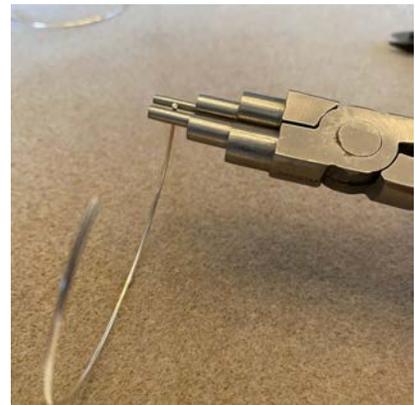
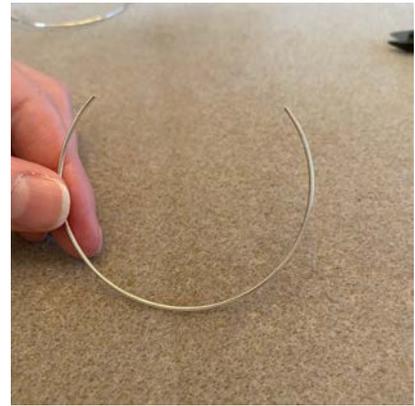
Cut a piece of 18 gauge German Style wire that is between 4.5 and 5" [11.5 cm] long. Use a round form to encourage the piece to form a crescent shape. Hint: the wire is already formed into a round shape off the spool. Extra forming can be achieved using an old thread spool.

Step 2

Use bail forming pliers to form a loop with the top ends of the wire. The samples used the 2mm, or smallest form on the tool.

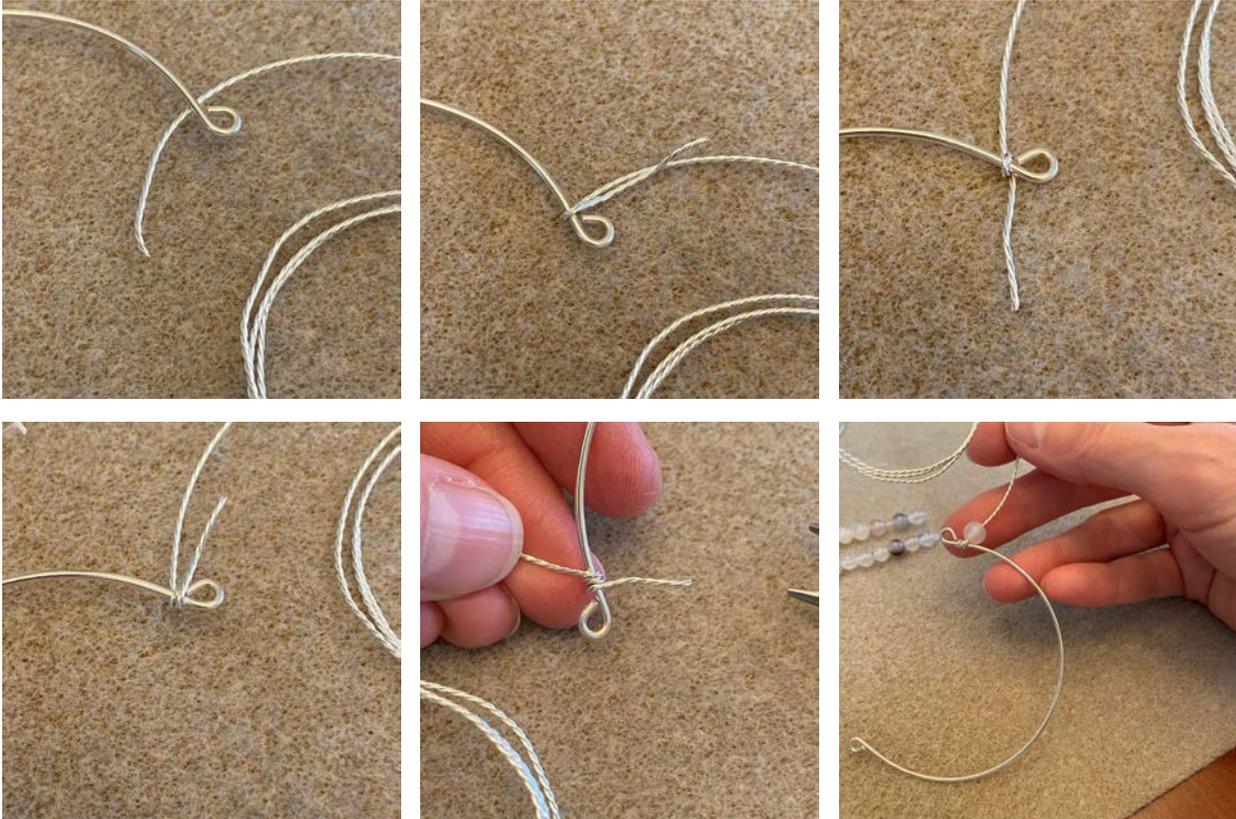
If desired, gently hammer this entire piece to work harden. The next steps will still work without hammering, so skip this if those tools are unavailable or unfamiliar.

