



PRESENTS

3 Projects and
Fun Inspiration for
Pet Jewelry



MATCHING PET TAG AND PENDANT

BY TARYN MCCABE
for Beaducation.com



ENGRAVED PET PORTRAIT

BY TARYN MCCABE
for Beaducation.com



TANGLED CAT STRING PENDANT

BY ANDREW THORNTON

WE LOVE OUR PETS. We buy them the best food and toys, we spend hours playing with them, we refer to them as our “babies.” And what better way to celebrate our love of our pets than to combine it with a love of jewelry?

Here you’ll find three delightful projects for or inspired by your pet. You can make a lovely pendant engraved with your pet’s likeness. Or if you want to “match” your pet, you can make a tag for your cat or dog — and use the same form to make a pendant for yourself. Or you can make a pendant reminiscent of a ball of string — just like the one that entertains your pet for hours.

Use these instructions to make these exact pieces of jewelry — or use them as the inspiration for your own designs, something that you and your pet will love.

My cat Bubba highly recommends them all.

Karla Rosenbusch
Managing Editor
Lapidary Journal Jewelry Artist



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARYN MCCABE

Engraved Pet Portrait

Keep your pet's likeness forever!

BY TARYN MCCABE

for Beaducation.com

THIS PROJECT IS A FUN WAY TO MAKE

a one-of-a-kind pendant about your pet. We love how the engraver forms lines that give this piece a vintage look; creating a piece that looks like it has been around for centuries! It's a great way to capture the sweet look of your loveable four-legged friend.

MATERIALS

Black and white print out of picture of your choice (scaled to size) 2"-3" works well

3 × 3" piece of 24gauge sheet metal

Brass nail head rivets

Brass "Small Scholarly Plaque"

16mm 16 gauge jump ring

Chain of your choice

TOOLS

Glue stick

MICRO ENGRAVER: We used an economical one called a "Micro Engraver," which is great for people just starting out as well as for kids. It runs on a single AA battery. If this is a technique you plan on using a lot, you might want to look into a higher quality engraver tool, like the "Complete Engraver Tool Set". This set plugs into a wall socket rather than using a battery and it engraves deeply very easily and more quickly.

SAFETY GOGGLES: Always use goggles and a dust mask when using an engraver.

Dust mask

Metal shears (or jeweler's saw)

Hole punch, 1.5mm

File

Sharpie pen

Pro Polish pads

** The tools listed below are optional as they are used to stamp and attach the name plate and punch the border. They are not used for the actual engraving portion of the project.*

Letter set

Period stamp

Bench block

Brass hammer, 1 lb.

Riveting hammer

Heavy duty flush cutters

SOURCE:

Beaducation.com



STEP 1 Glue the printed picture to the sheet metal. We found that a glue stick works best for this.

STEP 2 Once the glue has dried, we are ready to use an engraver. With the engraving tool, start tracing over the darker lines and the outlines of the picture. As you engrave keep in mind the first layer is just paper. This means that there will be dust and you must press down to engrave past the paper and onto the metal as well. Retrace the lines and go over them multiple times. The more times the engraver passes over a line the deeper it will be.

