



Ambitious Beginner / Intermediate Project.



[PerfectlyTwistedJewelry.com](https://www.PerfectlyTwistedJewelry.com)



Materials:

- 20 gauge, round, dead soft wires (copper used here)
- 24 or 26 gauge, round, dead soft wires
- 28 gauge, round, dead soft wires
- 26 to 28mm x 15 to 18mm
- Top to bottom **drilled, oblong focal bead.**

Tools:

- Flush cutters
- Round nose pliers
- Chain link pliers
- Nylon jaw pliers (optional)
- 6 to 8mm dowel (pencils / pens work)

Enjoy!

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To begin:

Cut 3 pieces of 20 gauge wire, 13 inches long. Use nylon jaw pliers or your fingers to smooth and straighten the wires. Align the wires at the ends. Hold the wires together **at the center** so that they are flat. Keep them flat and place a piece of **tape over and under the wires** to keep them held together.

Cut a 6 inch piece of 24 or 26 gauge wire to be used at the neck of the pendant. Set aside. Future cuts will be directed at each step as needed.

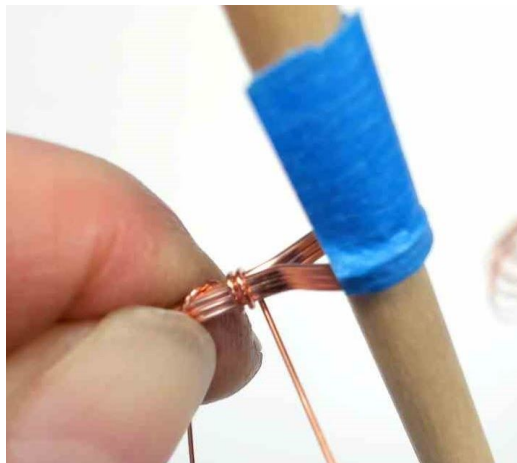


Step 1: Create the Frame

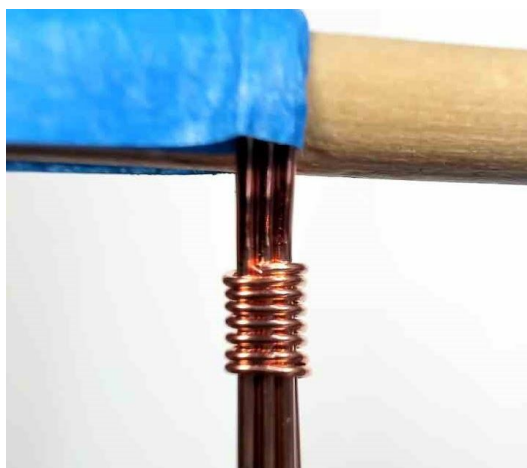
Bend the center of the 3 taped wires over the dowel or pencil.

Use your fingers to pinch the wires inward slightly at the neck, just under the dowel.

Keep the wires flat, one half on top of the other.



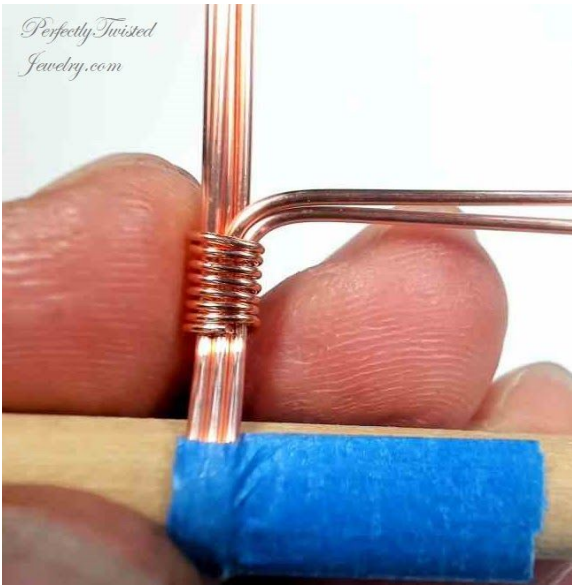
Use the 6 inches of 24 or 26 gauge round wire to wrap the neck of the wires just below the dowel, several tight times.



Use flush cutters and trim away the wire ends so that the cut lays in the center of the frame wires.

Use chain link pliers to tap the cut ends close into the 20g frame wires.

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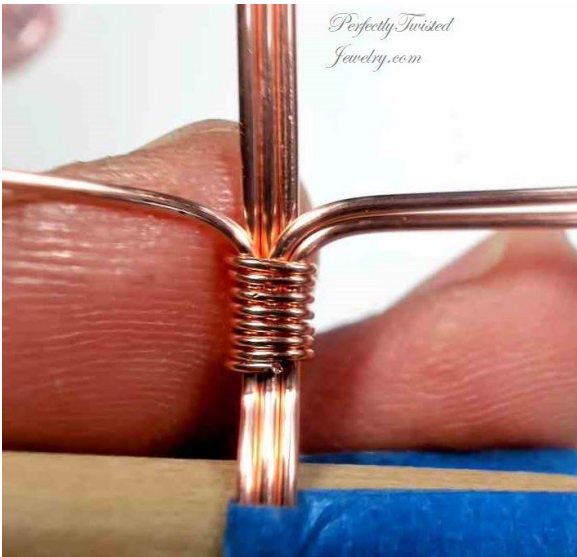


Hold the frame so that the dowel is in your hand and the wire ends are pointed upward.

There are 3 wires on each 'half' of the 20g frame wires.

