

"Sweet Peas" Necklace

As seen in the Rings & Things Wholesale Catalog 2009-10



Created by: Mollie Valente

Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock #</u>	<u>Name</u>
16-18"	40-781*	2.4mm ball chain, copper
1	40-701*	2mm ball chain clasp, copper
1" x 2"	64-980-24*	24 gauge sheet, copper
3"	47-408-SP*	20-gauge wire, copper
1	37-145-8*	6mm round jump ring, copper plate
2	37-067-22*	2" thin head pins, copper
1	05-301-06-158	6mm Swarovski® crystal faceted bicone, colorado topaz
2	05-810-06-210	6mm round Swarovski crystal faux pearls, light green
2	05-810-08-210	8mm round Swarovski crystal faux pearls, light green



Tools: metal shears (#69-230), metal hole punch # 69-235) letter stamps (#69-240-02), liver of sulfur (#86-354), bench block (#69-123) round-nose pliers, non-serrated flat-nose pliers, metal file

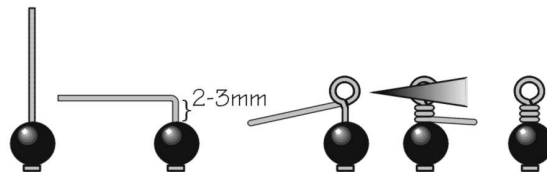
To make this design:

1. Cut a leaf-shaped piece from the 1" x 2" copper sheet using metal shears.
2. Stamp and hammer a design of your choice. See techniques and tools for creating a stamped metal charm on the back.
3. Punch a small hole at each end of the leaf shape.
4. With non-serrated flat-nose pliers, bend and shape the leaf into a pea pod, keeping your stamped design on the outside as pictured.
5. Antique the starred (*) items (including the peapod) with liver of sulfur. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the solution.
6. String a head pin through the bottom punched hole and add the crystal pearls in this order: 6mm, 8mm, 8mm, and 6mm.
7. As you string on the pearls, gently curve the head pin point towards the upper hole in the pea pod and string it through.
8. Bend the head pin into a loop and add a jump ring.
9. Use pliers to coil the 3" piece of copper wire into a "S" shape. Flatten with a hammer and oxidize with liver of sulfur.
10. Add the crystal bicone to a head pin and make a wrapped loop. (See techniques for making wrapped loops on the back.)
11. Attach the crystal dangle and "S" shape to the jump ring and slide the jump ring onto the copper ball chain. (See jump-ring hint on the back.)

To make nice wire-wrapped beaded head and eye pins:

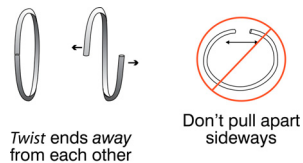
(For best results, use both chain-nose and round-nose pliers.)

1. Use chain-nose pliers to grasp the wire just above the top of the bead.
2. Use your fingers to bend the wire sharply over the top of the pliers, at a 90° angle. You should have 2-3mm of straight wire between the bead and the bend (less for fine-gauge wire, more for heavy wire or more wraps).
3. Use round-nose pliers to grasp a spot just above the bend, and use your fingers to smoothly bend the wire all the way around the tip of the pliers. (For different sizes of loops, bend the wire around thinner or thicker portions of the pliers' tip.)
4. Now use pliers to grasp the wire firmly across the loop. Use your fingers or chain-nose pliers to carefully wrap the wire around the stem. For best control, experts recommend you break this step into a series of half wraps.
5. Trim excess with flush cutters.



Jump-ring hint:

When you open and close jump rings, twist sideways instead of “ovalling” them. This keeps their shape better, which makes them easier to close all the way.



Techniques for Creating a Stamped Metal Charm

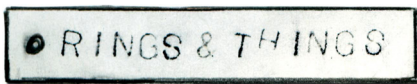


Tools and supplies:

Nylon/steel block, metal snips, chasing hammer, utility hammer, rubber mallet or nylon hammer, 2-hole metal punch, letter stamps, brass brush, 0000 steel wool, metal file, masking tape, ink pad, ruler, oxidizing agent or patina solution

This technique works well for sterling silver, solid copper, and solid brass sheet or “dog tags.” Each metal will have its own unique characteristics, and if possible it is best to practice on a scrap of metal prior to making your actual project.

1. Use your letter stamps with an ink pad and a piece of paper to pre-layout your script. Plan your letter layout and spacing for your metal tag.



2. Using metal snips, indelible marker and a ruler, cut a piece of 24-gauge sheet metal to the desired size and shape.



3. File the corners and any rough edges and punch hole(s) into tag and flatten.



4. Label one side of your steel block as “rubber” and one side as “steel.” The rubber side is used for flattening with a leather or rubber mallet. The steel side is used for hammering or stamping.
5. On the “steel” side of your steel block, tape your metal tag in place with masking tape. This will hold your tag securely while you stamp, and can act as a guide for letter placement.
6. If your letter stamps do not have a directional mark, place a dot with Wite-out® to indicate the top side of each letter. This will aid in keeping all of your letters directionally correct. Use your stamped paper guide to plan the position of the first letter on your tag.
7. Line up the first stamp. In a standing position, hold the stamp perpendicular to the metal tag. With a utility hammer, strike the stamp firmly just once, straight down with one hard hammer blow. Repeat for each letter until your word or phrase is complete.



8. If desired, add texture to your piece, such as hammering. Remember the antique patina will enhance any indentations on the metal.



9. After you have stamped and textured your tag, finish the edges by using the peening edge of a chasing hammer to lightly dapple all around the edges of the tag. File any rough points.
10. Dip tag and findings (split/jump rings, head/eye pins, etc.) into the oxidizing agent or patina solution. Once desired patina has been achieved, rinse in cool water and dry. Use 0000 steel wool and brass brush to clean your piece.



11. Assemble into finished jewelry piece.

TIP: Have fun, and don't expect perfection; little oddities will give your tag charm and uniqueness. For additional decoration try adding design stamps, or metal forms you create yourself using 14-gauge stainless steel wire (available at hardware stores).