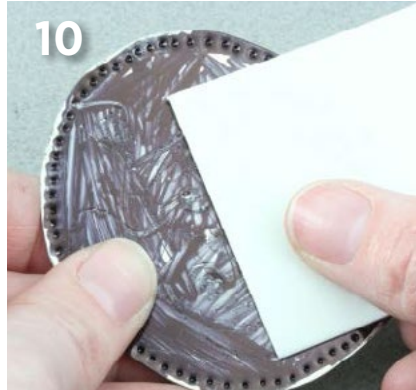
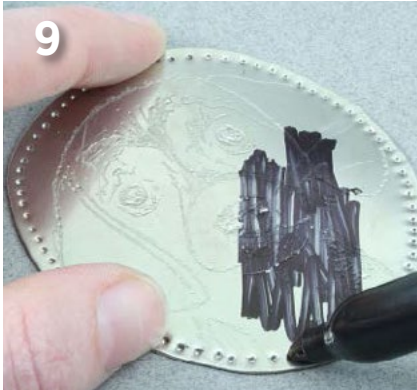
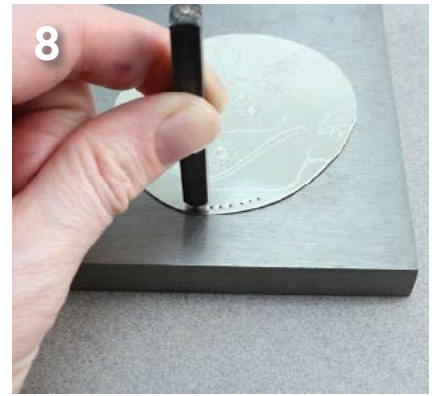
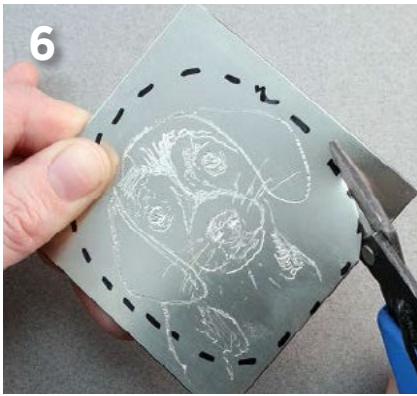
STEP 3 Outline the entire figure in the picture with the engraver along with the stronger lines. Don't worry about perfection. Sometimes if the line is not perfect it gives the look of a drawn sketch, which can be more realistic or artistic (both are great).

STEP 4 Start engraving the grayer areas as well. These do not have to be as deeply engraved as the darker lines. It's good to keep in mind that



the deeper the engraver goes the darker the line will appear. A deeper line will hold the Sharpie or oxidation better than a more shallow line. We like the variety of deeper and shallow lines as this helps to create depth in the engraving.

STEP 5 Take your time and make sure all the dark lines and gray areas are thoroughly engraved. Once you are done, peel the paper away and if you feel that there are any areas that need more engraving, go ahead and add more engraved lines in. Keep a printout



of the original picture to reference and to ensure the portrait still resembles the original picture!

STEP 6 Draw a border around the engraved image with a Sharpie pen. We did an oval shape, but anything can work. Cut the shape out with a pair of metal shears.

STEP 7 Once the shape is cut, file the edge to make sure it is not sharp.

STEP 8 To add an embellished border, we took a period design stamp and stamped around the portrait. Draw in a guide line with a sharpie to keep a neat border if need be.

STEP 9 We tend to “mock”xidize with a Sharpie pen because it is quick and easy.

STEP 10 Once the marker has dried, polish the piece up with a Pro Polish pad or some extra fine steel wool. If you feel the oxidation is polishing off too easily then you may have to go back and engrave some deeper groves into your existing lines.

The following steps are optional for adding a name plate to the engraved piece. These steps involve both stamping and riveting.

STEP 11 We start off with a small brass “Scholarly Plaque” and stamp “Bailey” on the blank with the uppercase font, Kismet. Oxidize and polish the stamped blank. (For step by step stamping instructions, see the project entitled “Matching Pet Tag and Pendant”).

Take a 1.5mm hole punch plier and punch a hole on each side of the blank.



STEP 12 Position the name plate just so, and with a fine tip Sharpie, mark one of the holes onto the engraved portrait below. It's important to work one hole at a time because by punching both holes, there is chance they will not meet up after riveting one side. So concentrate on one side for now.

STEP 13 Take the 1.5mm hole punch pliers and punch the one hole in the engraved piece. Then take a nail head rivet (we used a brass rivet to match the brass plaque blank) and insert it from the back through the hole in the engraved portrait and the plaque blank.

STEP 14 Take a heavy duty pair of flush cutters and trim the nail head rivet down so only about .5mm remains exposed.

