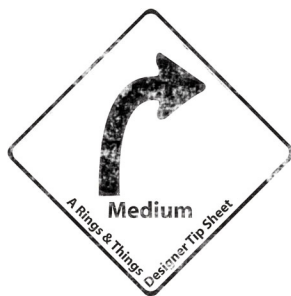


"Bella" Amulet Pin

As seen in the 2009 Summer Supplement



Created by: Mollie Valente

This design is made with CRYSTALLIZED™ – Swarovski Elements.

Suggested Materials:

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Stock #</u>	<u>Name</u>
1	64-980-24*	24-gauge 6x6" sheet, copper
2	44-165-7	35x24mm domed fancy spade filigrees, antiqued copper plate
1	44-125-7	26x19mm filigree cross, antiqued copper plate
8	05-301-06-157	CRYSTALLIZED™ 6mm bicones, crystal/copper
5"	40-099-17-7	2.9mm flat link footage chain with figure-8 connectors, antiqued copper plate
4	37-136-7	5mm round jump rings, antiqued copper plate
1	38-925	Bar pin with 1.5" vinyl pad and adhesive backing, white

Tools and supplies: chain-nose pliers, flat-nose pliers, flush cutters, shears, metal file, bench block, utility hammer, 1/8" alphabet stamps (#69-241-01-L), metal punch pliers (#69-234), patina such as WinOx™ (#86-343) or liver of sulfur (#86-354), Sharpie® fine point permanent marker (#83-101), StazOn™ inkpad, Foliate Quad stamp from Stampendous, Inc.®, duct tape, etching solution, 0000 steel wool

To make this design:

1. Cut a 3/4" x 2" piece of 24-gauge copper sheet. Cut again into an oval-shaped blank, and file to perfect the shape.
2. Punch a hole in the tag.
3. Stamp a phrase in the center, following the techniques for metal stamping on the back.
4. Stamp the floral design rubber stamp onto the oval with a permanent inkpad.
5. Fill in an oval shape behind phrase using a fine-point permanent marking pen.

TIP: The permanent inks act as a resist and do not get etched away by the corrosive action of the acid.

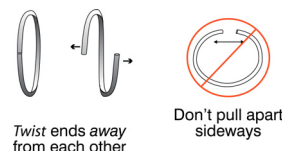
6. Cover the back of the piece with duct tape to protect it from the etching solution.
7. Etch the tag with ferric chloride, following manufacturer's recommended safety precautions.
8. Remove permanent ink with rubbing alcohol or steel wool prior to antiquing.

NOTE: *The Complete Metalsmith* by Tim McCreight (#62-010) provides patina and etching how-to techniques.

9. Patina the tag with liver of sulfur or WinOx.
10. Cage the loose 6mm Swarovski CRYSTALLIZED bicones inside two spade-shaped filigrees, and secure the two pieces together with jump rings. See jump-ring hint on the back.
11. Attach a 5" piece of chain, cross charm, and oval stamped piece with jump rings.
12. Peel and stick on the pin back.

TIP: The back-to-back filigrees create a cool three-dimensional effect.
Try "caging" various 6mm round, faceted gemstone beads for their healing qualities.

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

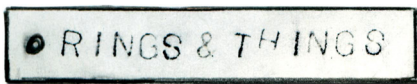


Tools and supplies:

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).