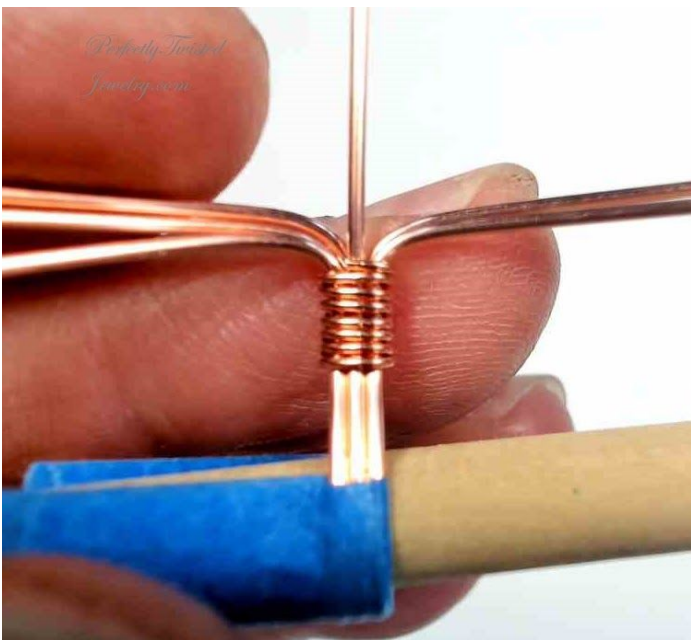
Bend 2, from one half, 90 degree to the right....

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... bend the 3rd wire on the same side 90 degree in the opposite direction.

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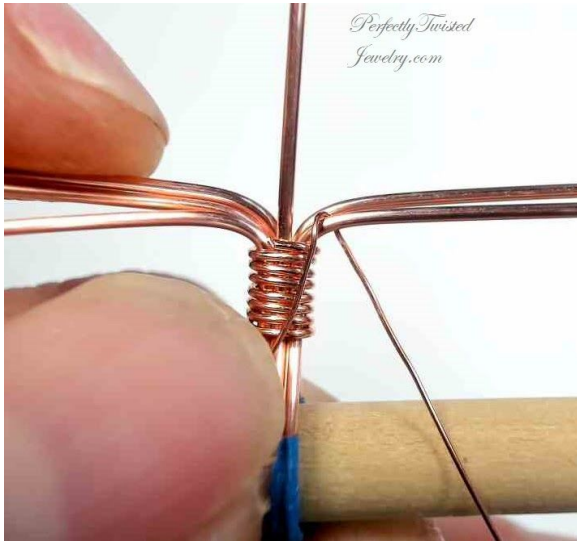


Turn the frame over.

There are 3 wires. Leave the center wire straight with no bends for the bead.

Bend the wire on the right, 90 degree to the right, giving this frame 'arm' 2 wires.

Bend the wire on the left, 90 degree to the left, giving this frame 'arm' 3 wires.



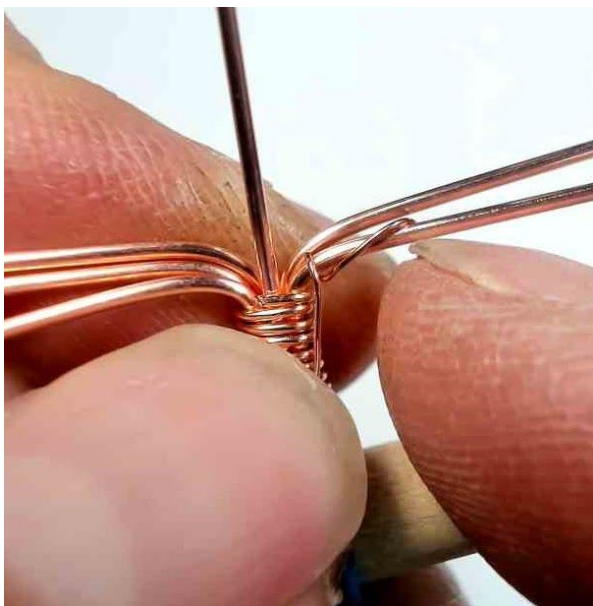
Step 2: Weave the Frame Arms

Cut a piece of 28 gauge weaving wire, 2.5 feet long.

Hold the frame with the dowel in your hand, the center wire pointed straight up and the 2 wire 'arm' to your right.

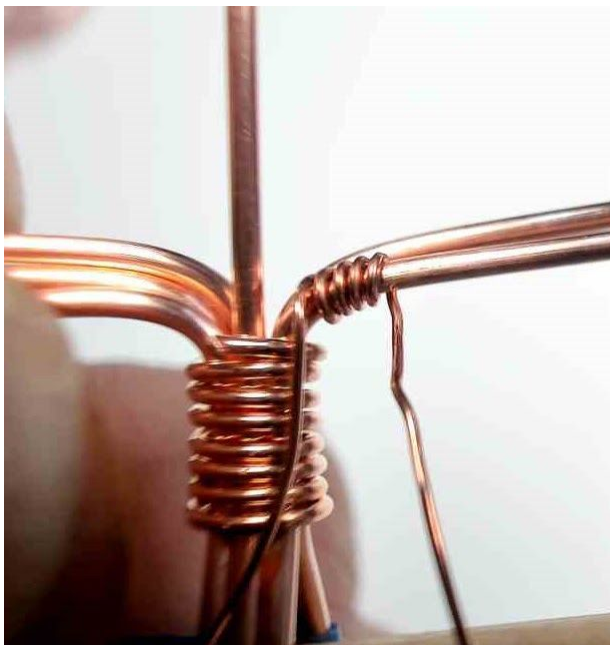
Let the 2.5 feet of weaving wire trail to your side. It will 'work up' as you weave.

Insert a 1 inch leading tail between the two frame wires. Hold it under your thumb.



With your other hand, move the weaving wire up and over the bottom frame wire, then back down, between the wires, then back to the 'front' from under the wire.

You are making a 360 coil over the 20g frame wire with the 28g weaving wire.



Make 5 single coils, over this single frame wire.

Keep your coils neat and tight to the frame wire. Do not overlap the previous coil as you work. Use your fingernail to push each coil snug up against the previous.



