

Libra



PHOTO TUTORIAL

Zodiac signs

LIBRA



introduction

Libra

The zodiac sign Libra is one of the significant astrological signs and is associated with the period from September 23 to October 22. It is said that people born under this sign are often balanced, diplomatic, and sociable.

Their natural sense of harmony and fairness makes them excellent mediators and partners. Those born under the sign of Libra are known for their charm and ability to bring people together, which gives them a unique ability to navigate social situations with grace.

Thanks to this photo tutorial, you will create this sign step by step using wire and beads. Your crafting skills will thus connect with the symbolism of the zodiac, resulting in a unique piece of art.

Part 1: Frame

This frame is same for every of our wire-wrapped Zodiac signs

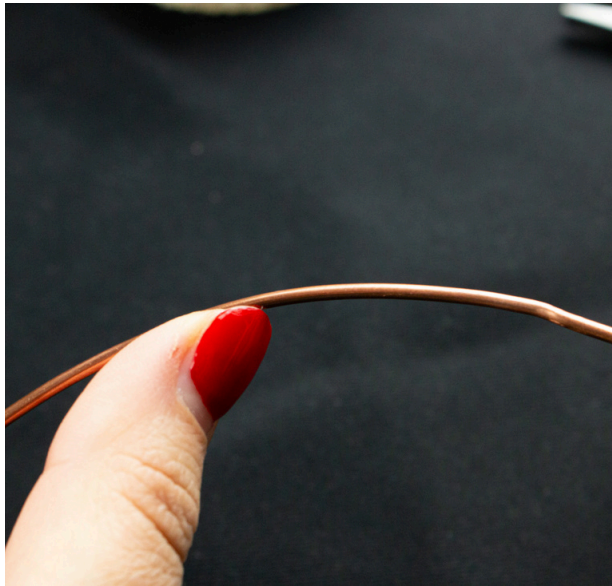
materials

- Copper wire 2 mm (12 ga), and 0.4 mm (26 ga).
- Pliers: flat-nose, side cutters
- Hammer and anvil

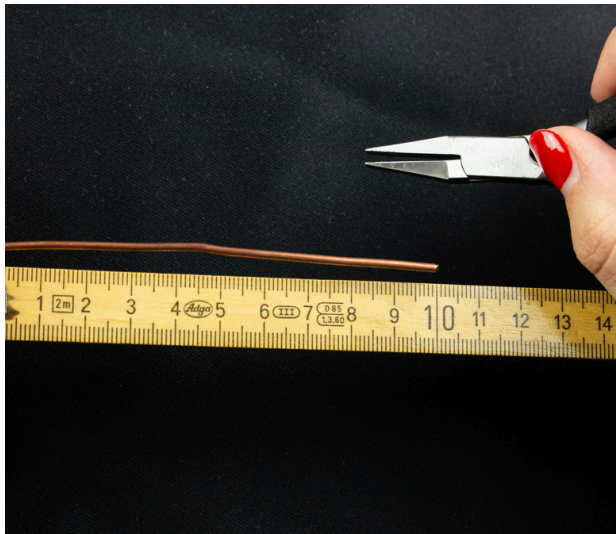
All materials and more available in our online store www.dratovani.cz/as

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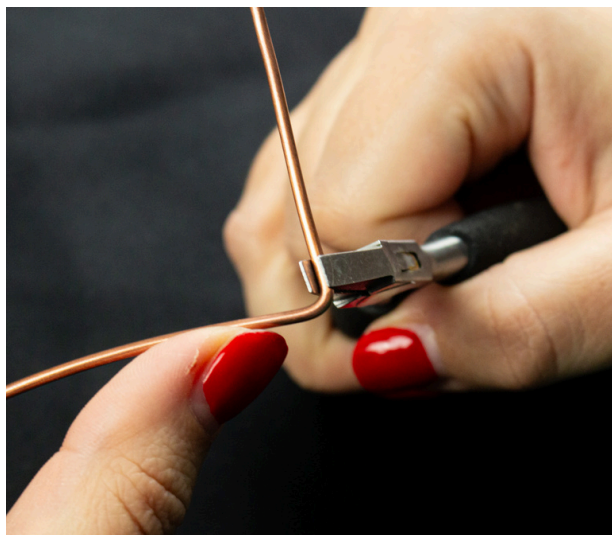
instructions



1. Prepare all the tools and wire. Start with the thick wire 1.2 mm (16 ga), unwind a piece of it and smooth it between your fingers.



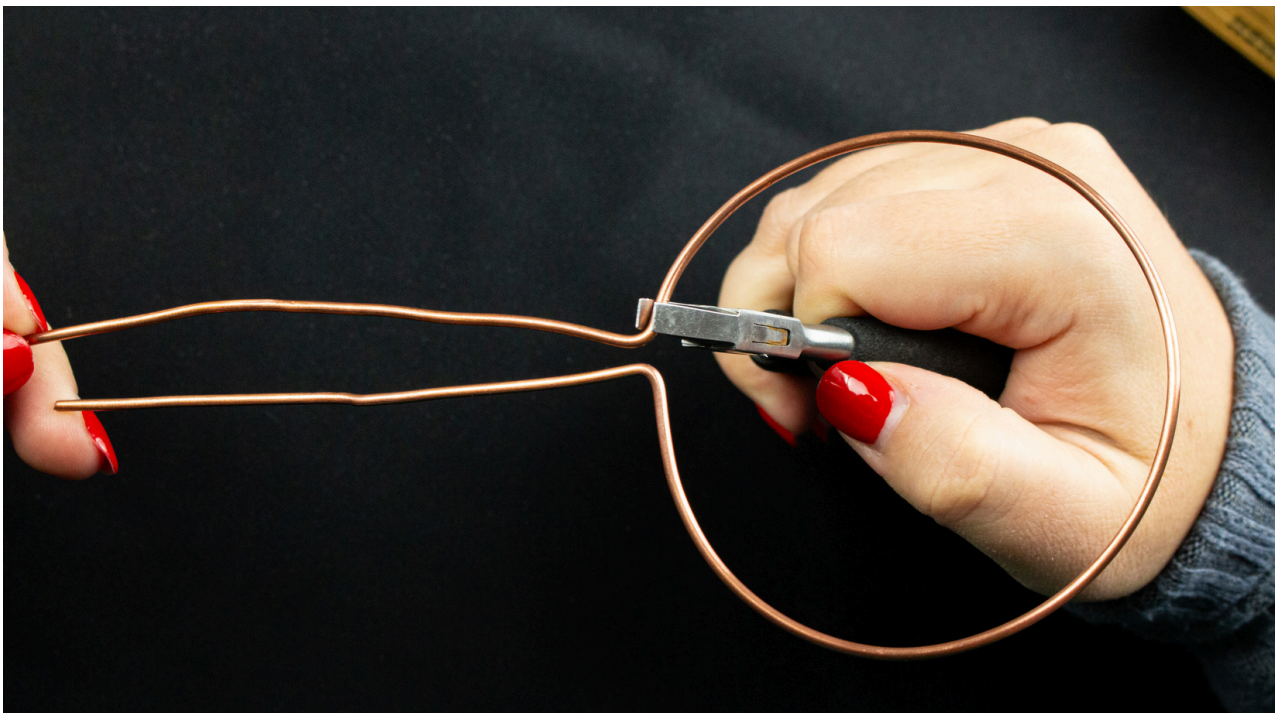
2. Measure 10 cm (4 in) of it.



