



Inspirational Sterling Silver Shaggy Bracelet

by Lorraine Sanderson

This modern Boho chic version of a traditional identity bracelet is quick and easy to make. So follow these simple instructions By Lorraine Sanderson from Burning Gecko Designs

Note:

Any message can be stamped onto the ID tag, but in this instance we've chosen the word 'BELIEVE' on the front, then, as a secret mantra -which only the wearer will know - is 'IN YOURSELF' on the reverse. As a nice touch, the colour of the gem could be the birthstone of the wearer and the detachable star charm could represent that if you believe in yourself you can reach for the stars.

What you'll need:

<i>Sterling Silver 5mm Multilink Chain, Loose - 6-7 inches</i>	WVE335
<i>Sterling Silver Navette Trigger Clasp 26mm</i>	NVF T28
<i>Sterling Silver Jump Rings Heavy 9mm x 4</i>	NVH H90
<i>Sterling Silver Identity Plate Curved 42 x 7mm</i>	NV4 005
<i>Sterling Silver Square Drop with Aqua Colour Cubic Zirconia 1 Flat Loop 6 mm</i>	NV3 SH6T
<i>Sterling Silver Star Charm with 11mm Carabiner Trigger Clasp</i>	NVQ1CC79
<i>ImpressArt Ergo-angle® Metal Stamping Hammer 1lb</i>	999 IA98
<i>ImpressArt Economy Uppercase Letter Stamp Set 2.5mm</i>	999 IA62
<i>Chain Nose Pliers (preferably two pairs)</i>	999 IA62
<i>Flush Cutters</i>	997 3027
<i>Metal Stamping Block</i>	997 V002
<i>Curved Bracelet Mandrel</i>	999 AIFF
<i>Tape</i>	999 IA67
<i>ImpressArt Stamping Enamel Ink</i>	999 I125

Step 1

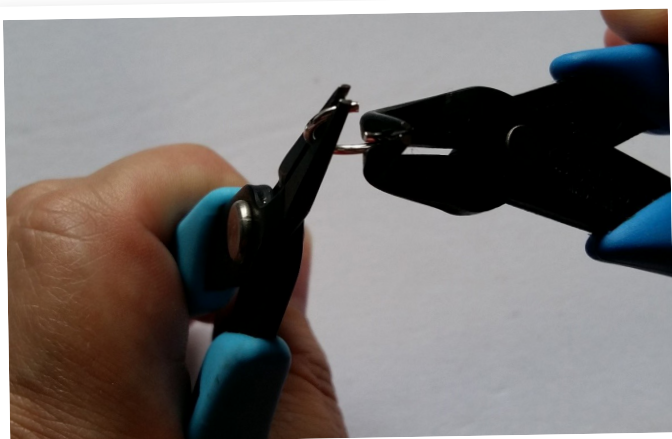
First things first...

Firstly, measure your wrist and make a note of the length you require for a snug fit. For minimal movement add a further 1cm, for a loose fit add a further 2cm. This will be the total length of the finished bracelet from end to end when open.

Step 2

The opening of the jump rings

Open all four jump rings. This saves time later on and may as well be done whilst you have the pliers to hand. Make sure that when opening any jump rings you use a forward and backwards motion (like the movement of your arms when marching) NOT a side-to-side motion (like the movement of your arms when opening curtains). Grip the ring firmly to avoid movement in the pliers as this may scratch the silver.



Step 3

Prepping

Measure the distance between the holes on the ID tag and mark on a piece of paper. Using a soft surface, ie; jewellery mat or a cushion, practice on the paper with the placement of the stamps and press in by hand to make an indent on the paper.

This gives you the chance to make minor changes in your placement before permanently stamping into the silver.



Step 4

Securing the blank

When you are happy with your practice run, prepare the ID tag by sticking a line of tape to indicate the bottom level of your letters, this will act as your baseline and is where the bottom of your circular stamp base will sit. Use ImpressArt stamp straight tape; code 999 IA67 as this is made for this purpose.

Step 5

Getting in the groove

Once you have stamped the letters, use ImpressArt Stamping Enamel Ink to colour in the impressions. Don't worry about being messy; any leftover ink can be wiped off with a tissue.



Step 6

Measuring up

Attach a jump ring to the Navette Clasp and a further two to the holes on the ID tag.

Attach the chain to the jump ring on the Navette Clasp. This will show you the total length of the bracelet and allow you to work out how much chain you need to remove to make it fit your wrist. Although this is not the finished order of attachments it is an easy way of laying it out to check for length before making any drastic cuts to your beautiful shaggy chain. Measure the length of bracelet you require and cut off the excess from the chain.



Step 7

Chain reaction

The chain is made of solid links, each having two further rings attached to the centre ring. Make sure you cut the centre link so that the two extra rings still remain, this will continue the 'shaggy' look at the end.

Once you have cut off the excess chain, find the centre point of the remaining chain. Again cut a centre link so that you have two equal lengths of chain.

You are now ready to do the final assembly of your bracelet.



Step 8

Catch up

Remove the Navette Clasp from the ID tag. You will now have the following individual components:

- ID tag with jump rings linked through each attachment hole
- Navette clasp attached to one half of the chain with a jump ring
- Aqua Blue Charm
- Star charm with clasp
- Single jump ring

Attach the chain with the Navette Clasp on one end to one of the jump rings on the ID tag. Make sure you attach the jump ring through the centre ring of the chain, not the free links.



Step 9

Adding the accents

Attach the remaining chain to the ID tag by opening the jump ring. Whilst the jump ring is open, place the Aqua Charm onto the jump ring and close.

Add the remaining jump ring onto the remaining free end of the chain. Again make sure you add the jump ring to one of the centre rings of the chain. This jump ring will act as the fastening that the navette clasp hooks into.

Finally, add the detachable star charm. This is attached through the large attachment hole of the clasp.



Step 10

Ta dah!

Your bracelet is now complete. Enjoy!



Tip: You can also use excess chain to make matching earrings using Sterling Silver Hook Wire (NVK 022X). We used two 1 inch sections of the chain to make the earrings.