STEP 15 With the chisel side of the riveting hammer tap the top of the exposed metal. Continue to lightly tap, tap, tap over the rivet from edge to edge, shift the piece and continue. The goal is to evenly "mushroom" or spread the top of the rivet out so it neatly holds the different layers in place. Once the rivet has spread evenly out, flip the riveting hammer to the flat side and hammer the finishing blows to the rivet.

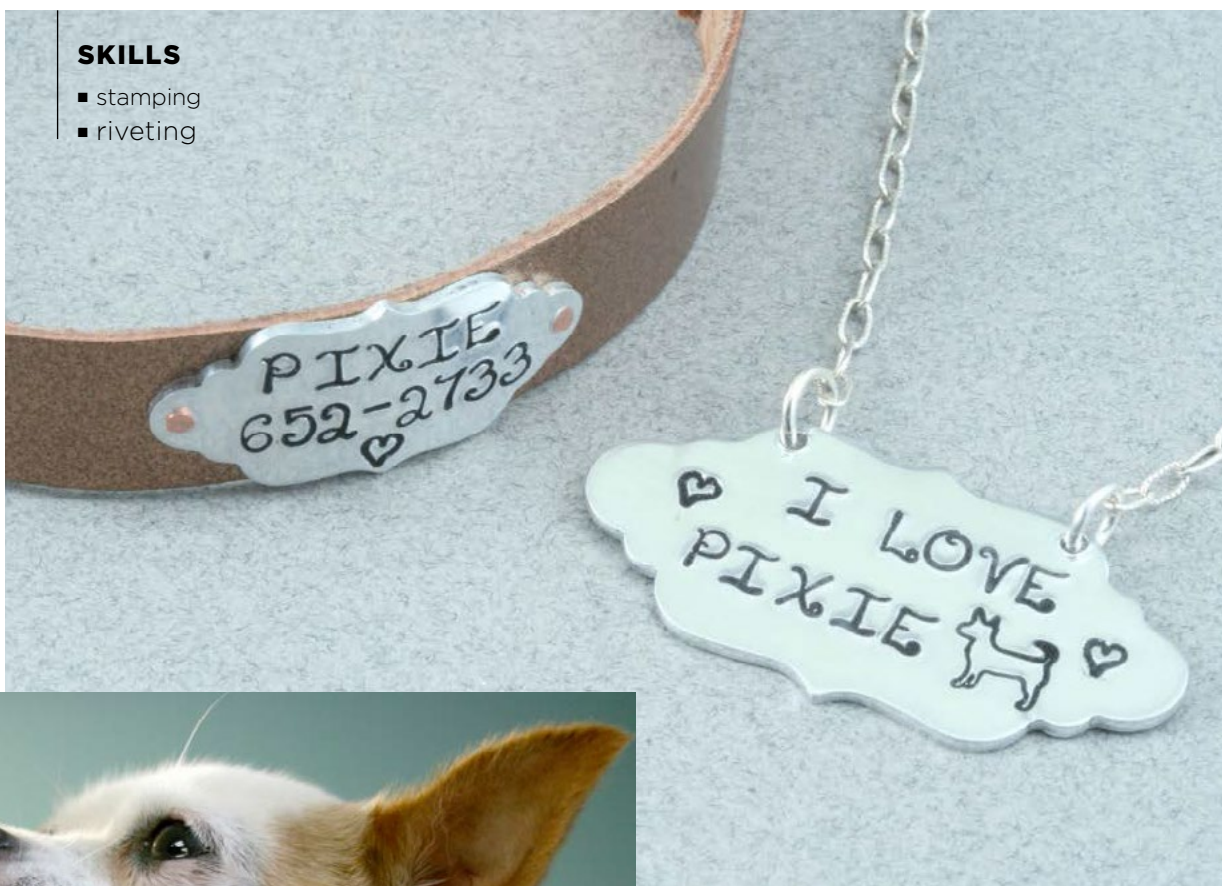
STEP 16 After the one side is completed, adjust the plaque blank to make sure it is placed exactly where you want it (there should be some wiggle room since only one side is attached). Then grab the hole punch pliers, and punch the hole through the engraved piece by going through the previously punched hole in the plaque. This hole acts as a guide. Insert another nail head rivet through the two layers and repeat steps 15 and 16 to rivet this side as well.