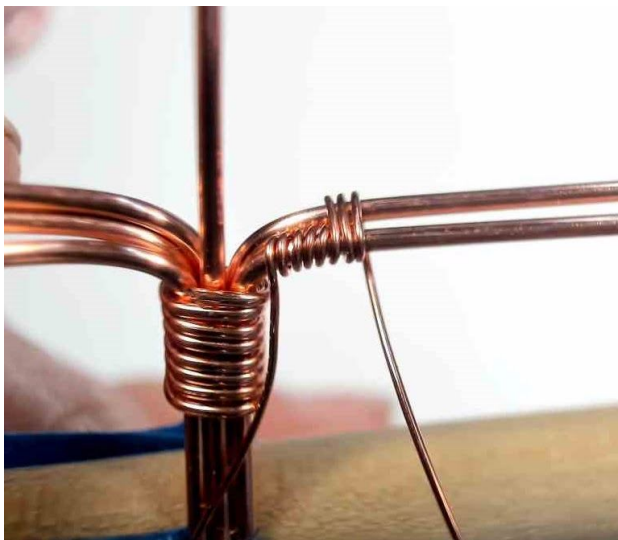
After 5 single coils on the 'lower' 20g frame wire...
Wrap 3 coils, over both frame wires.

Keep your 'double wire' coils neat and straight as you wrap.

The coils should be tight enough to not 'bubble out' from the frame wires, but not so tight that they 'crush' the air space between the wires.

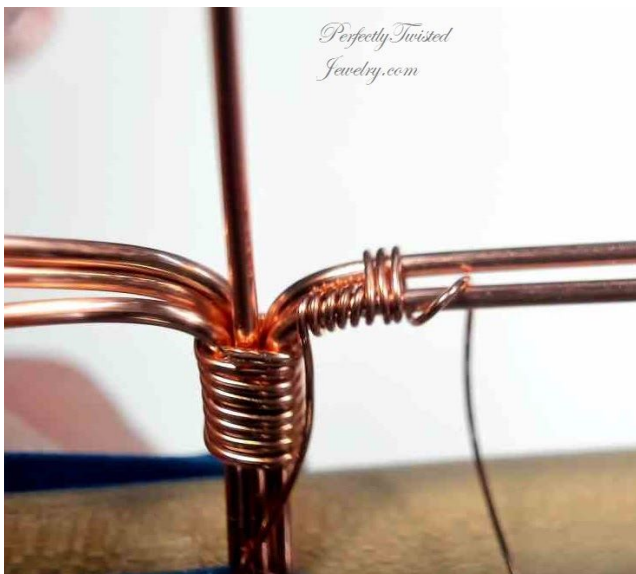
There needs to be a slight airspace between the two 20g frame wires so that the weaving wire can move in between them in the following wrap 'segments'.

Look ahead through images for the pattern.



Five single wire coils and three double wire coils are a weaved 'segment'.

After 3 double wire coils, make another 5 single wire coils on the same lower wire...



... Insert the weaving wire between the two frame wires and make another 5 single wire coils

Use your fingernail to push the weaved wires back up against each other as you work.

This keeps them neat and tight as you go..



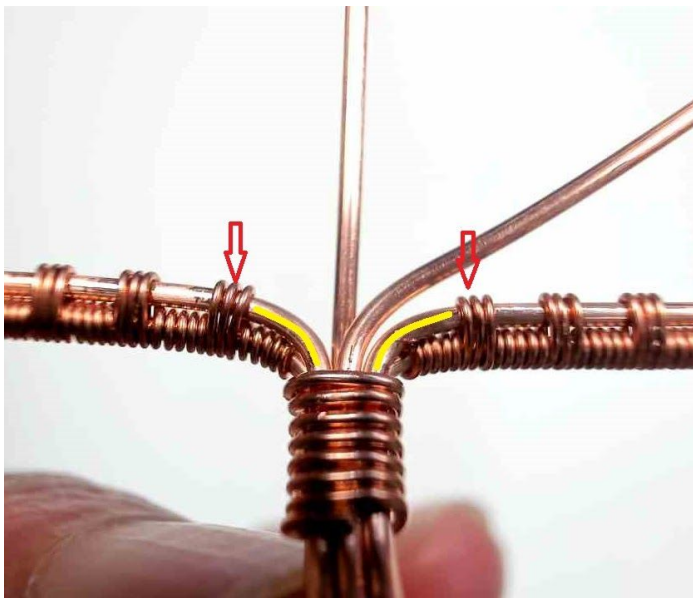
Weave in this same pattern of

5 single wire coils on the 'lower' wire and 3 double wire coils over both wires....

For ¼ inch past the length of your bead. So if your bead is 1 inch in length, then weave for 1 and ¼ inch.

Remember to push your weaved work back against itself as you work.

Once you have your length weaved, do not cut the weaving wire off (just in case you need it for more length later.



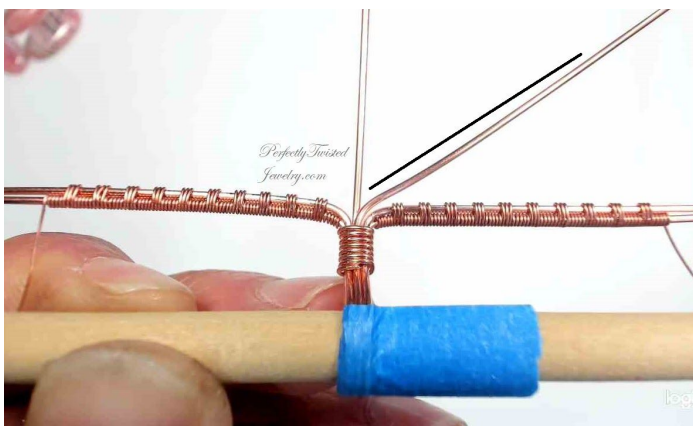
Cut a fresh piece of 28g weaving wire 2.5 feet long.

Hold the dowel so that the weaved wires are on the left. The 3 bare wires are on the right.

Insert a leading 1 inch tail of 28g wire, between 2 of the 3 frame wires and make 5 single wire coils.

Then make 3 double wire coils, then 5 single wire coils... etc... repeat this weave for the same length as the opposite side.

NOTE: Keep the 'peaks' of the weave, on both arms, facing the same direction.



After you've weaved for 1 and ¼ inch, do not cut off the weaving wire, just in case you need it later.

Cut a fresh piece of 28g weaving wire, 2 feet long.

You will be making a single wire coil, on the last bare frame wire (but not the center one!)

Look ahead ...

