



Tutorial: Nugget Bead Framing – 2009

Tutorial: Spiral Pendant

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In this tutorial, I will teach you how to make a Spiral Pendant; this could easily be made into earrings as well.

This tutorial is a project for the beginners. This tutorial teaches you how to make a spiral and how to wrap a teardrop. Please do experiment with bead choices, wire lengths and size, to make this pendant your own! If you need help with finding supplies or understanding this tutorial, feel free to write me anytime at danagonia@hotmail.com

Materials:

I have used oxidized copper wire, but you could use any wire you prefer. I use pre-oxidized wire because my kitchen is way too small for oxidizing with chemicals. You can buy oxidized wire ready made or you can oxidize the wire yourself. I tend to buy it pre-made on Etsy.

- About 20" of 18GA wire
- Teardrop bead size 30mm
(This will work with any shape flat bead you have, but no smaller than 10mm)

Tools:

- Round nose pliers
- Wire cutters
- Bent nose pliers (Or flat nose pliers)
- Hammer
- Anvil // Other hard surface

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Step 1: Cut 20" of your 18GA wire (20GA will work as well)



Step 2: Cut one end in a point.



Here you see the point! This will be the starting point of your spiral.



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Step 3: Hold on to the pointed end with your round nose pliers.



Step 4: While holding on to the wire with your pliers, use your other hand to bend the wire around the round nose pliers, forming a spiral.



Step 5: Keep adding sides to the spiral until you think it's big enough for your pendant. Test it on your bead to see if you like the size.



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Step 6: Now hammer the spiral part flat on your anvil. Make certain only to hammer the spiral, and not the excess wire!



Here's the finished hammered spiral.



Step 7: Slide your bead onto the excess wire.





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Step 8: Now using your fingers; bend the spiral onto your bead. It doesn't matter which way you bend it.



Step 9: Press the spiral down hard onto the bead, so it leaves as little room between the wire and the bead as possible.



Now we just need to make the bail.

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Step 10: Use your flat nose pliers to bend the wire in a 90 degree angle, do as close to the bead as possible.



Step 11: Now we are going to make a loop.

Use your round nose pliers to bend the wire from the back of the pendant, in a circle towards the front of the bead.



Step 12: Bend the wire all the way back to the back of the pendant.





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Step 13: Now hold on to the loop you just made with your flat nose pliers (This will be the bail)



Step 14: Use your fingers to bend the wire around the neck of the loop. Just keep adding spirals, until you are out of wire.



Step 15: Cut off any excess wire on the back of the pendant.



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Step 16: Put it through a second time as well.



Step 17: Use your flat nose pliers to bend in the edge.



Step 18: In the end use your flat nose pliers to straighten out the loop.





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Step 19: You're done!! Now you could add a chain or make one more and use them as dangles for a pair of earrings!

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial.
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VARIATIONS:

Try experimenting with other shapes of stones and decorations!



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