3. There, bend the wire at a right angle.



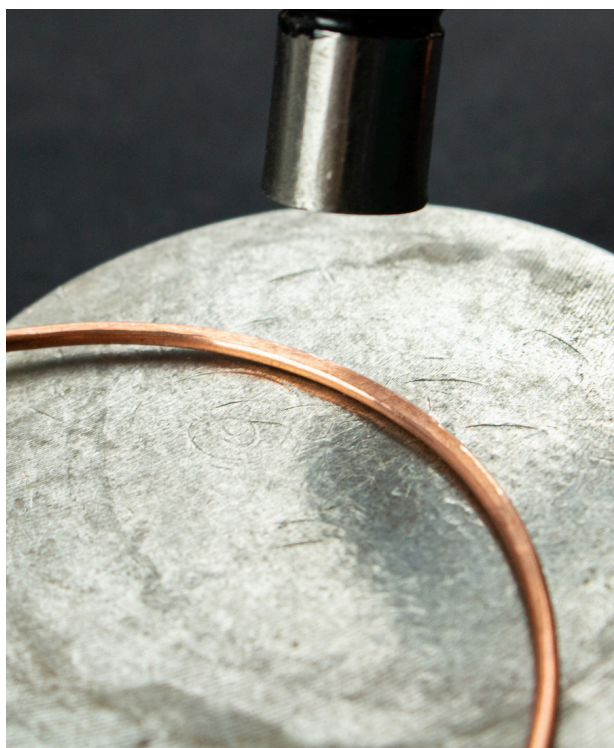
4. Use an object of a suitable diameter, like a mug or a rolling-pin. Bend and shape the wire around it.



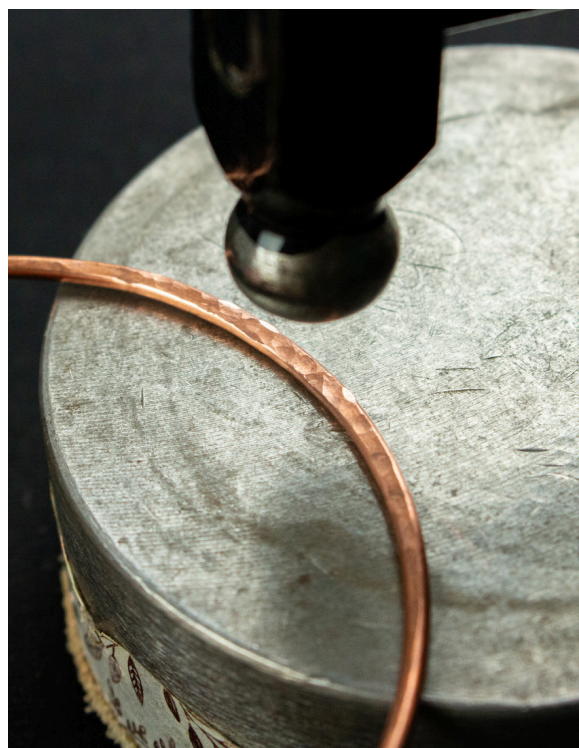
5. At the spot where the wire touches the first bend, bend it at a right angle again, measure 10 cm (4 in) and cut it.



6. This is the final shape of the frame.



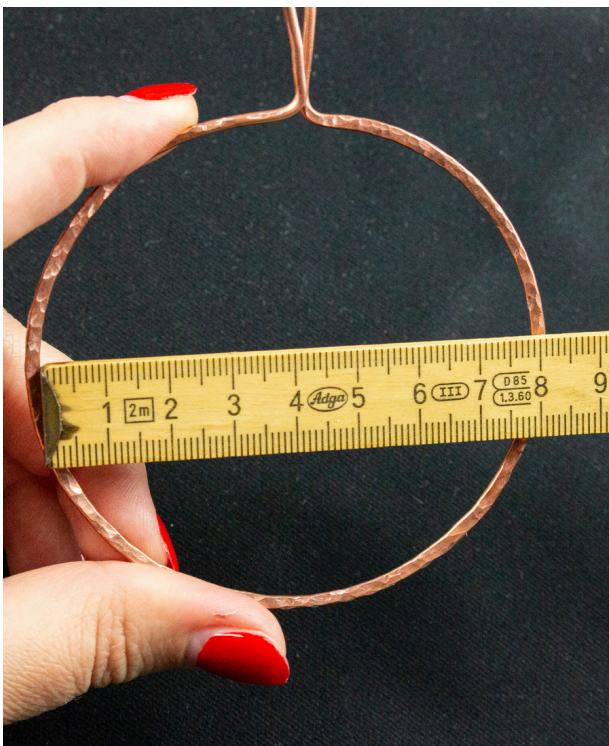
7. Then hammer the loop on the anvil with the flat end of the hammer. Do not hammer the straight ends of the wire.



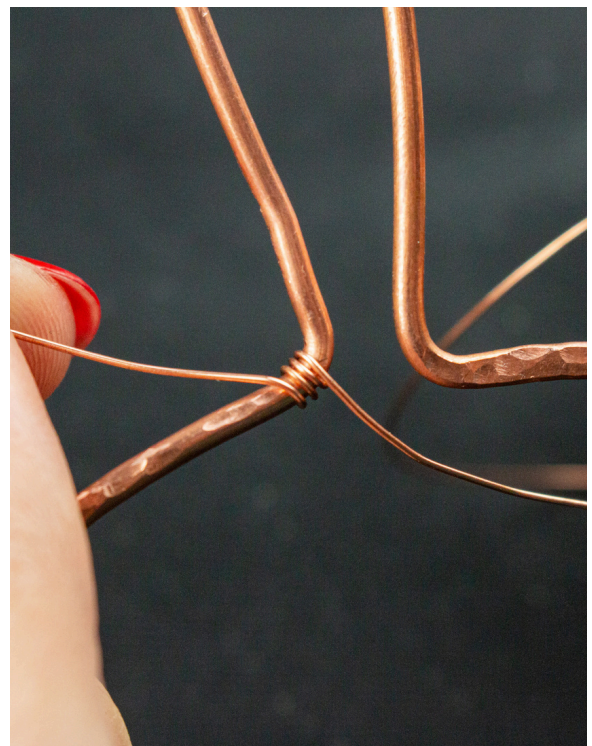
8. When it is done, turn the hammer and use the round end of the hammer to hammer some more to decorate it.



9. This is what the hammered frame looks like.



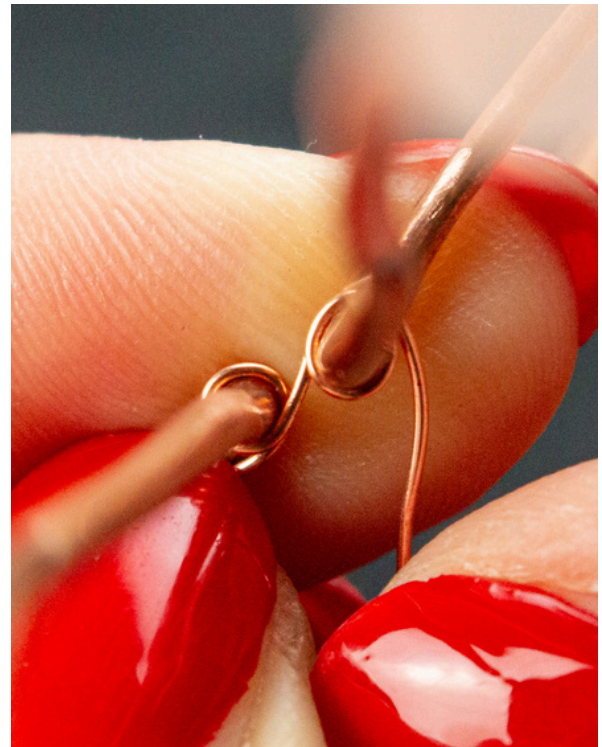
10. The diameter of the frame is approximately 8 cm (3 in).



11. Now use the thin wire and wrap one of the bends with it three times.



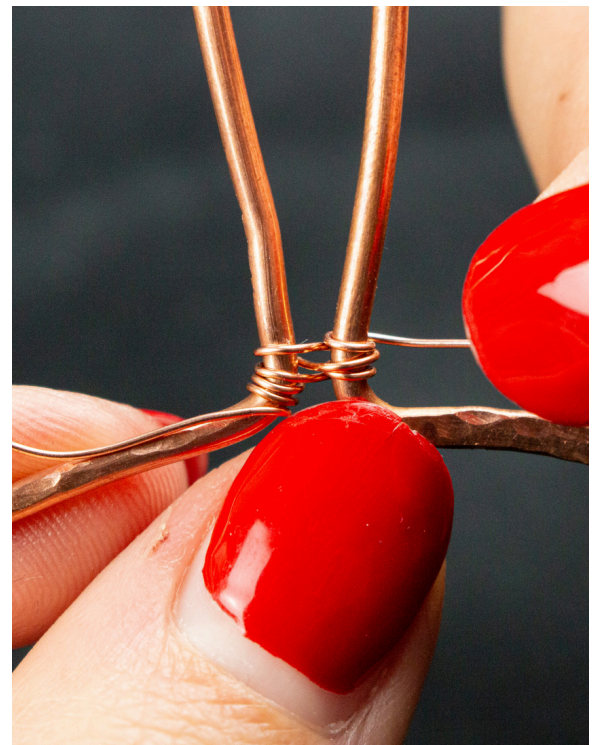
12. Then wrap the opposite bend once and go back again and wrap again.