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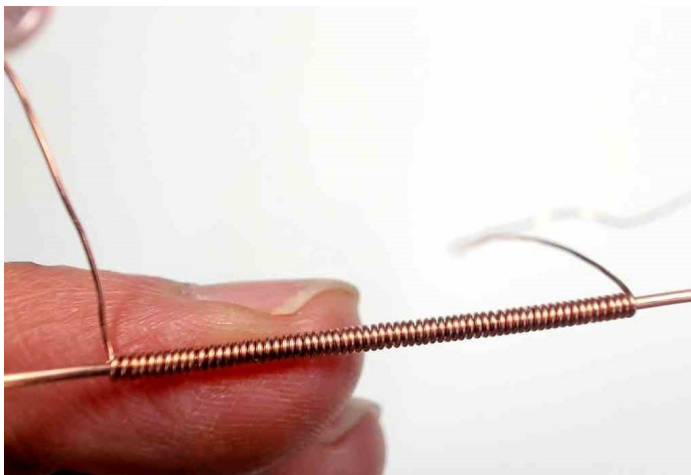
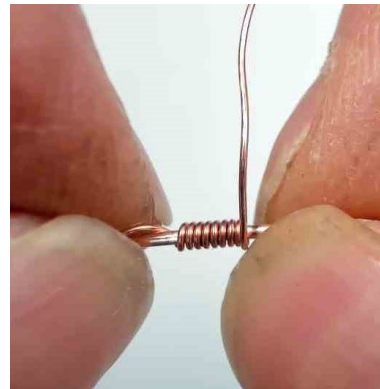
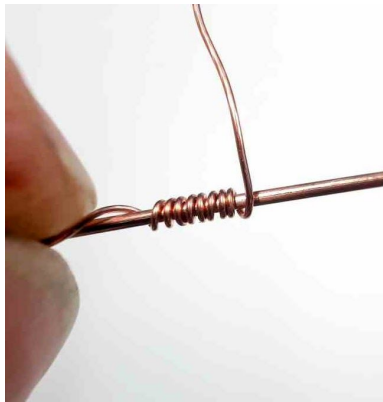
Tip: Making a longer length of coils is easy to do 'at the end' of the frame wire.

Wrapping the tiny wire near the end of the frame wire, gives you less frame wire to move your arm over. It also helps if the beginning intersection is tight.

Hold your 2 feet of 28g wire with a leading 1 inch 'tail'.

Hold the bare frame wire 2 inches near it's end (opposite the neck of the pendant)...

Hold the tail under your thumb so the wire doesn't move when wrapping ... work ¼ inch at a time...

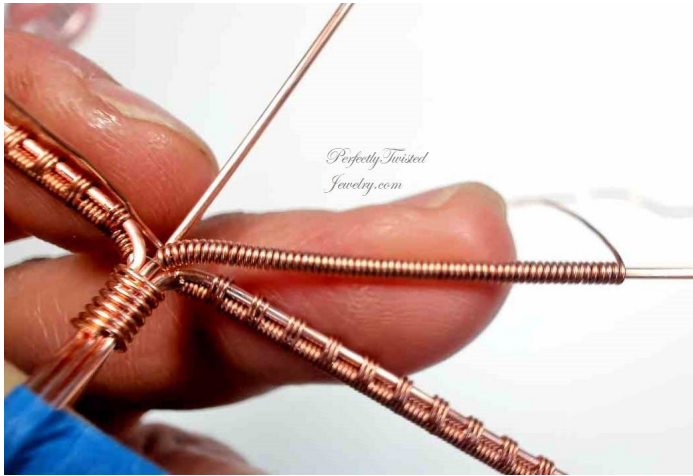


... keep your coils neat and next to each other. Every 12 or 15 coils, use your fingers to push them neatly together if needed. As the coil grows, push it back toward the pendant neck.

Make coils for 1 and ¼ inch.

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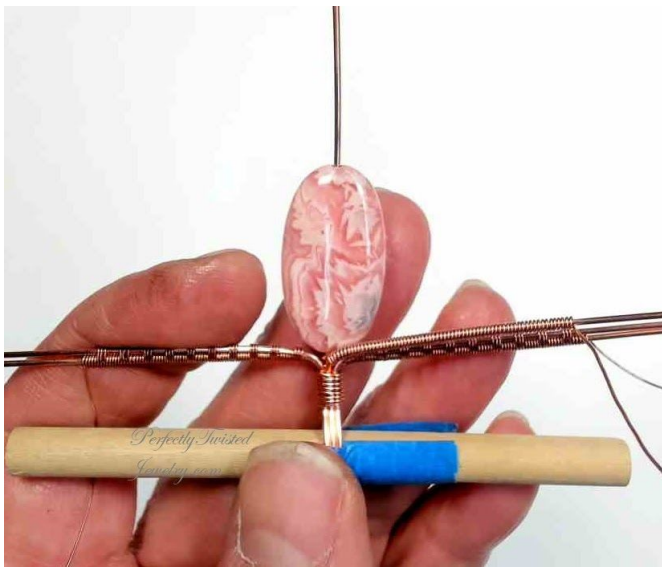
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Push the coil down the wire to the pendant neck.

Wrap the leading 1 inch tail of 28g wire around the center wire twice to secure it, then cut off the rest of the wire length. Use chain link pliers to tap the cut if needed.

Do not cut the other end of the weaving wire, you might need it later.



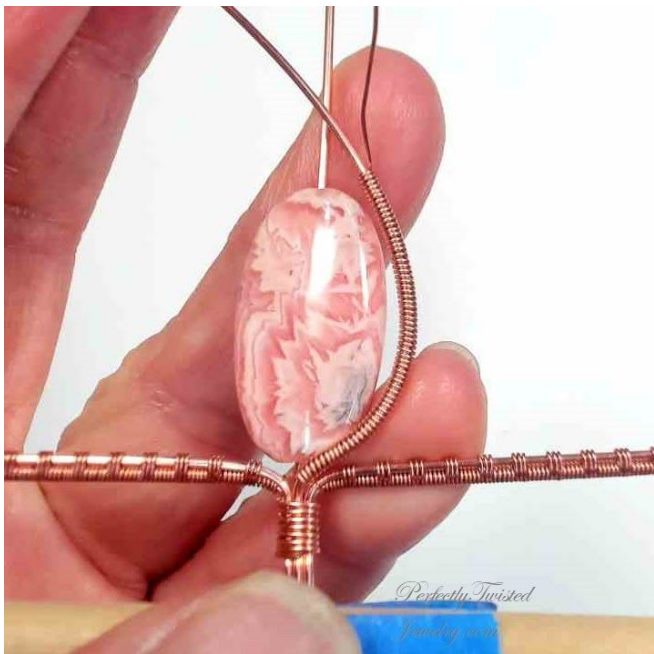
Step 3 - Insert the Bead, Check the Length

This design is very flexible in that you can adjust the amount of weave needed to fit any length bead (within reason).