Punch the final hole at the top to add a jump ring. You can include a chain and wear this piece as a pendant, add it to a key chain, or even hang it on the wall!

TARYN MCCABE studied inlay and silversmithing at the Lorenzo de' Medici Institute in Florence, Italy and graduated from Alfred University with a Bachelor of Arts in Glassblowing and Woodworking. She also studied shoemaking at Cordwainer's London College of Fashion and later started her own hand-cut leather jewelry business TOMgirl. She received an MFA from San Francisco State University. Now Taryn enjoys her role as Design Lead at Beaducation.com. To learn more about her creations, visit her website, etsy.com/shop/tomgirl.

SKILLS

- stamping
- riveting



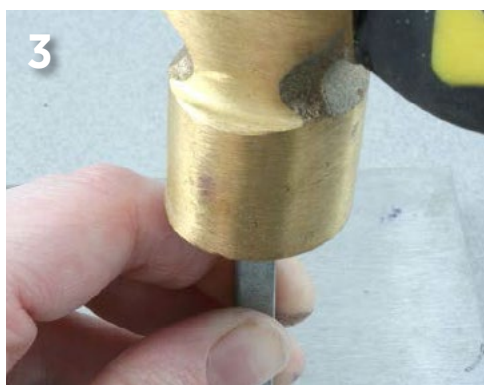
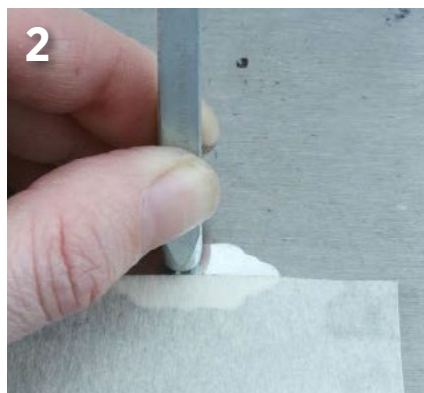
PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARYN MCCABE

Matching Pet Tag and Pendant

Jewelry for you both!

BY TARYN MCCABE
for Beaducation.com

IF YOU LOVE MATCHING SETS, this project is perfect for you! Stamp your pet's name and/or phone number to create a custom pet tag that is both super cute and very useful, and a matching owner's pendant that's lots of fun.



STEP 1 To stamp, place the blank on a bench block and position a stamp on the blank. Place the stamp flat on the metal, and make sure the stamp is perpendicular to the metal (straight up and down). Hold the stamp down low with your hand so the top of the shank is free and clear of any fingers.

STEP 2 To make sure your letters are stamped in a straight line, place a piece of stamping/masking tape on the blank. Align the bottom of the stamp with the top line of the tape. Make sure you place the tape a "letter's length" lower than the center of your blank (or wherever you want your word to be placed). You can also use the tape to hold your blank in place on the bench block while stamping! Sometimes we start

stamping a word from the middle to center the word more easily on the blank. In the picture we started with the letter "x" in Pixie.

STEP 3 Strike the stamp once with a brass hammer, making sure the head of the hammer comes down straight and centered on the top of the stamp. Don't be gentle. Strike it like you mean it! One good wallop will do the trick, but if you are a two time or multiple hitter, make sure you hold the stamp down firmly and in place so the stamp does not shadow/skip from the multiple blows.

STEP 4 Darken the impressions with a Sharpie marker. You can also oxidize your piece. Polish the piece up with a Pro Polish Pad.

TOOLS

Kismet uppercase letter set
3.2mm
Kismet number set
Riveting hammer
Heavy duty flush cutters
Bench block
1lb brass mallet
Tiny heart design stamp
Sharpie pen
Pro Polish pads
Hole punch plier (1.5mm)
Chain nose pliers
Bent chain nose pliers
"Pancho" Chihuahua design stamp or design stamps of your choice
Nylon bracelet bending pliers

MATERIALS

Note: Pick out a blank that works well for you and your pet. We love these plaque blanks because they come in small and large sizes, as well as in a variety of metals. We are using a small aluminum blank for Pixie and a large sterling blank for the owner. Lots of other blanks work great as well, circles and hearts are favorites, or even bone shaped blanks.