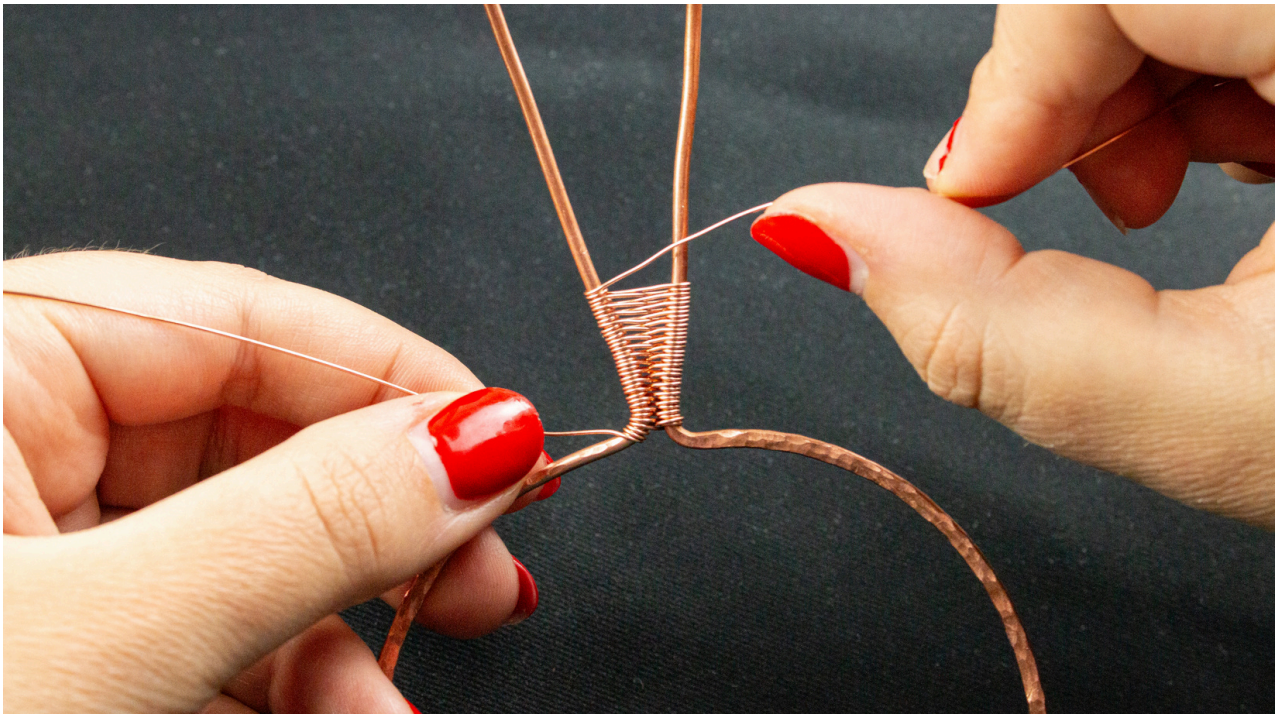
13. Continue in the same way.



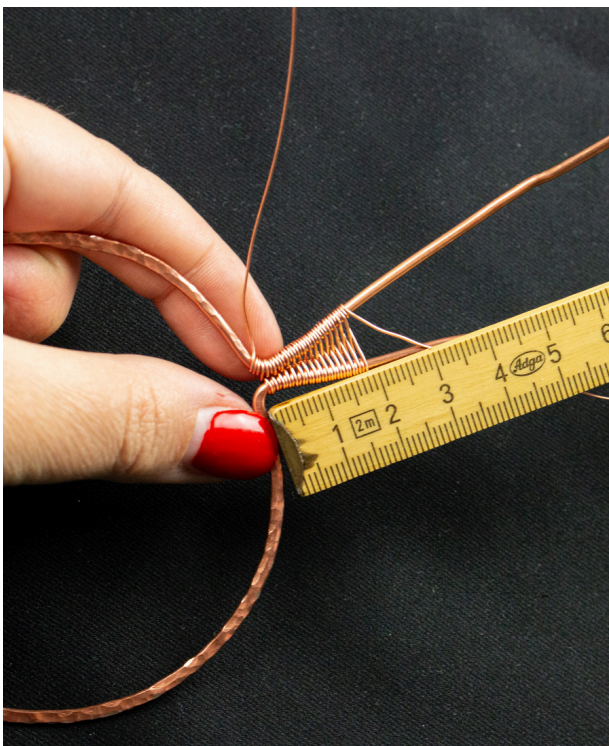
14. And one more loop on each piece of wire.



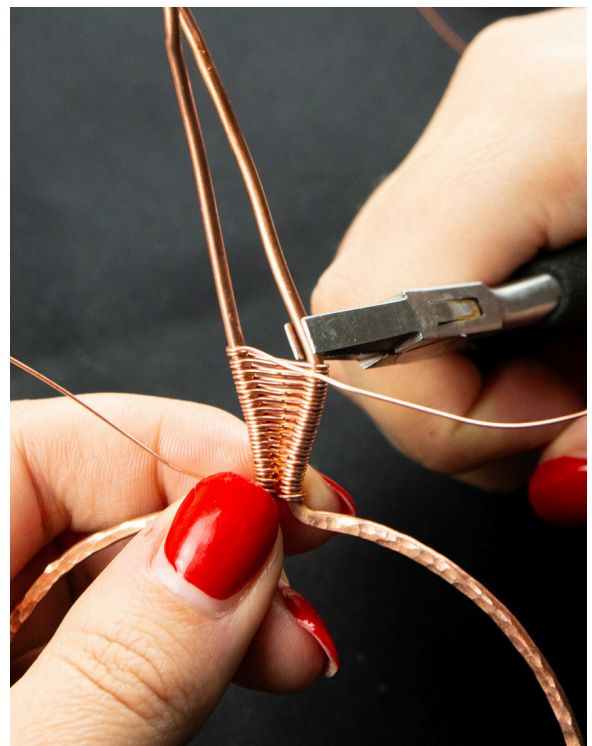
15. This is what your work looks like from the front, the two pieces of wire are spread apart a little bit.



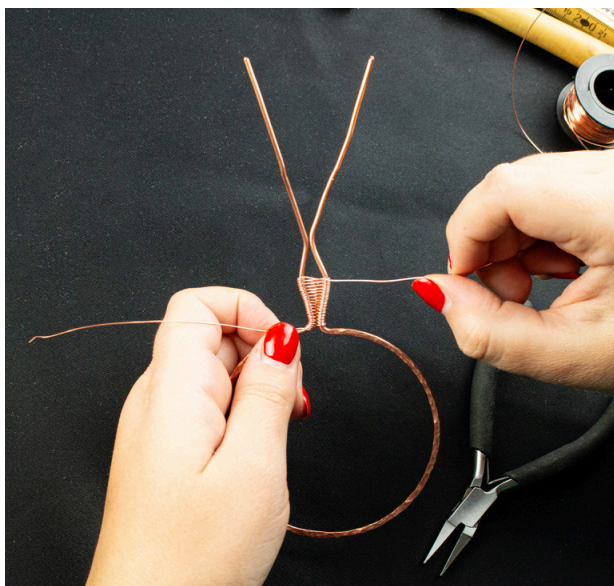
16. Continue wrapping, copy the width of the spread pieces of wire.