Insert the bead onto the center wire.

Make sure the frame arms are neat and straight while you work.

Keep the center wire perpendicular to the dowel while you work. Do not let the bead lean to one side or the other.

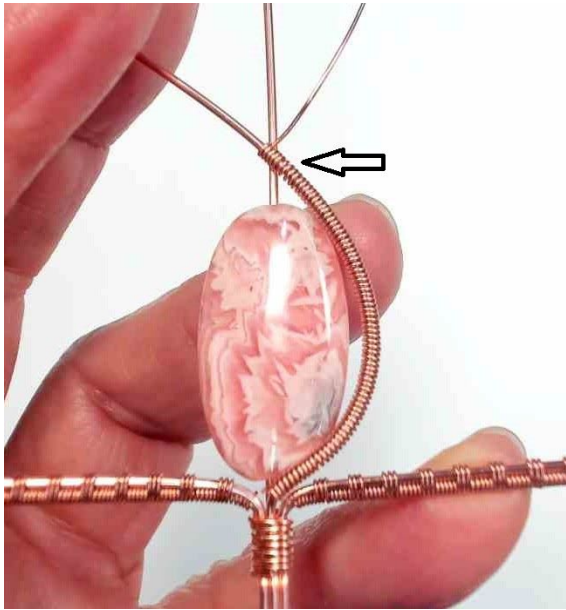


Take the single coiled wire and create a gentle and elegant curve following the shape of the bead...

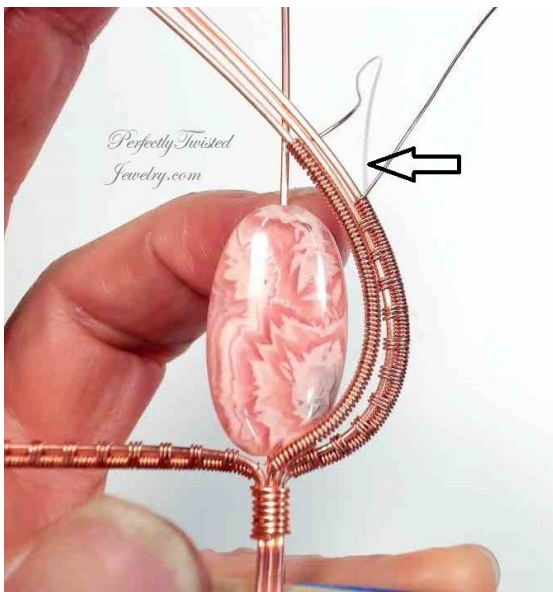
The curved wire should meet the center beaded wire, just below the bead.

The coil should reach the center wire.

If it doesn't, then gently straighten the coiled wire, wrap a few more coils....

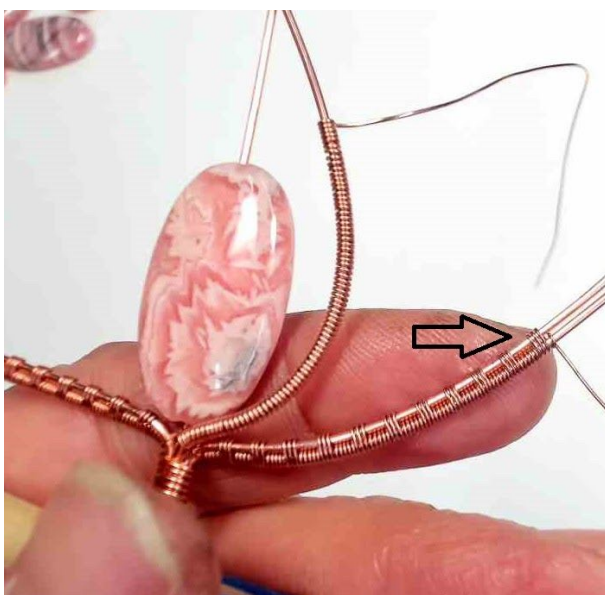


And then check the length again.



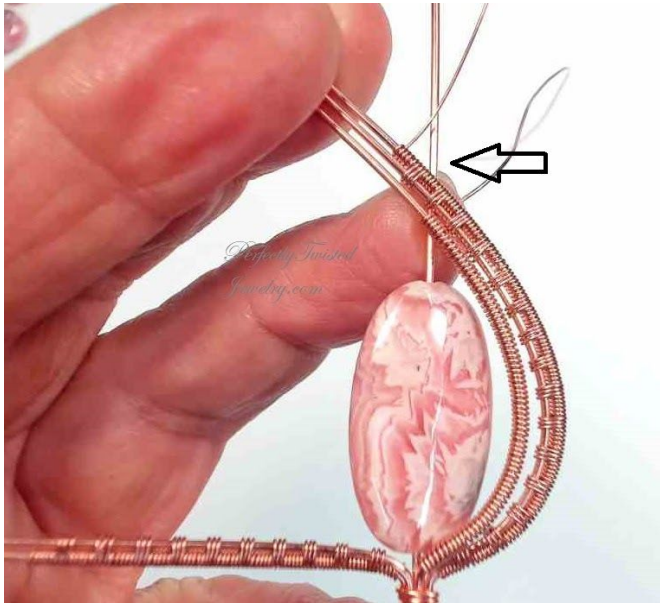
Take the wrapped arm on the same side and create a gentle bend following the curve of the coiled wire.

Check the weave length and add weave if needed.



Gently straighten the weaved arm, trying not to make drastic bends.

Use the remaining length of 28g already attached, to add weaved segments if needed.