1 large Elegant plaque (Sterling silver)
1 small Elegant plaque (aluminum)
Nail head rivets (copper)
Jump rings
Chain
Clasp
Dog collar

SOURCE:

Beaducation.com



STEP 5 Mark on the blank where the holes go with a Sharpie marker and punch holes into the blanks using a 1.5mm hole punch plier.

TIP: We put a piece of Pro Polish Pad onto our hole punch plier as a buffer to ensure it doesn't mar the metal when punching the blank.

STEP 6 Grab two nail head rivets. Line up the blank on the collar and mark one hole directly onto the leather. It's best to punch and rivet one hole at a time to ensure the holes match up when riveting.

STEP 7 Punch a hole in the leather collar.

STEP 8 Insert one nail head rivet through both the collar hole and the hole in the plaque blank, starting from the back.

STEP 9 Take a heavy duty pair of flush cutters and trim the nail head rivet down so only about .5mm remains exposed.

STEP 10 With the chisel side of the riveting hammer tap the top of the exposed metal rivet. Continue to lightly tap, tap, tap over the rivet from edge to edge, shift the piece and continue. The goal is to evenly "mushroom" or spread the top of the rivet out so it neatly holds the different layers in place. Once the rivet has spread evenly out, flip the riveting hammer to the flat side and hammer the finishing blows to the rivet.



STEP 11 After the one side is completed, adjust the plaque blank to make sure it is lined up neatly on the collar. Punch the second hole through the leather by going through the previously punched hole in the plaque. This hole acts as a guide. Then insert another nail head rivet through the two layers and repeat steps 8-10 to rivet this side as well.

STEP 12 Take a nylon bracelet bending plier and use this to form the blank and collar so it has a more comfortable curve to it.



To create a pendant, follow steps 1-5 and after punching the two holes in the blank, add jump rings and chain.

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Tangled Cat String Pendant

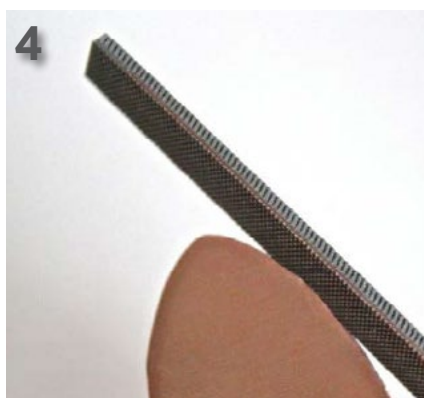
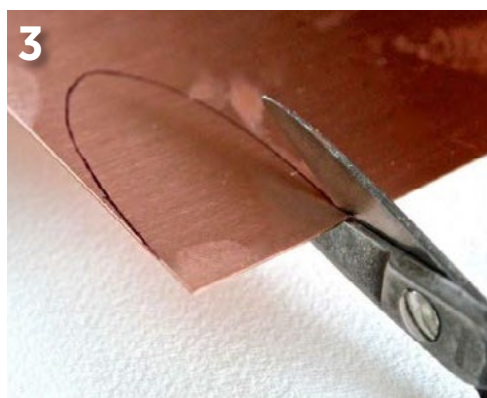
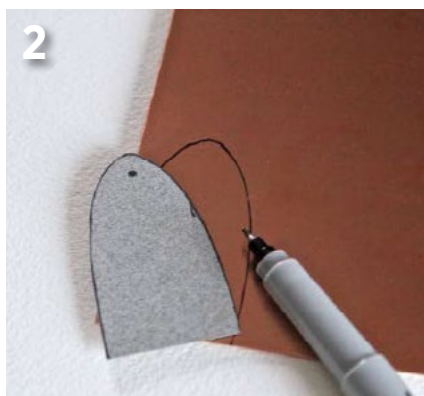
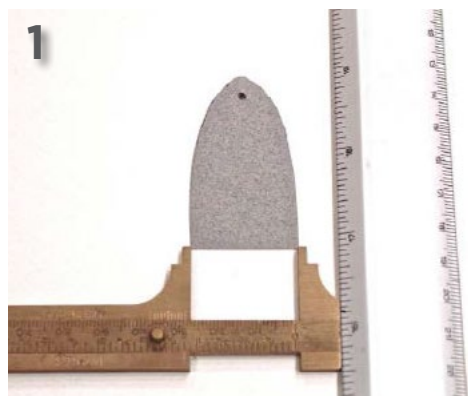
Jewelry felines would love!