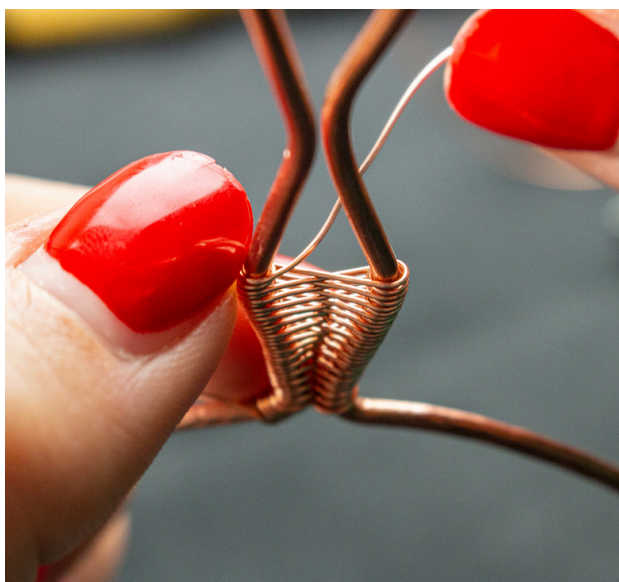
17. When you reach approximately 2 cm (0.8 in), stop.



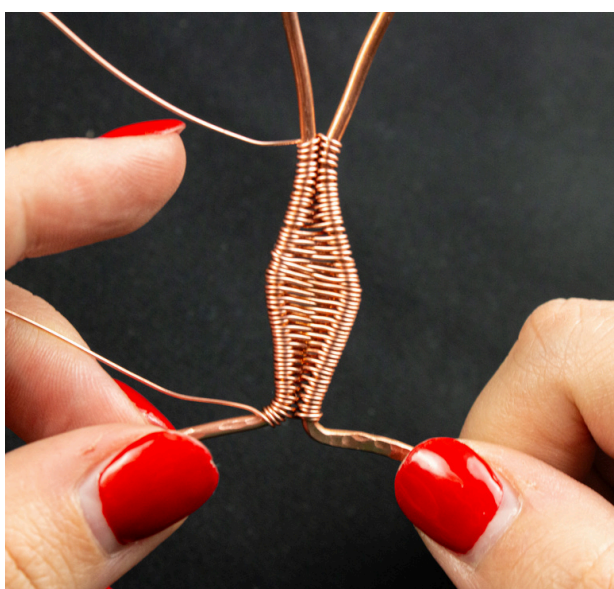
18. Then use the pliers to bend the two pieces of wire a bit closer.



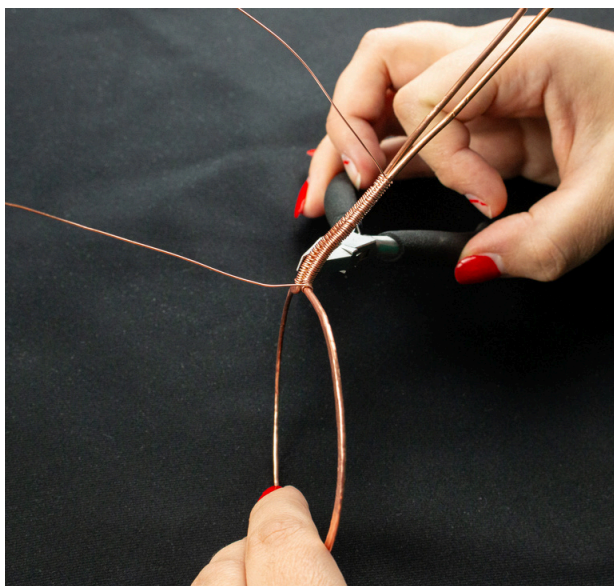
19. Measure 2 cm (0.8 in) and bend them a bit apart again. This is what the final shape of the large loop used to hang the pendant looks like.



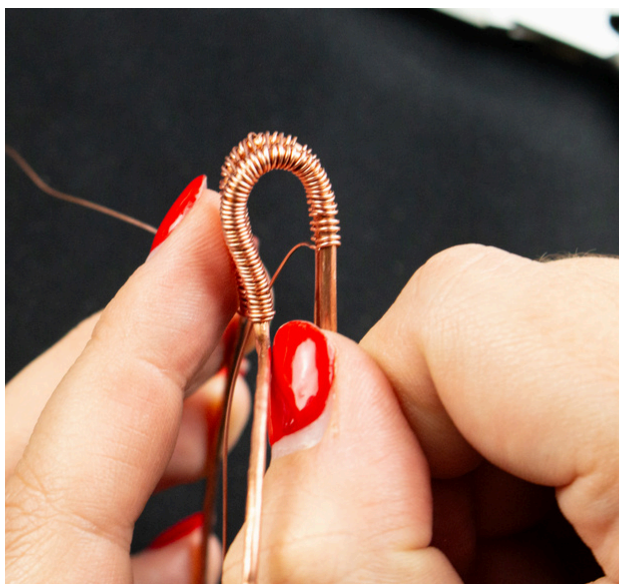
20. Then continue wrapping both parts of the loop in the same way as before.



21. Stop at the point where the two pieces of wire meet. The wrapping is done.



22. Now start bending and forming the loop with the help of the flat-nose pliers. First a little bit forward.



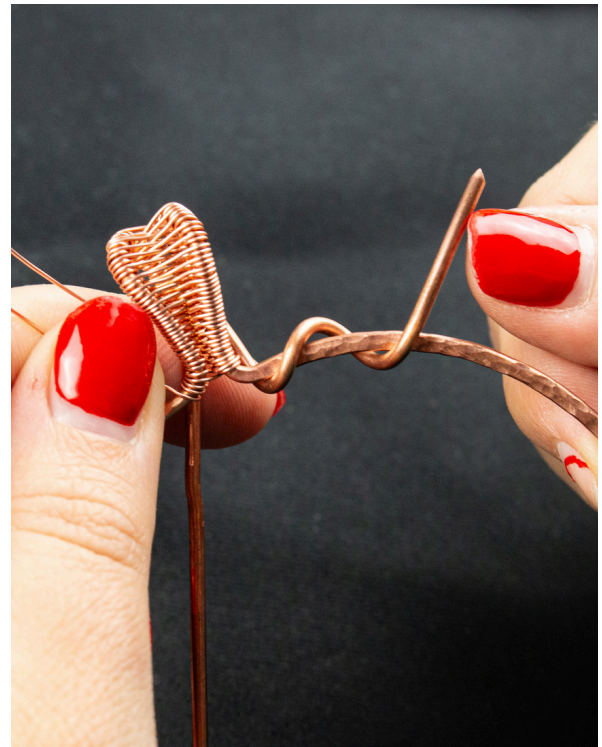
23. Then bend the whole loop backwards and all the way down.



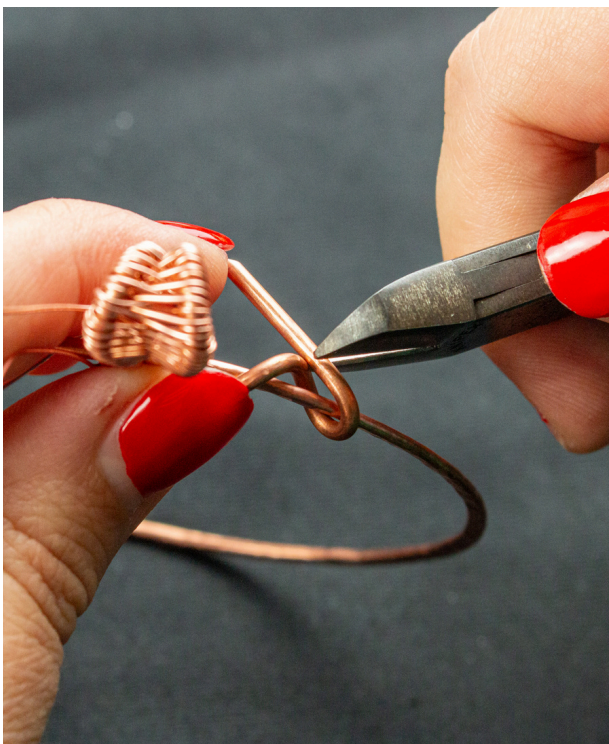
24. This is what the fully formed loop looks like. Both ends of the thick wire are spread apart behind the loop.