Tip: the length and roundness of this connector can be variable and made to suit the design and look you wish to achieve.



Step 3

Cut approximately 20 to 25" [63 cm] of 20 gauge twisted wire. Place 1" [2.54 cm] under the connector against a top loop. Fold the 1" piece over the connector. Fold it behind the connector, then back over the connector. Repeat once more. Trim any excess wire from the 1" piece, then use chain nose pliers to flatten it against the connector.



Step 4

Working with the long side of the twisted wire, string a bead. Bring the bead to sit against the top outside of the connector. Use your thumb and fingers to hold the bead in place and wrap the twisted wire behind the connector.



Step 5

Wrap the twisted wire over the front of the connector. Wrap behind and around the front a second time. Then add a new bead. Hold the new bead between your thumb and fingers, kind of securing it in place to the former bead, and fold the twisted wire down from the top, behind the bead and the connector, then wrap around twice. Repeat this step with any beads you like until you the other side.

Tip: the wraps can be slid and adjusted, so it is possible to space them to align with any symmetry or design you might be going for.



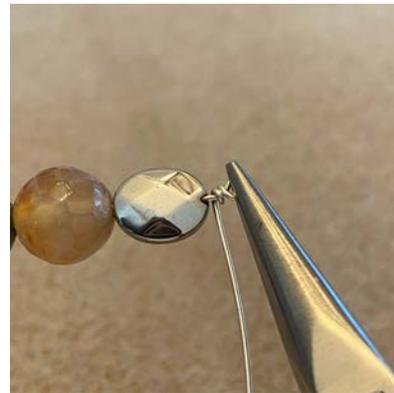
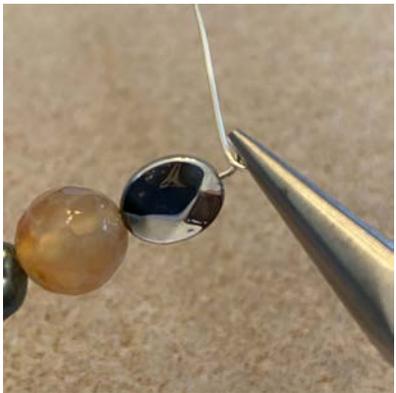
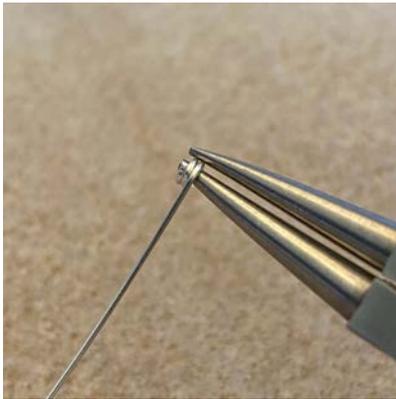
Step 6

Finish off the strand of twisted wire by wrapping it three times around the connector, then use flush cutters to trim the excess tail. Use chain nose pliers to firmly press the tail down.

Tip: Experiment with different curves and different beads for new and unique looks.