BY ANDREW THORNTON

WRAPPED AROUND CHAIR LEGS,

draped haphazardly over the sofa, and dangling from the bookshelves, my house is strewn with knotted strings. Among my cats' toys, they are a favorite. Night and day (in between naps and meals), my cats drag the strings around or are meowing for me to playfully swish them back and forth. These beloved strings are the inspiration for this decorative focal.

The making of this whimsical, mixed-metals focal includes several basic metalworking skills like cutting, texturing, and coloring with heat. It also incorporates organic, free-form wirework. The embellished metal scroll acts as a slider bail that is perfect for slipping on and off different necklaces.



STEP 1 Draw a tapered arch, approximately $1\frac{1}{8}$ " wide and 2" tall. Trace and cut out template on cardstock. Fold in half longwise to make sure the template is symmetrical and even. Trim as needed. Use a pushpin to mark where the hole will go, approximately $\frac{3}{16}$ " from the tip on the centerline.

STEP 2 Use a Sharpie marker to trace the template on the corner of copper sheet metal. Using the corner will reduce the number of cuts and prevent unnecessary waste.

STEP 3 Wear gloves and glasses when cutting metal. Angle cuts away from your face when trimming corners.

TIP: For shapes with curves or rounded edges, fit it into a rectangle/geometric shape with straight-edges and cut out with German shears. Trim curves afterwards. The cuts will be cleaner, as the shears will have more lateral movement. This also prevents the sheet metal from curling. For deeper curves or detailed shapes, use a jeweler's saw.

STEP 4 Always wear gloves when handling metal with edges that are not filed. File edges with a metal file, using smooth, long motions in one direction away from your body. Wear a dust mask while filing and file over a trashcan. Use a wet

MATERIALS

Cardstock
Stick Bur-Life or bar soap
2 Sterling silver 18 gauge 5mm round open jump rings
Bare copper 24 gauge dead-soft sheet metal
18" Copper 24 gauge dead-soft round wire
10 Copper size 11 metal seed beads
1 Green Girl Studios fine pewter 19mm \times 15mm lucky cat charm
20" Oxidized brass 2mm \times 4mm box link chain with lobster claw clasp (optional)

TOOLS

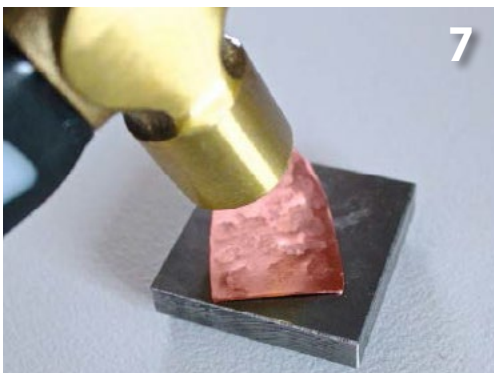
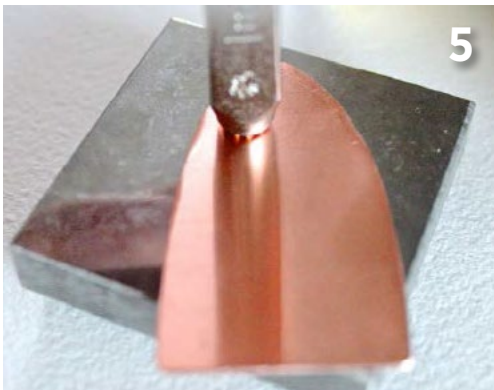
Ruler
Pushpin
Scissors
Sharpie marker
German metal shears
Metal file
ImpressArt 1 lb. brass head metal stamping hammer
ImpressArt steel bench block
ImpressArt 6mm dandelion metal stamp
ImpressArt two hole punch
Wire cutters
Chain-nose pliers
Round-nose pliers
Lighter
Metal cookie sheet
Butane torch
Ceramic quench bowl
Fire brick
14 gauge steel mandrel/steel tig
Nylon/rubber mallet