Gently curve the wires around the side of the bead.

The weave should reach the center wire.

The curved wires should be gentle and elegant along the side of the bead.

The wires curve and pass in FRONT of the center wire.

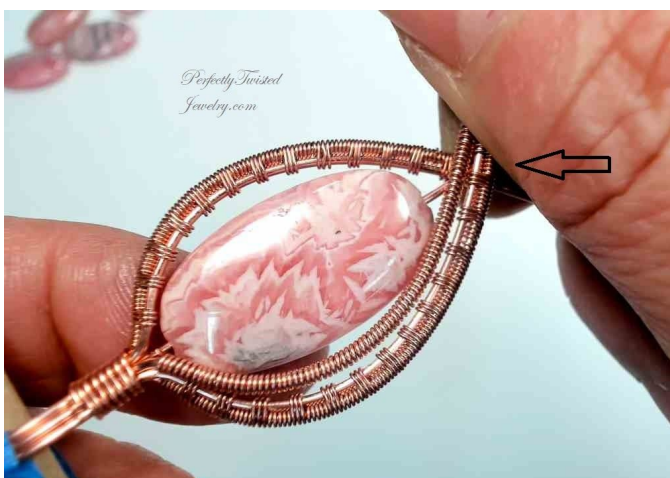
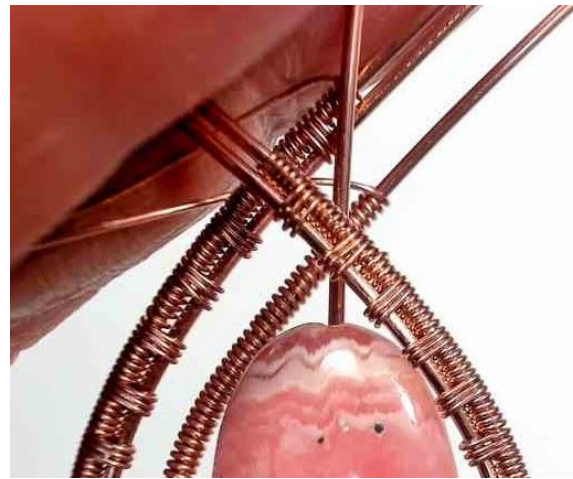
Turn the pendant over and gently curve up the weaved arm on the other side.

The weave should reach the center wire. Add if needed.



This frame arm, should pass in front of the center wire if you turned your pendant over. ;)

One set of weaved wires, should be to either side of the center wire.

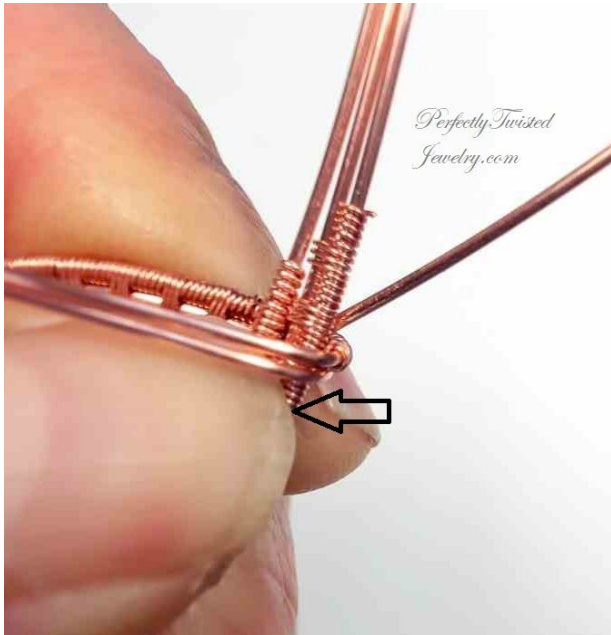


Shape the wires elegantly around the bead wire holding the bottom intersection of wires securely.

The gaps between the wires and the bead should be attractive, not too much, not too little.

The curves should be neat and elegant.

In the next step, we will lock the bead into place. Read ahead.



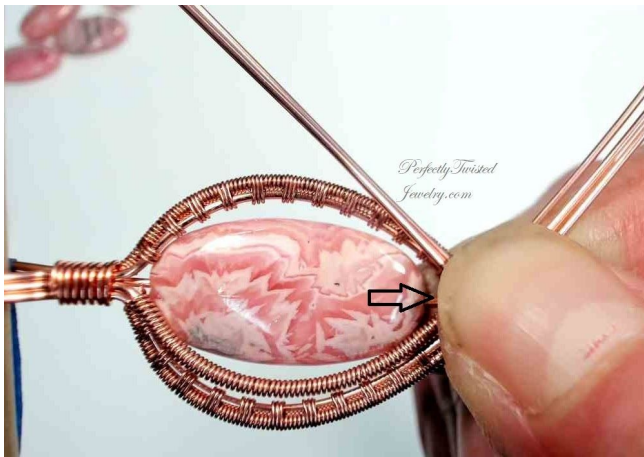
Step 4: Lock in the Bead and Begin Design

Hold the pendant so that the 3 wire arm is on top.

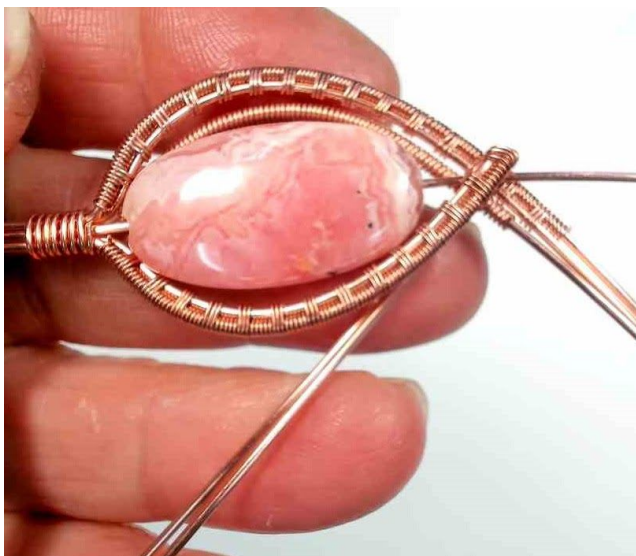
Holding the bottom intersection tightly to keep the shape of your wires, put your thumb on the very bottom where they cross...