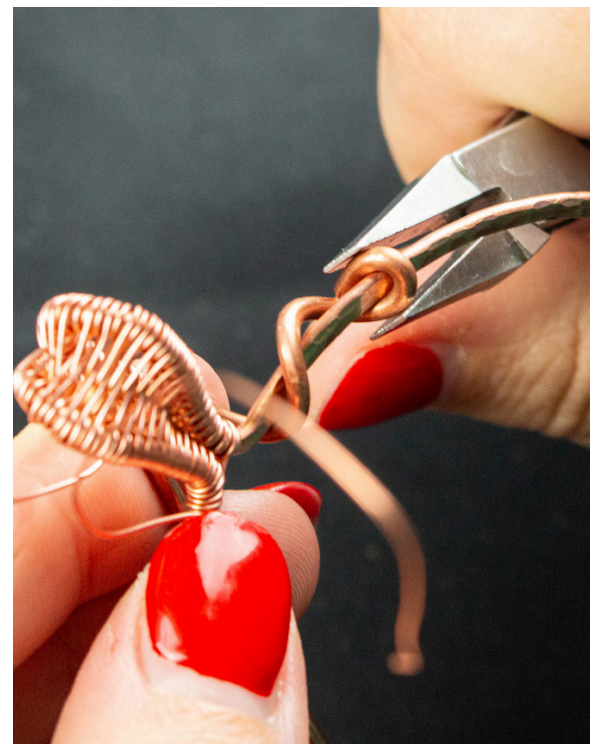
25. Now take the right end of the thick wire and wrap it under the loop forward and up.



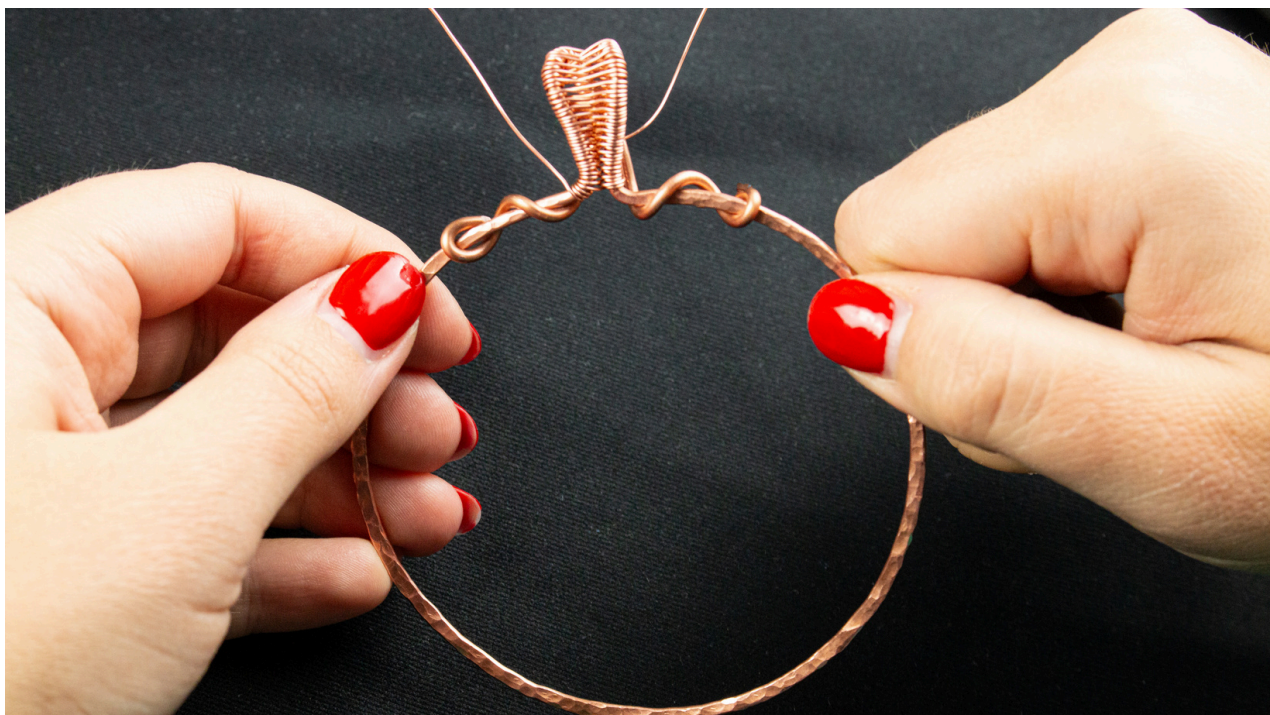
26. Then wrap it twice around the frame.



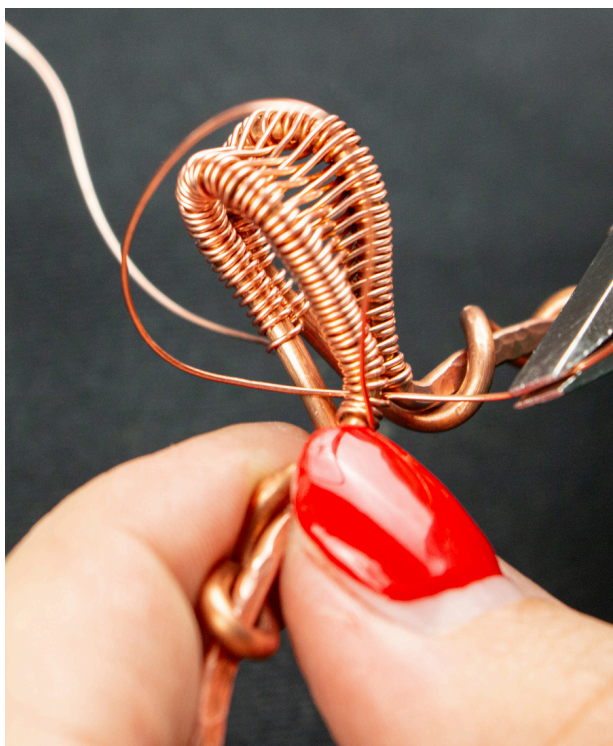
27. Bend it backwards and cut.



28. Close the loop tightly onto the frame.



29. Do the same thing with the left end of the wire. This is what the result looks like.



30. Next pass the front tail of the thin wire through the wrapping in the front.



31. Sow it onto it with a few stitches and cut. Hide the tail into the wrapping and press with the pliers to finish.



32. This is what the finished frame looks like.

Part 2: Libra

materials

- Finished frame
- Copper wire - 1,2 mm/16ga, 1mm / 18 GA, 0.4 mm / 26 GA
- optional: french wire
- Template - Libra
- Pliers: flat-nose, side cutters

instructions



1. Prepare all the materials and tools on your table.



2. First, measure and cut 10 cm of wire with a diameter of 1.2 mm.



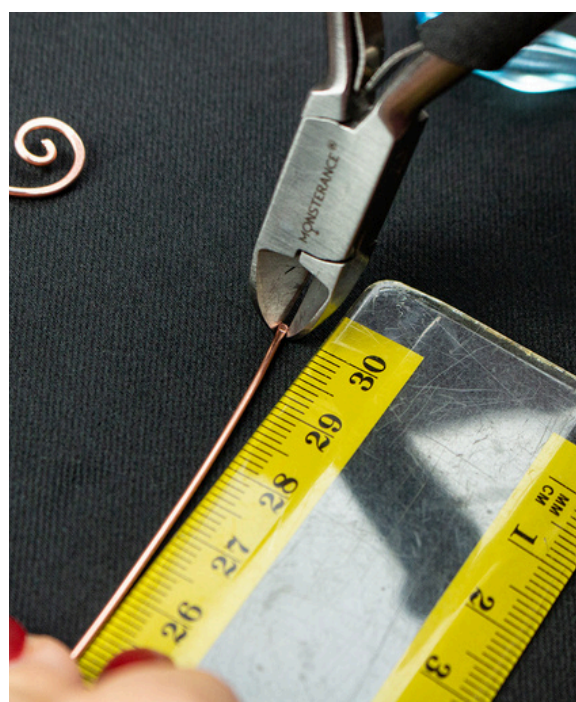
3. Twist the same spirals on both ends of this wire.