Safety Equipment:

Safety glasses
Cloth gloves
Dust mask
Fire extinguisher

SOURCES

WIRE: Soft Flex Company, softflexcompany.com. Sheet metal and Bur-Life: Rio Grande, riogrande.com. Fine pewter Lucky Cat charm: Green Girl Studios, greengirlstudios.com. Metal seed beads, jump rings and chain: Allegory Gallery, allegorygallery.com. Tools and metal stamps: ImpressArt, impressart.com.



paper towel to clean up any metal shavings or filings.

STEP 5 Place metal shape on the ImpressArt steel bench block. Use your less dominant hand to hold the ImpressArt Dandelion metal stamp in place. Use your dominant hand to strike with the flat head of the hammer. Firmly strike twice for each impression. When holding the hammer, hold the ergonomic grip and not the head and allow the hammer to swing for maximum impact. Be careful not to hit your hand! Also be careful not to let go of the hammer while swinging!

STEP 6 Add designs randomly to create a pattern.

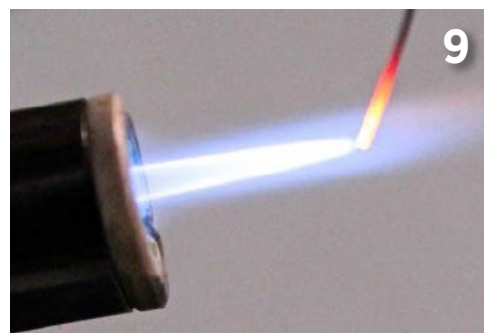
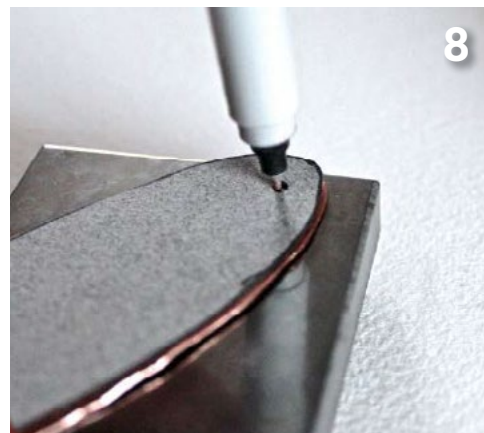
STEP 7 While you are adding the dandelion motif, the metal will want to curve and

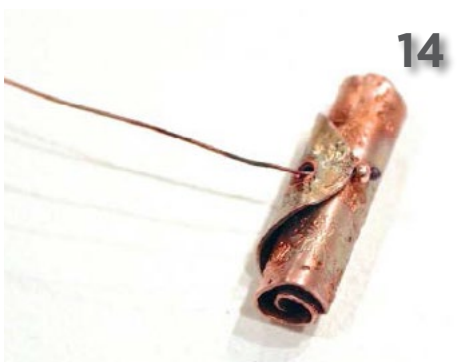
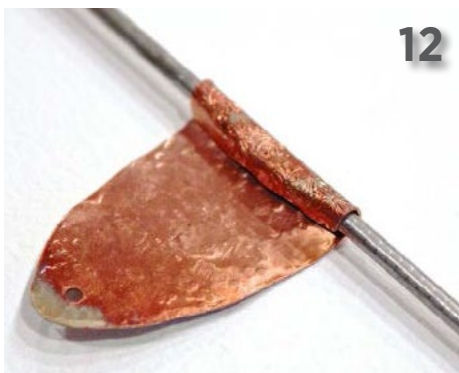
buckle. When you are finished adding designs to the sheet metal, flip the piece over and lightly tap it flat again. If there are any sharp edges after hammering, file as needed.

