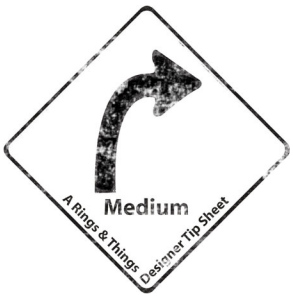
"Twitter" Bracelet

As seen in the 2009 Summer Supplement



Created by: Mollie Valente

Suggested Materials:

Qty.	*Stock #*	*Name*
1	46-301-20-0	20mm round bezel cup with two loops, brass
8	49-947-46-4	13mm TierraCast® Hammertone flat oval two-hole connectors, gold plate
2	21-908-079	8x5mm gemstone faceted rondelles, green tourmalated quartz
2"+	40-099-15-4	3.9mm rollo chain, gold plate
1	37-415-2	1.5" (38mm) thin head pin, yellow
2	37-136-2	5mm round jump rings, yellow
1	39-343-4	12mm lobster clasp, gold plate
1	82-500-08	EasyCast epoxy
1		Copyright-free image (cut to size, on high quality paper)

Tools: scissors, flat-nose pliers, chain-nose pliers, round-nose pliers, side cutters, resin mixing supplies (#82-599), Mod Podge® or Elmer's Glue-All®

To make this design:

1. Cut image to size using the bezel cup as a template.
2. Seal both sides of the image with Mod Podge® or Elmer's Glue-All®; place it in the bezel cup and let the glue dry.
3. Add the EasyCast resin the bezel cup, following the manufacturer's instructions, and allow it to cure thoroughly. (See the tips for working with epoxy resin on the following page)
4. Add the gemstone rondelles to a head pin and make a wrapped loop.
5. Cut the rollo chain into six 3-link segments, two 2-link segments, and two 1-link segments.

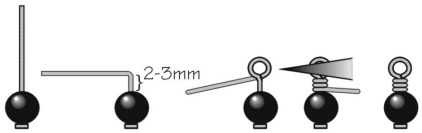
NOTE: The rollo chain links open easily like jump rings. Round or oval jump rings can alternately be used as links.

6. Use the links like jump rings and attach connectors, bezel cup, and lobster clasp, as pictured.

7. Attach the gemstone dangle, as shown, using a 5mm jump ring.
8. Add another 5mm jump ring to the end of the bracelet, as the clasp end.

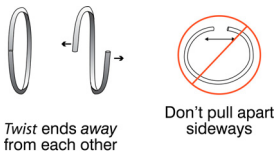
NOTE: The finished length of this bracelet is 7¼". Use additional jump rings or chain links to adjust the length.

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.



Tips for Working with Epoxy Resin

Tools and supplies: EasyCast Epoxy (#82-500-08), resin mixing supplies (#82-599), Castin'Craft jewelry molds (#82-580), Castin'Craft mold release (#82-541-04), Castin'Craft pigments & dyes (#82-510 & 82-511), *EasyCast Resin Jewelry* book (#62-129), Mod Podge® or Elmer's Glue-All®, spray sealer such as Krylon®, scissors, waxed paper, glitter, candy sprinkles, dried flowers

Epoxy resins come in two parts: the resin and the hardener. When the two parts are mixed together, a chemical reaction occurs that changes the epoxy from a liquid to a solid. Small amounts are mixed together, usually in one to one proportions. Curing time (the amount of time needed for the epoxy to completely harden) varies depending on the type of epoxy you choose and climate conditions. For proper curing, the resin needs to be mixed thoroughly in the correct proportions. Epoxies also have different "working times". This is the amount of time you can work with the epoxy before it starts to thicken. Be sure to read and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Safety

- Read and follow manufacturer's instructions and safety precautions.
- Work in a clean and well-ventilated area.
- Depending on materials used, consider wearing a respirator, rubber gloves and eye protection.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for clean up. Dispose of all waste materials in accordance with local regulations.

Tips for work area

- Cover the work area with wax paper or freezer paper. Most resins don't stick to wax paper.
- Prepare a level surface for items to dry on that will not be disturbed.
- Create trays for curing items. For rings, turn a cardboard box over and poke holes in the box with a pen or other sharp object.
- Cover the curing resin so dust does not ruin the finish. Use an inverted box for multiple items or cups for individual items, leaving space for air to circulate.

Tips for paper images

- To prevent discoloration, seal both sides and edges of the image with Mod Podge or Elmer's Glue-All. This is especially important if the image is printed on an ink-jet printer. Allow the glue to dry completely before covering the images with resin.
- Glue image to surface to prevent "floating". Let adhesive dry completely before adding resin.
- Resin magnifies images and makes them surprisingly clear. Imperfections become noticeable, so be careful.

Tips for other embedded items

- Flowers and other vegetation need to be dried before use. Moisture can prevent the resin from curing, and cause cloudiness.
- Seal dried flowers, candy sprinkles, etc., with a spray sealer such as Krylon to prevent discoloration.
- Do not use glitter or sand near resin that you do not want glitter or sand in.
- If using dyes or pigment, add a small amount (2-3 drops) at first. Add more only as needed.
- Do not apply Mod Podge or other sealer over the top of embellishments with facets. It will form over the facets and reduce the sparkle.

Resin pouring tips

- Apply the resin a little bit at a time. Depending on the resin, it can pour quickly. Pouring from a smaller cup is easier to control.
- Pour extra resin in a cap of some kind so you can use it to check for dryness. This way you don't stick your finger in and ruin your work.
- Use a blow dryer or rubber stamping heat gun to get rid of air bubbles. If the hair dryer is too strong, hold it further away to keep from blowing the resin out of the bezel cup or container.
- EasyCast epoxy works best in a form with edges, such as our bezel cups (#46-301) and finger rings with cup (#51-201).