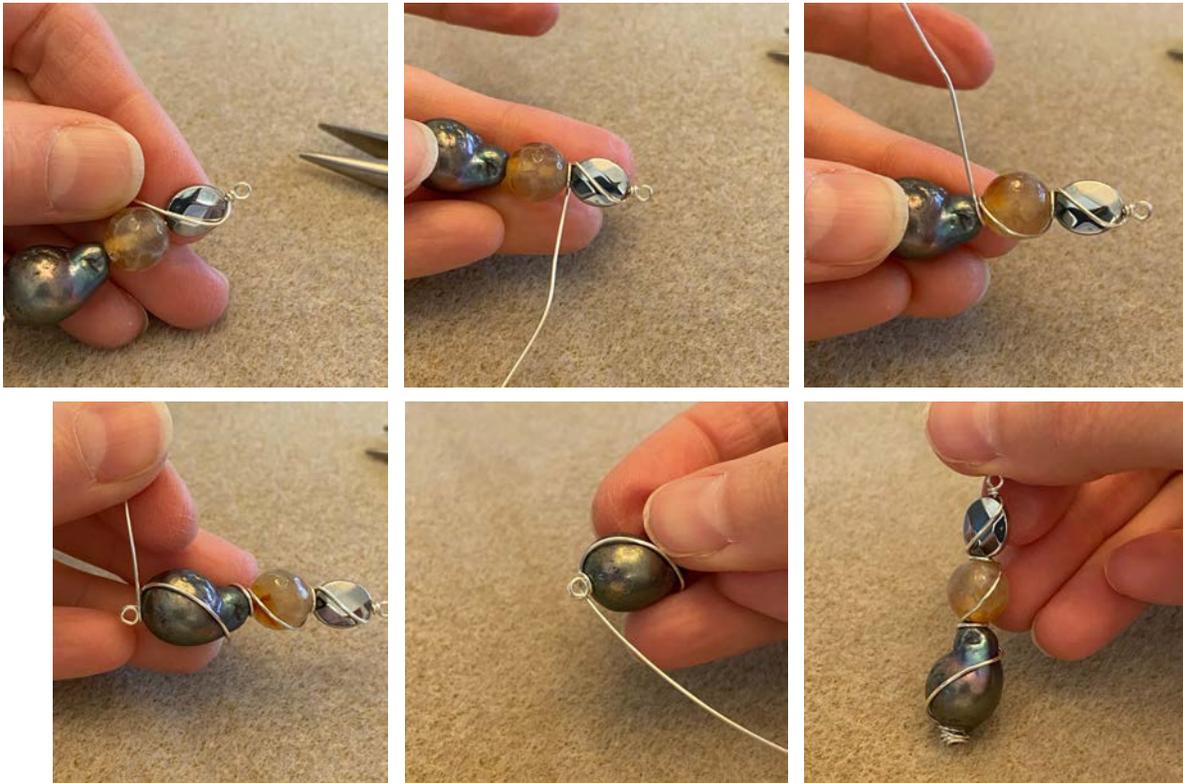
Step 7 Create a Baroque drop

This technique will work with any beads you like. 22 gauge wire was used in the samples. Test the wire to fit your beads. 24 gauge wire can also be used. Cut 22 gauge wire a length that is 3 or 4 times that of your beads stacked. Form a double coil at one end using round nose pliers. Slide all beads onto the wire. Form a loop at the top. Using chain nose pliers, hold that loop in place and wrap the long end around twice.



Step 8

Remove the chain nose pliers and switch to holding the piece with your hands. Guide the wire around the top bead. Wrap it once under that bead, then continue to curve around the middle bead. Wrap around under it, and curve over the bottom bead. When you reach the bottom, wrap tightly under the bead and above the coil. Wrap at least twice. You can also continue wrapping for a neat look.



Step 9

Hang onto these focal pieces until next class! We will cover variations of two stringing techniques to create beaded chains and connect it all together in a multilayer necklace!

Share your designs with
#JohnBead and
#MakeItWithMichaels



John Bead
ESTABLISHED 1954