Give pressure there with your thumb and with your other hand, bend the wires, pushing them up and over, close to the intersection to get a tight bend.

Make a sharp 'backbend' in the bottom two wires together, bringing them up and back over themselves.

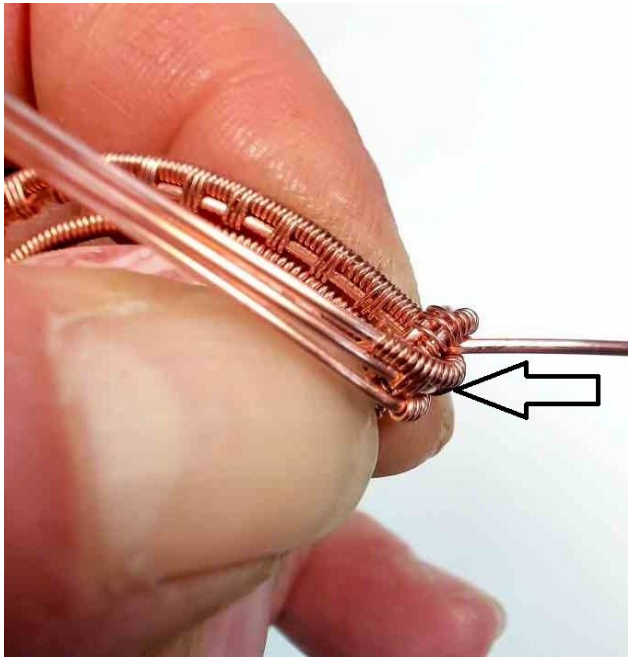


Pinch the bottom bend tightly.



Turn the pendant over.

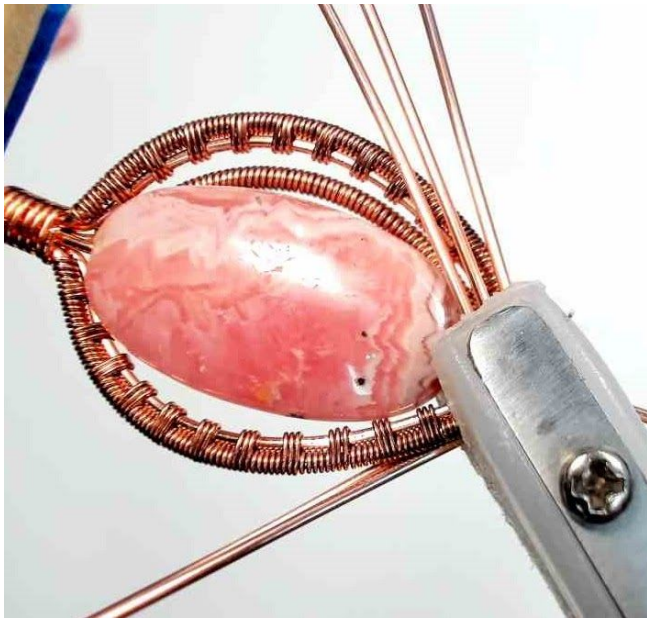
Make sure the center wire is still straight and aligned all the way down the bead. Make sure the bale is still in balance to the top of the pendant and not leaning to one side or the other.



Holding the bottom intersection tightly to keep the shape of your wires, put your thumb on the very bottom where they cross...

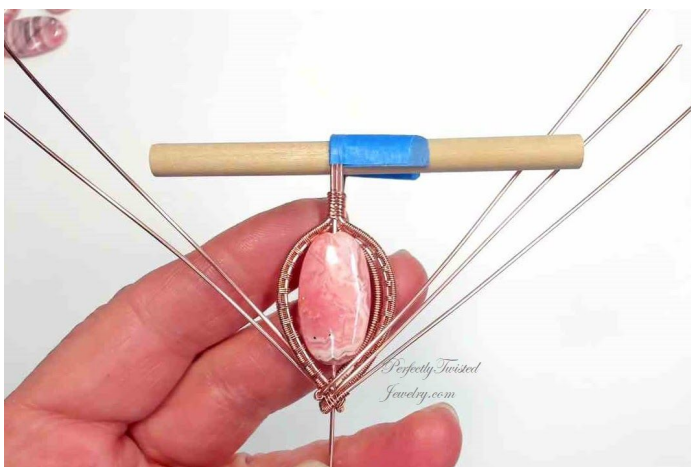
Give pressure there with your thumb and with your other hand, bend the wires, pushing them up and over, close to the intersection to get a tight bend.

Make a sharp 'backbend' in the bottom 3 wires together, bringing them up and back over themselves.



Use your fingers or nylon jaw pliers to gently press all the wires tight and flat.

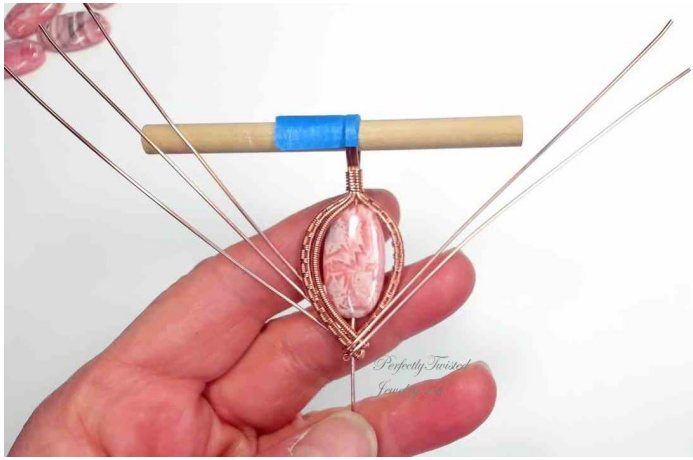
Use gentle pressure and don't take the wires out of shape.



Your pendant frame is coming along!! Almost done!

This is what you should have. Use your fingers to gently straighten out frame wires if needed.