STEP 8 Line up the template on your piece. Use the Sharpie to mark the hole and use the $\frac{1}{16}$ " punch on the ImpressArt Two Hole punch to create the hole.

TIP: Before using the punch, push the tip of the punch into Bur-Life or bar soap. It will lubricate the punch, making the cut cleaner and extend the life of your punch. This can also be used on files to reduce friction.

STEP 9 Set metal piece aside. Prepare work area for working with fire, including putting down a fireproof surface like a metal cookie sheet. Make sure your fire extinguisher is on hand and you follow safety procedures and instructions included with your butane micro-torch. Cut 18" of copper 24 gauge wire. Use pliers to hold wire at the point of the inner blue flame. (Don't use fancy pliers.) Allow metal tip to melt and ball up. If the ball starts to quiver and looks like it'll fall off, remove the tip from the flame and allow it to cool. If the ball is not big enough, place it back in the fire and continue to





ball up the tip. Once it is large enough, turn off the torch and dip the end of the wire into the water. Do not submerge your pliers! (The water will cause the hinge to rust.) Set wire aside.

STEP 10 Place the textured metal component on a firebrick. Start the torch up and use ever-moving circular motions to heat the surface of the copper with the tip of the blue flame until the metal flashes white. It should only take a few seconds. The color change happens on the cool down. Do not overheat! You do not want to heat the metal until it is cherry red (that is called annealing) and will create a black firescale. Allow the piece to cool on the firebrick without quenching.

STEP 11 When the metal is completely cool, use the round-nose pliers to turn up a lip on the flat edge. Work both sides evenly until a channel is created.

STEP 12 Insert large mandrel. If you can't find a large-hole mandrel, look for steel tig for welders. Roll the metal around the mandrel.

STEP 13 Periodically tap the metal down with a nylon mallet, to get a tight scroll. Make sure that when you get to the end, not to tap the flap over too hard, otherwise you'll have to pry it up. Remove mandrel.

STEP 14 String 1 metal seed bead onto the wire. This will be your stop bead. Insert wire into hole and proceed to wrap the wire around the metal scroll in a "messy" fashion.

STEP 15 String beads at different intervals and space them out around the metal scroll. Feel free to weave the wire under previous wraps and through beads more than once if the hole will accommodate more than one wire.



16



17

STEP 16 Trim excess and tuck the end of the wire under the flap of the scroll.

TIP: To create squiggles in the wire, use the round-nose pliers. Grab a wire with the tips and twist. This is a good way to keep the beads from sliding everywhere and bunching together. Be careful not to twist too hard or the wire will break.

STEP 17 Open a jump ring.

STEP 18 At the tip of the flap on the scroll, place the tips of the round-nose pliers flush against the scroll and gently squeeze the wires together. Slip the open jump ring onto the wires at the point. Close the jump ring.

STEP 19 Attach the cat charm with another jump ring.

STEP 20 Slide the chain through the scroll and add a lobster claw clasp. Alternatively, a piece of ribbon or leather cord can be used for a pop of color. You can also make a beaded necklace strung with seed beads or small 3mm gemstone rounds, just as long as the slider bail can pass over the beads easily and move freely. Another option is to add color to ball chain (as in Step 10) with a torch. It has the look of a beaded necklace, without the hassle of stringing hundreds of tiny beads.



18



19



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ANDREW THORNTON is a professional fine artist and designer who left behind the hustle and bustle of New York City for rural Pennsylvania. His work can be seen in private collections around the globe. He is a regular contributor to books and magazines, and has been featured on TV's "Beads, Baubles, and Jewels". Andrew is also the co-owner and Creative Director of Allegory Gallery in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. He and his partner share their home with two cats, Babette and Paulo.