4. Bend the wire symmetrically in the middle.



5. Hammer the spirals on an anvil.



6. Next, measure and cut 2 pieces of wire, 30 cm long, with a thickness of 1 mm or 1.2 mm (depending on the size of the holes in the prepared bead set, so that they can be threaded onto the wire).



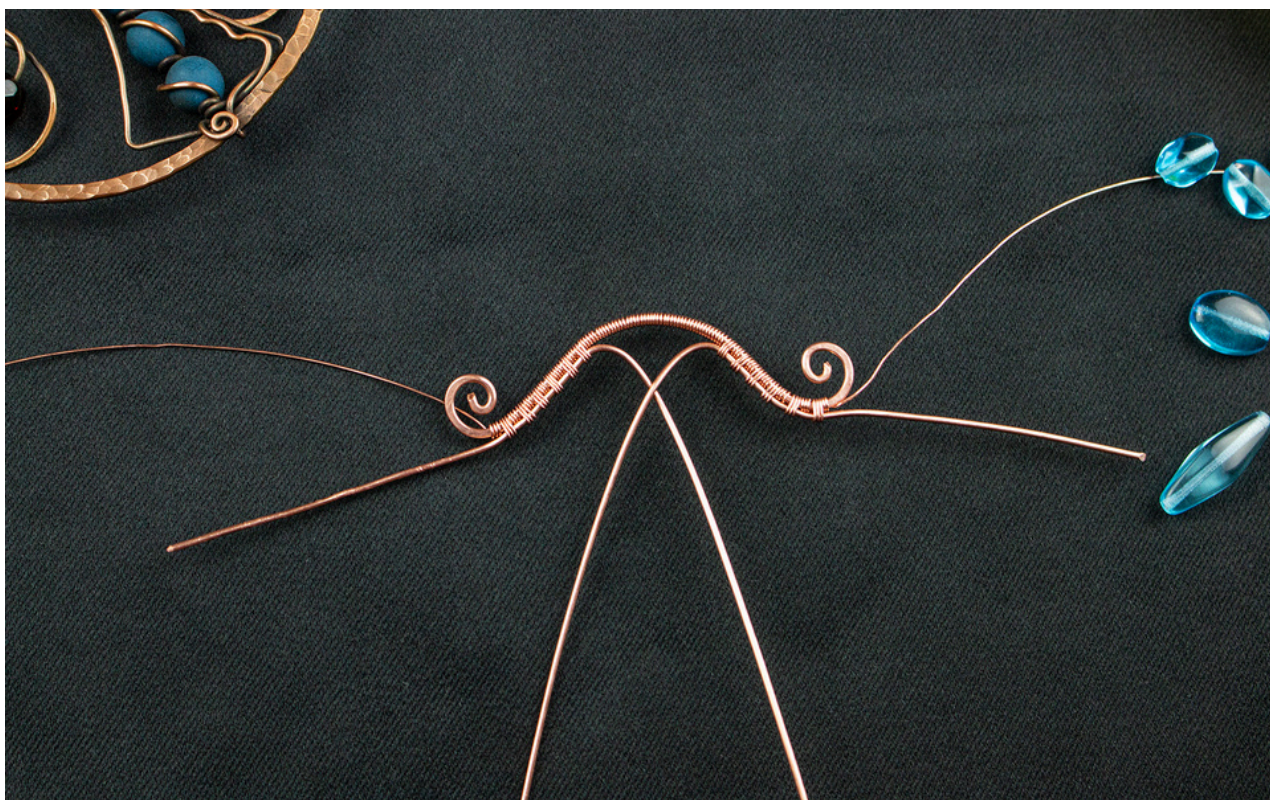
7. Take the first one, measure about 5 cm from its left end, and place it on the left part of the scale arm under the spiral. Begin weaving both wires together with a thin wire (thickness 0.4 mm) using the 3-3-3 weave, i.e., wrap the wire with the spiral 3 times with the thin wire, then wrap both wires together 3 times, then wrap just the one with the spiral 3 times, and so on.



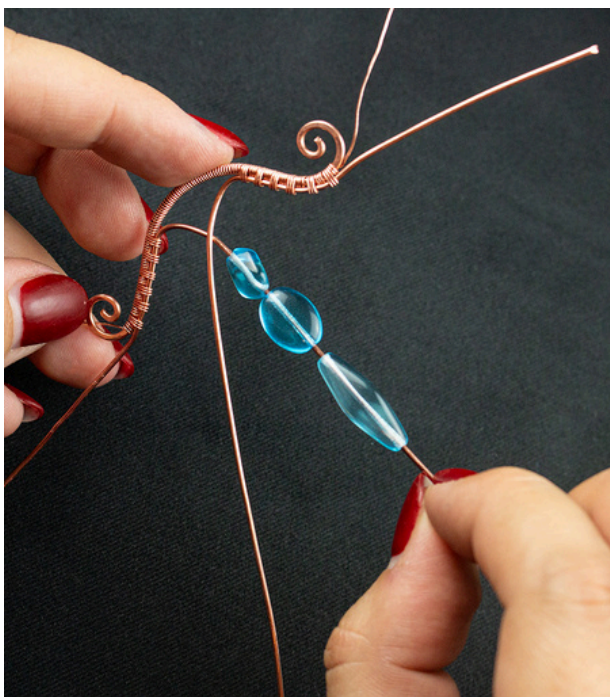
8. This is how the finished weave looks from one side. Leave the middle of the scale arm free, i.e., tightly wrap it with the thin wire.



9. Then bend the free longer end of this wire down. Next, take the second 30 cm wire, measure about 5 cm this time from the right, bend the longer end of the wire down, place it on the scale arm, and secure it with the same weave leading towards the other spiral.



10. This is how the finished scale base looks.



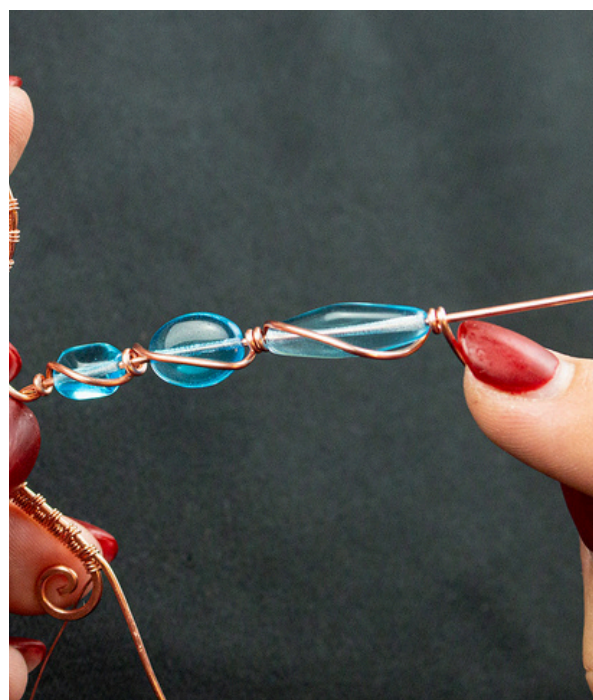
11. Now thread a set of 3-5 beads, depending on size, onto one long free end of the central wire. Start with the smallest one.



12. Wrap the other free end of the central wire once above the beads and then over the first bead.



13. Below the first bead, wrap this wire again around the wire with the beads threaded on it.



14. Continue in the same way down to the last bead.



15. Now bend one of the wires horizontally to the right below the last bead and sharply bend it upwards with pliers.



16. At the top, wrap this wire again above the smallest bead and lead it back down, where you bend it symmetrically back towards the center with pliers, to the beads, so that the whole thing looks like a wire isosceles triangle around the center with beads.



17. The central wire points downward; wrap the wire forming the outline of the scale around it below the last bead and shape a small spiral at its end.



