

“Mint Chocolate Chip” Necklace

As seen in Rings & Things gemstone ad series III



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Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock</u>	<u>Name</u>
25"	#40-099-01-7	4.2mm curb chain, antiqued copper plated
16"	#61-723-19-54	0.018" 19-strand Beadalon®, copper satin
50	#21-000-079-67	Gemstone eggs, green tourmalated quartz
49	#21-883-079	3mm gemstone rounds, green tourmalated quartz
10	#37-145-7	6mm round jump rings, antiqued copper plated
2	#44-420-7	Hammered oval links, antiqued. copper plated
2	#39-240-7	Lobster clasps, antiqued copper plated
20	#37-715-8	1.5" eye pins, copper plated
34	#21-791-044	Gemstone chip beads, mahogany obsidian

Tools: round-nose pliers, side flush cutters

Optional Tools: 3-strand stringing board (or a bead mat or towel), push pins, cork bulletin board

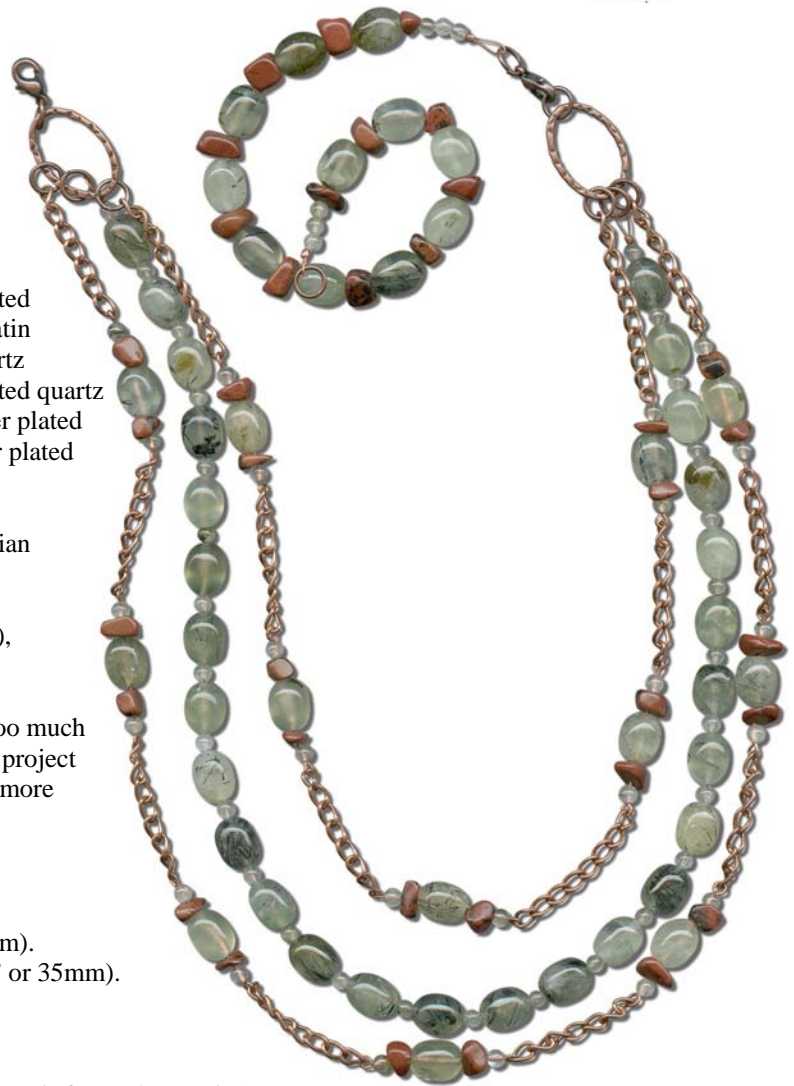
TIP: Be choosy when putting gemstone chips on eye pins. If too much wire is visible near the chip, then set that chip aside for a project done with bead cord, and pick a new chip that has a hole more suitable for use on an eye pin.

To make this design:

- Cut chain and cord.
 - Cut 12 sections of chain, each 7 links (approx. 1" or 25mm).
 - Cut 2 sections of chain, each 10 links (approx. 1 and 3/8" or 35mm).
 - Cut a 16" section of copper satin Beadalon.
- Create 12 beaded eye pins.
 - Select 12 pairs of similar, “flat” gemstone chips. (Use one pair for each eye pin.)
 - On an eye pin, add a 3mm round, a chip, an egg-shaped bead, a chip, and a 3mm round.
 - Check your bead alignment. Select different chips if too much wire shows.
 - Snip excess wire (see cover letter for eye-pin looping instructions), make a loop, and set aside.
 - Repeat steps 2b. – 2d. for a total of 12 beaded eye pins.
- Assemble chain, starting at center and working outward to the ends.