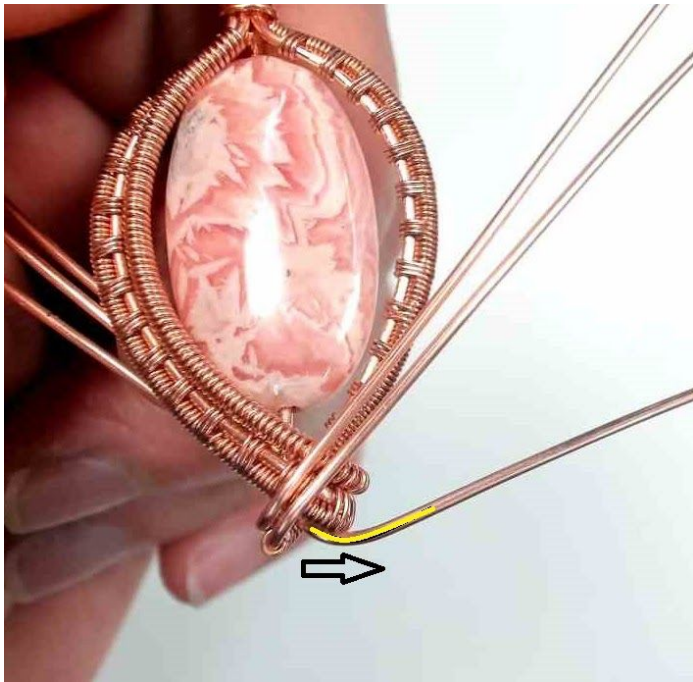
One side has 3 bare frame wires.



The other side has 2 bare frame wires.

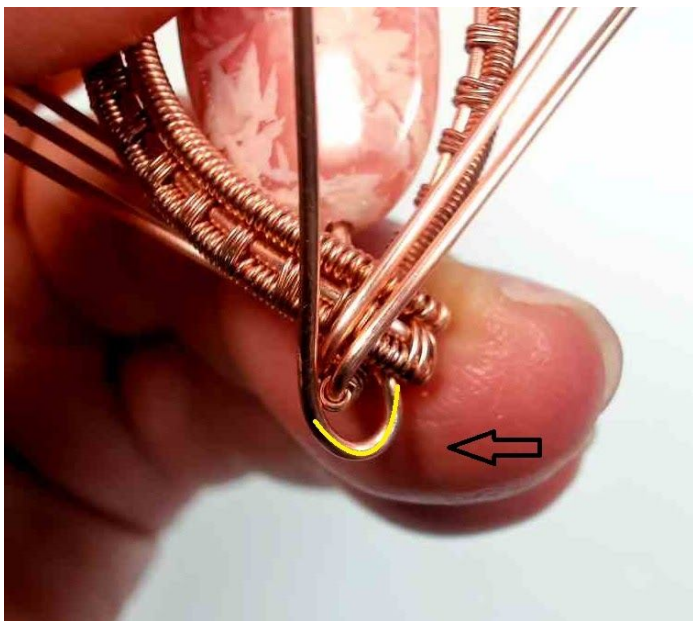
You can use flush cutters and trim away all remaining ends of 28g weaving wire.

Turn the pendant so that the side with 2 bare frame wires is facing you.

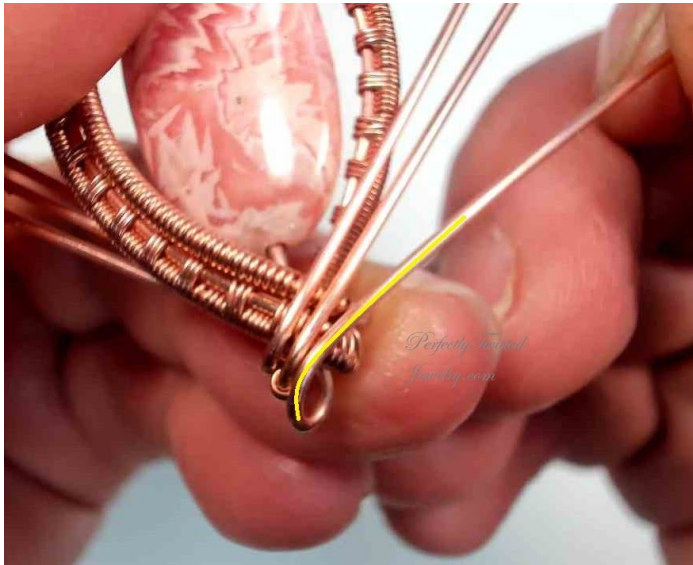


Working the center wire, which comes from the bead through the bottom of the pendant...

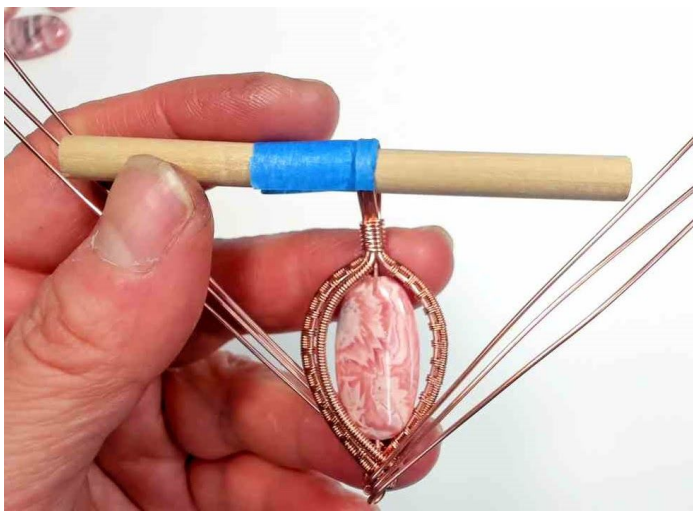
Make a sharp bend to the right.



Then make a sharp turn back to the left, curving the wire up and over....



... and around to align with the other 2 bare frame wires.



Now there are 3 bare frame wires on both sides of the pendant.

Step 5 - Design

Great place to take a break!

Stretch your neck up, look out from your hands and stretch your eyes.

Smile! You're doing great!

Get fresh and then start Part 2!!

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