

Caramel Swirl Bracelet

BY CINDY WIMMER

Spiral copper wire in a unique pattern, and pair it with delectable lampwork beads.

project
spirals



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MATERIALS:

- 16-gauge pure copper wire, 2 1/2'
- 18-gauge pure copper wire, 2'
- 13mm lampwork beads, 5

TOOLS:

- Round nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers
- Flat nose pliers
- Flush cutters
- Ball peen hammer
- Bench block
- Liver-of-sulfur (optional)
- Fine steel wool, #0000 (optional)
- Rotary tumbler (optional)

Finished Size: 8"



1. Cut four 5" pieces of 16g copper wire.
2. Using the tips of the round nose pliers, grasp the wire and make a loop. Hold the loop toward the back of the pliers, and spiral the wire for one complete rotation around the first loop.
3. Hold the spiral with the flat nose pliers, and using your fingers, guide and bend the wire in a circle shape about 15mm in diameter. The outer circle should not touch the spiral.
4. At the top of the spiral, use flat nose pliers to bend the wire up 45°. Trim the wire to 1/2". Make a simple loop.
5. Slightly hammer the circle to flatten the link.
6. Repeat Steps 2-5 to make three more links.
7. For the clasp, use 5" of copper wire, and create a round link as in Steps 2-5. But this time hold the wire at the top of the spiral toward the back of the round nose pliers. Roll the wire over the jaws to create a swan-style clasp. Trim the excess wire. Hammer the top of the hook and the circular part of the link.
8. Thread 1 1/2" pieces of 18g wire through the lampwork beads, and start a wrapped loop on each side. Connect to the spiral links and complete the wrapped loops. Be sure that the loops are perpendicular to one another. On the last bead, after connecting the first side to the last spiral, finish with a larger wrapped loop to serve as the eye for the hook. Hammer to flatten the eye.
9. If you choose to patina the bracelet, dip the bracelet in liver-of-sulfur, rinse in cold water, and buff with steel wool. For a nice shine, place the piece in a tumbler for an hour. ☺

RESOURCES: Check your local bead store. Lampwork beads: Marilyn Jones of Novelty Beads, beads.easttennesseecom

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