TIP: Save your best or most interesting beads for the center and the edges (the areas that get the most attention).

 - Pick a beaded eye pin for the center of the longest strand. Open one eye-pin loop (Use same method as “Jump Ring Hint” on cover letter), attach a 7-link chain section, and close the loop. Repeat with a 7-link chain section on other end of this eye pin. At the end of each loose chain end, add another beaded eye pin. To these newest eye pins, add another 7-link chain section. Pick a nice pair of beaded eye pins for the final pair, and add one to each loose chain end. Add a final 7-link chain section to the loose ends.
 - Pick a nice beaded eye pin for the center of the shortest strand. Add a 7-link piece of chain to each end. Add a beaded eye pin to each loose end, then another 7-link chain section, and a final pair of beaded eye pins. Now add a 10-link section of chain to each end. (You might end up trimming a link or 2 off these final chains later.)



4. String center strand.

- a. String a crimp bead at one end of the 16" length of copper Beadalon, make a loop, and crimp (following crimping instructions on cover letter).

TIP: As you string your first beads, try to tuck the loose cable end inside the end beads. Small gemstone beads are sometimes drilled inconsistently, so if the first bead you try doesn't fit over both strands, try another. If all the bead holes are too small, then use flush cutters to trim the stray Beadalon close to the edge of the crimp bead. (This will keep the necklace from scratching you or your customer.)

- b. String a 3mm round, then an egg-shaped bead. Repeat this pattern for approx. 27 egg-shaped beads (14" total), and finish with a final 3mm round.

TIP: The color and pattern of each gemstone bead varies. Select a favorite for each end, plus a few for the middle. Before crimping the final end, lay this strand between the 2 chain strands to check the arrangement. Restring if desired.

- c. Add final crimp bead, make a loop and crimp.

TIP: Make this loop the same size as the loop at the other end, and then snip *most* of the excess cable. Retain approximately 5mm, and try feeding the loose end back through the last few beads before crimping. If it won't fit, then simply crimp and trim excess as close as you can to the crimp bead.

5. Attach all 3 strands to the hammered-oval copper links.

- a. Use a jump ring to attach the longest strand to a hammered-oval copper link. (See cover letter for jump-ring hint.)

- b. Use a second jump ring to attach the middle strand to the hammered-oval link. Be extra careful to completely close this ring, or the Beadalon will slip through the crack.

- c. Next to the second strand, use a third jump ring to attach the shortest strand. Make sure all 3 jump rings line up in proper strand order, or the necklace won't hang right.

- d. Using the link, hang the necklace from a pushpin or hook. Untangle and straighten all strands. Use a separate jump ring to attach the other end of each strand, in order, to a second hammered-oval link.

TIP: Check the spacing of all sections. Look closely at both sides of the necklace. If any of your chain sections are an incorrect length it will show up now and you can snip a chain link off to make both sides match. Also make sure that, when the hammered-oval links are held or pinned neck-width (5-6") apart, that strands 1 and 3 are both the same distance from the middle strand. If necessary, remove a chain link from the top of each side of strand 1 or 3 to adjust lengths to match.

- e. Attach a jump ring to one hammered-oval link.

- f. Use a jump ring to attach a lobster clasp to the other hammered-oval link.

The necklace is now wearable as a choker with strands graduated from 14" to 18". To make slightly longer, you can use jump rings to add extra hammered-oval links to each side.

6. Finish necklace by creating back section(s).

Option A (simplest): Cut a 7.5" section of chain, add a jump ring to each end, and a lobster clasp to one jump ring. Use the lobster clasps to attach this section to the section from step 5. This creates a finished necklace graduated from 21" to 26".

Option B (pictured): Make the chain piece from Option A, plus a matching bracelet, which can be worn separately or used as the back section of the necklace.

- a. Cut an 8.5" section of copper Beadalon. String a crimp bead at one end, make a loop, and crimp.

- b. String three tiny 3mm round tourmalinated quartz beads, a small chip bead, and then alternate 10 eggs and 10 larger chip beads for approximately 6". End with a small chip and 3 more round beads.

- c. Add final crimp bead, make a loop and snip excess. Try feeding the loose end back through the last few beads and crimp.

- d. Put a jump ring on one end, and a jump ring plus lobster clasp on the other end.