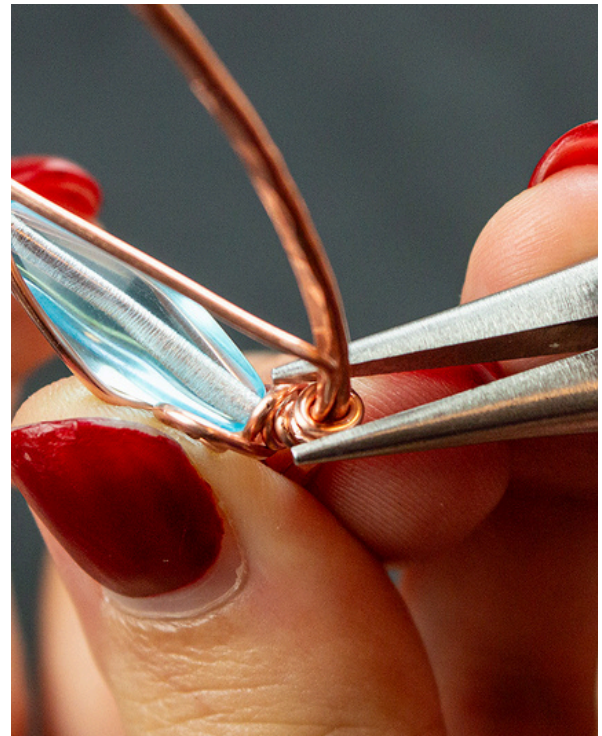
18. This is how the whole piece looks. Now prepare the finished hoop.



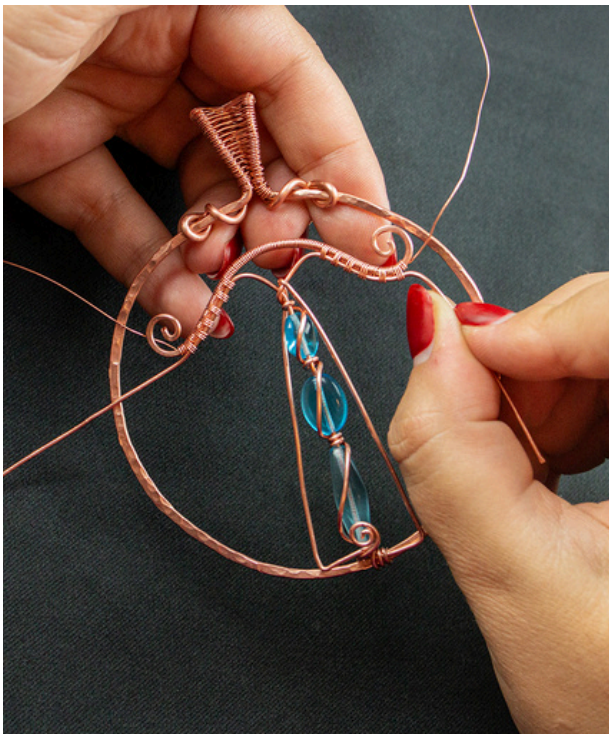
19. Place the scale on the hoop and start attaching it.



20. First, wrap the central wire around the hoop in the middle at the bottom.



21. Cut off the excess wire, tighten it with pliers, and smooth it out.



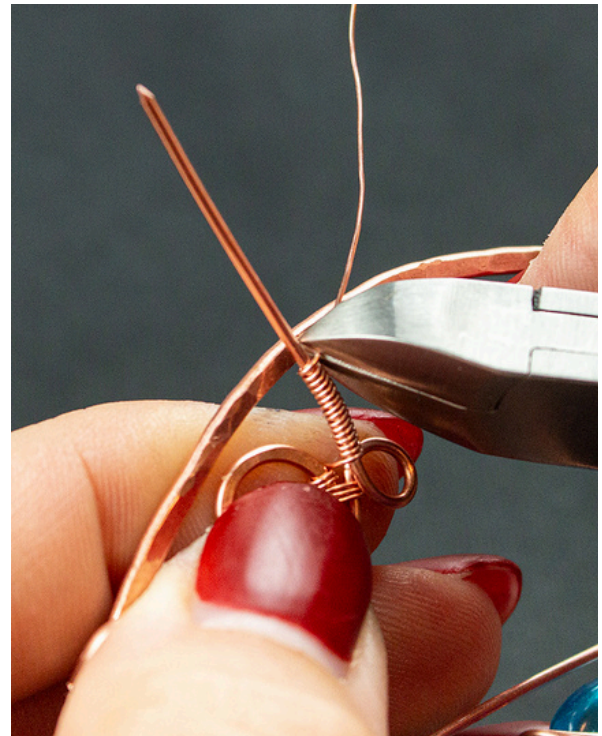
22. Now attach the right arm of the scale. First, bend the thicker end of the remaining wire downwards.



23. Shape a loop from it. Then lead this wire onto the hoop.



24. Wrap this part of the wire tightly with the free end of the thin wire.



25. Cut off the excess thin wire.



26. Smooth it out with pliers.



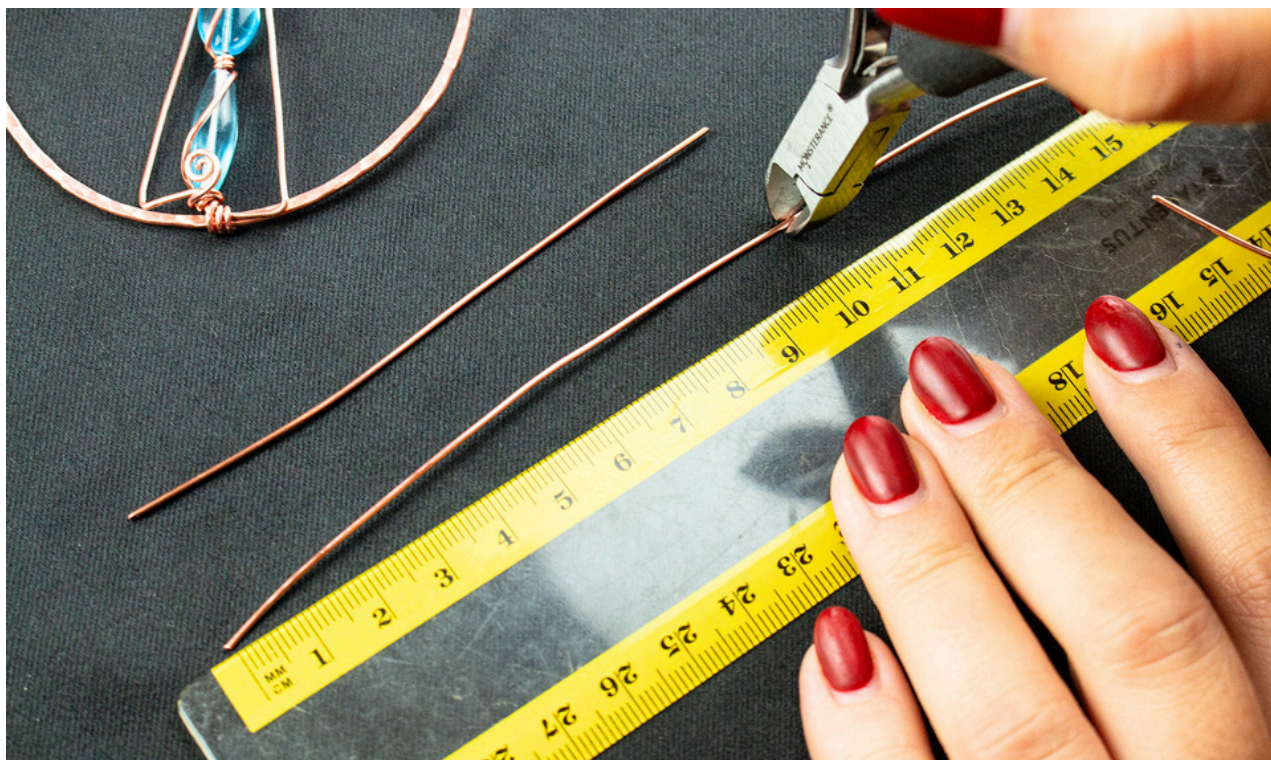
27. Now secure the end of the thick wire to the hoop by wrapping it several times.



