



Level of
design:
Beginner



WIRE WRAPPED PENDANT

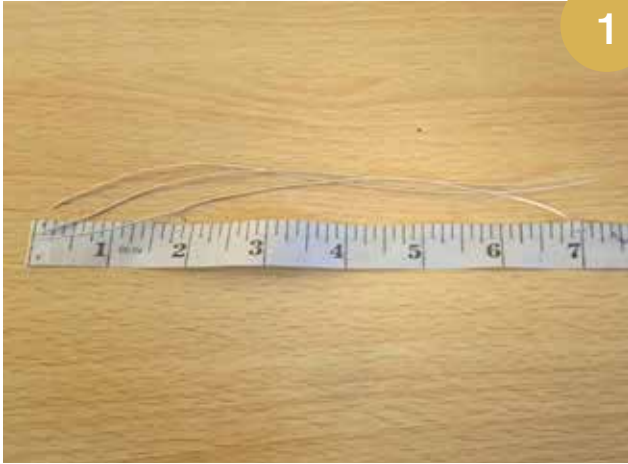
By **Rebecca Robinson**

What you'll need:

0.4mm Sterling Silver Wire (60 inches approx. or coil)	HSA 040
0.8mm Sterling Silver Wire (21 inches approx.)	HSA 080
Round Nose Pliers	999 3703
Flat Nose Pliers	999 695
Side Cutters	999 705
Cabochon Gemstone (20 x 15mm)	61QZ CA20
Ruler/Measuring Tape	
Flat Cut 2 Needle File	999 0592
Nylon Flat Nose Pliers (optional)	999 3055

1: MEASURE & CUT

Using the side cutters and measuring tape, cut three lengths of the 0.8mm Sterling Silver wire, each approximately seven inches long. These will be the base wires for the frame.



2: WRAP THE WIRE

Lay the three base wires alongside each other as flush as possible. Using the 0.4mm Sterling Silver wire, wrap around the centre of the three base wires, making sure none of the wires overlap each other. 12/13 wraps should be enough. You can check it against the cabochon to make sure it matches the length of the curved end. Making sure the finishing wire wraps are on the same side of each other, cut the wires using the side cutters. If the edges are rough, file them flat and smooth. Using the flat nose pliers or nylon flat nose pliers, flatten the wrapping wire, so it sits neat and flush along the base wires.

TIP

Nylon flat nose pliers are less likely to scratch the wires.



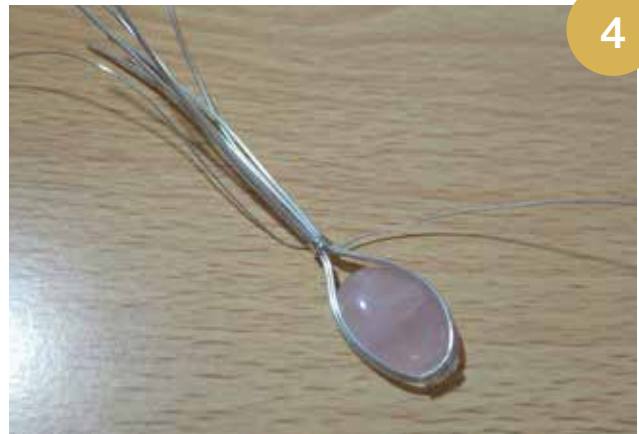
3: SHAPE THE WIRE

Shape the three base wires around the cabochon as flush as possible, leaving a small space at the top.



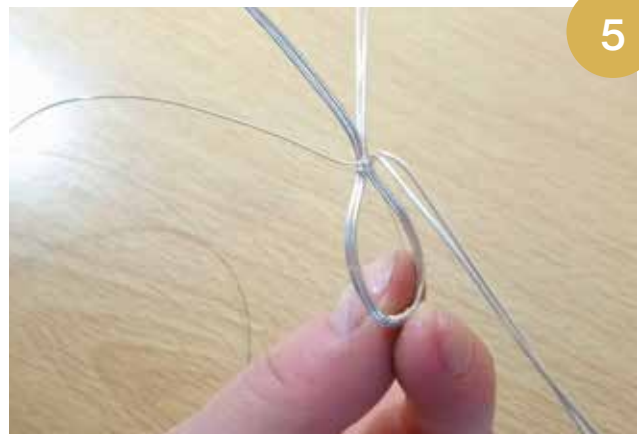
4: WRAP THE CABOCHON

Making sure the base wires are not overlapping each other, pinch them together at the top of the cabochon and wrap four times around them using the 0.4mm Sterling Silver wire. You will need a long length of 0.4mm wire with access wire on each side of the wrap as this will be used to wire wrap the bail. Check the cabochon fits inside the frame snugly.