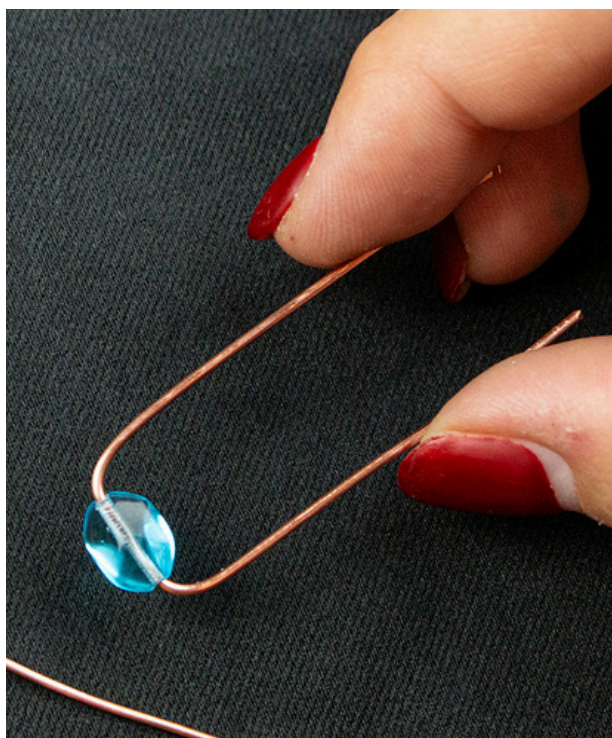
28. After wrapping, shape a small decorative spiral at its end.



29. Do the same on the other side. This is how the finished piece looks.



30. Now start making the scale pans. First, measure and cut 2 pieces of wire with a diameter of 1 mm, 10 cm long.



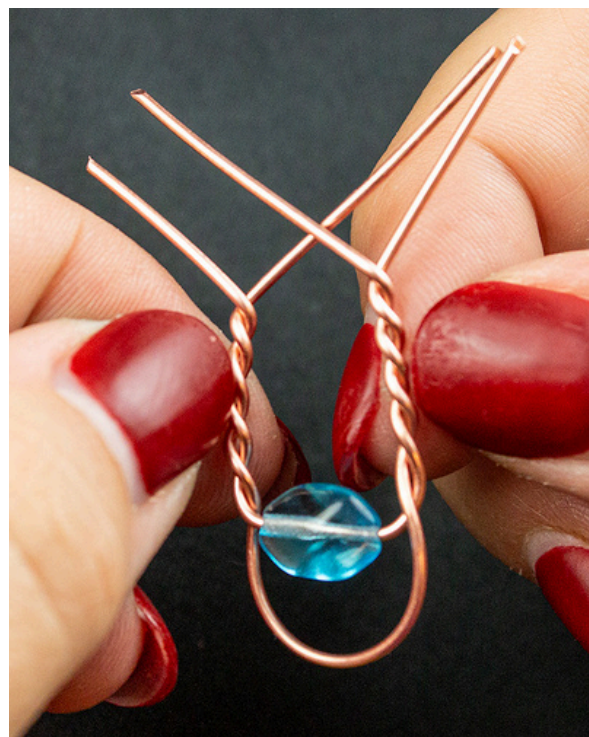
31. Thread one of the prepared beads onto the center of one of them, and bend both ends upwards.



32. Bend the other wire into an arc, and place the wire with the bead inside it so that its ends extend beyond the wires of the outer shape, as shown in the picture.



33. Now start twisting both wires together, making 5-6 twists on each side.



34. Done.



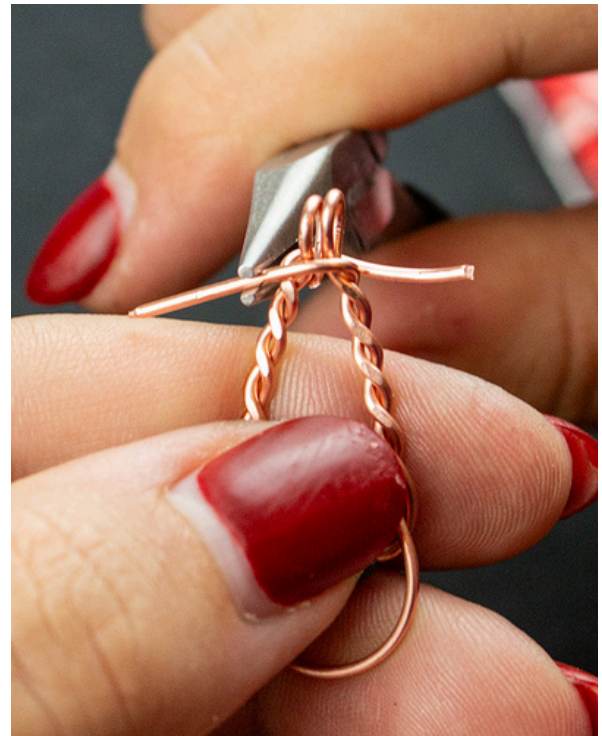
35. Hammer the twisted wires on an anvil.



36. Place both central wires together and shape them into a hanging loop. First, bend them forward together, then twist the loop backward.



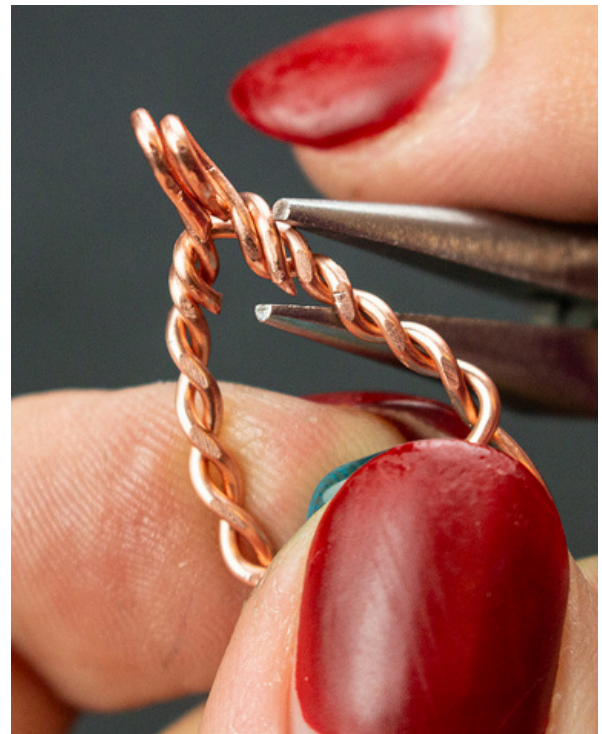
37. Trim the ends of the wires and close the loop with pliers.



38. Then bend both outer ends of the wires towards the center with pliers.



39. Lead each end to the opposite side of the twisted wire and weave it into the twisted wires.



40. Trim the ends and hide them in the twisted wires with pliers.



41. Then reopen the hanging loop with pliers, insert it into the prepared loop on one end of the scale arm, and close it.



42. The first pan is in place, and its suspension is movable. Then make the second pan in the same way and hang it on the other arm of the scale.



43. This is how the finished product looks. One of the signs in the picture is patinated, the other is not.

conclusion

Have you created your Libra Zodiac Sign? Show off and share them in the Facebook group Wire Art Academy :-). You'll also find plenty of other inspiration from fellow wire enthusiasts!



about The author

Monsterance (BcA. Anna Benešová) is a wireworker, jewellery designer and lecturer of wirework technique. She makes original wire jewellery and regularly teaches wirework courses in the Czech Republic and abroad. She has over 15 years of experience in the field and has come a long way from traditional wirework of pots and decorations, through wrought jewellery to elaborate jewellery with fantasy motifs, in which she combines the American style of working with wire, the so-called wire-wrapping. She is the author of several courses on wirework and the e-book How to Start Wireworking Jewelry, teaches regularly online in her Wirework Club, and enjoys sharing her experiences in the Magic Wirework fb group. She is a big fan of all things handmade and creativity is an essential part of her life. Her wirework classes attended thousands of satisfied participants have already passed through.



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