5: SEPERATE THE BASE WIRES

Take the base wires at the front of each side and bend them forward. Take the remaining two base wires on each side and separate them into two, making sure on each side the wires are flush alongside each other. These will be used to make the bail.



6: MAKE THE BAIL

To make the bail, start by wrapping the remaining 0.4mm wire around all four of the base wires twice, as close to the bottom as possible. Then wrap twice around the two base wires on one side, then twice around the two base wires on the other side, then wrap twice around all four base wires again. This is the weave pattern you need to repeat to make the bail. Make sure you wrap tightly around the base wires each time and keep checking the wrapping wire doesn't overlap during the process. While wrapping the bail, use the flat nose pliers or nylon flat nose pliers in intervals to push the 0.4mm wire down tightly along the bail and to make sure it is sitting flush. Continue this process until you have wrapped long enough to make a bail - this is partly personal preference but remember it needs to be twice the length of the overall desired bail height with enough length for the curve at the top of the bail.



7: SECURE THE WEAVE

Once you have reached the desired length of the bail, wrap around one of the base wires at the back twice to secure the wire weave. Cut this wire using side cutters and flatten/file accordingly so it sits flush against the base wire.



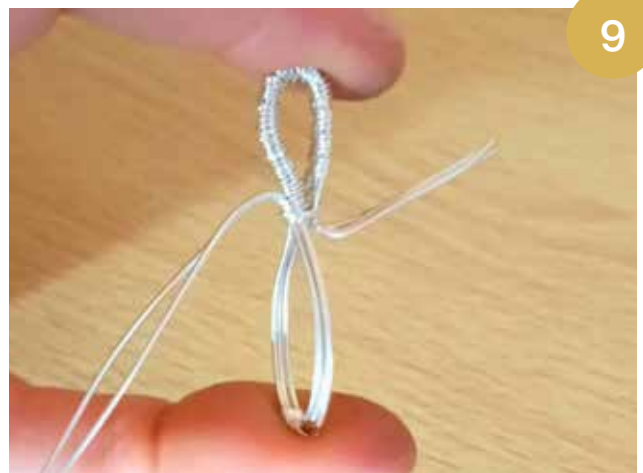
8: SHAPE THE BAIL

To make the shape of the bail, wrap the wire weave around the round nose pliers until you have the desired height and shape for your bail. Make sure there is enough space for a chain to fit through, the ends of the weave are aligned with each other and the bail sits vertically straight when looking at it from the front of the pendant.



9: FINISH THE BAIL

Use the remaining length of 0.4mm wire to wrap around all the base wires at the bottom of the bail - wrap tightly to secure the base of the bail. To finish, wrap around one of the base wires, cut the wire and flatten/file accordingly so it sits flush.



10: SECURE THE CABOCHON

Once the bail is secure, place the cabochon inside the frame. Push the back two base wires over the back of the cabochon with your fingers. Bend the wire slightly in the centre to create a curve in the wire - you can do this with your fingers or using the flat nose pliers for a sharper bend. If you choose to use the flat nose pliers be careful not to scratch/indent the wire. Repeat this process on the front of the cabochon. To make sure it is secure flatten the wires along the front, sides and back of the cabochon using your fingers to make sure they are sitting flush against the stone.



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11: CREATE YOUR PATTERN

Take the two front base wires and using the round nose pliers, shape the wires into a circular pattern until you have the desired look for the front of your pendant. The design you choose here is personal preference so you can get creative with how you manipulate the wire. Once you are happy with the look, curve the ends of the base wire round to the back of the pendant. Cut the wire so they are long enough for you to bend around one of the base wires in the frame of the pendant, but short enough that they don't stick out. To fix the wires on the frame, use the round nose plier to create the loop shape and then use the flat nose pliers to squeeze it securely around the frame wire.



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12: SPLIT THE SPARE WIRES

Now you have secured the front wires, you should have four spare base wires at the back. Separate these into two pairs. Take the pair of the remaining base wires which are on the same side as where you have secured the front wires. Wrap these wires around the front of the pendant until the end of the wires reach around the back of the pendant. Secure the ends of these wires on the other side of the pendant's frame like you did with the front wires.



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13: TIDY THE REMAINING WIRES

You should now have two base wires left at the back of the pendant. Cut these wires as short as possible, still allowing room to grip the ends with your round nose pliers. File the ends smooth if necessary, then use the round nose pliers to curve the ends of the wire and tuck them under the bail. You can use the flat nose pliers here to squeeze the wire flush under the bail and secure it. Just be careful not to scratch the wire.



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14: FINISHING TOUCHES

Chose a chain of your preference to complete the necklace. It is also recommended to use some renaissance wax to prevent the pendant from tarnishing and clean the pendant using a polishing cloth to give it a nice shiny finish.