

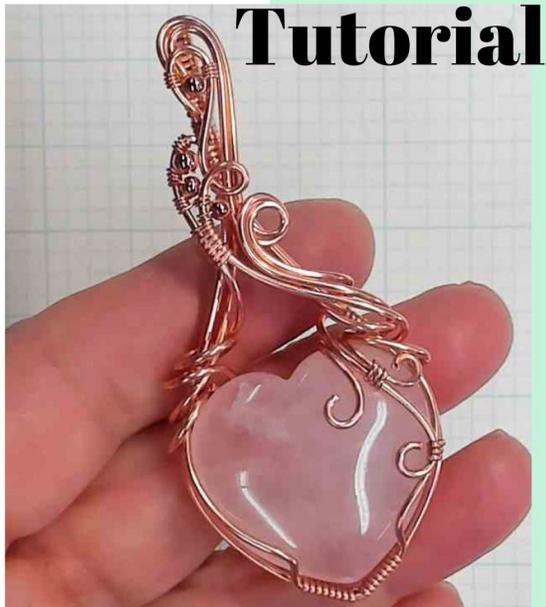


Perfectly Twisted Jewelry Tutorial

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KEY TO MY HEART

Perfectly Twisted Jewelry

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Materials:

18 gauge, round, dead soft wires, 14 inches each.

3 feet of 18 gauge, half round, dead soft wire.

1 heart stone, 30mm x 30mm approximately.

Tools:

Flush cutter

Round nose pliers

Chain link pliers

Dowel

Nylon Jaw

Blue Painter's Tape



To Begin:

Cut 3 pieces of 18g round, dead soft wires, 14 inches each for a 1 ¼ inch by 1 ¼ inch stone. Cut more length for comfort if your stone is slightly larger.

Cut 4 pieces of 18g half round wire, 5 inches each.

Use the nylon jaw pliers or your fingers to straighten the wires.

This file reads left to right.

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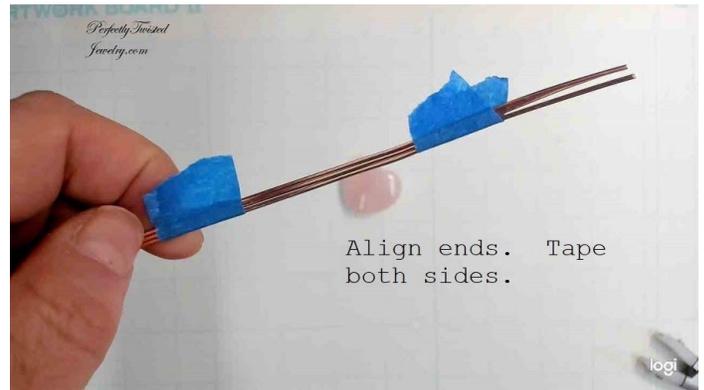
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Prepare cut wires by straightening.

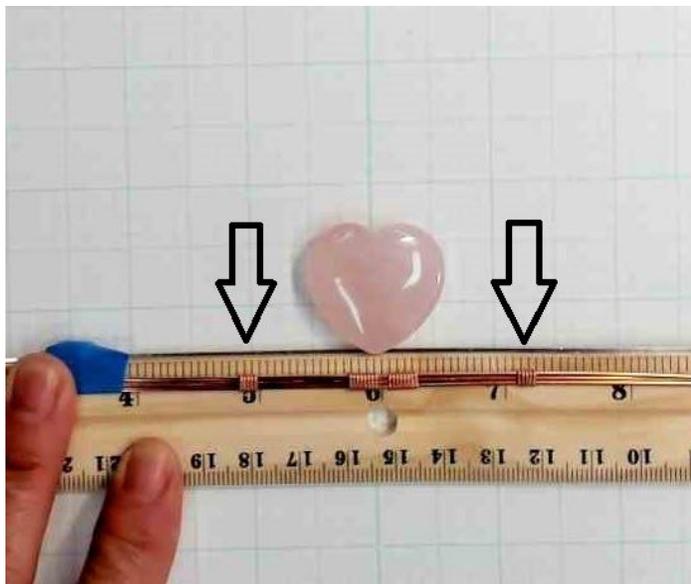
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Align ends. Tape both sides.

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Keep the wires flat, beside each other. Tape both ends of the wires with 2 pieces for stability. Do not let the wires cross. Tape them flat at both ends. Keep the center 6 to 8 inches clear of tape.



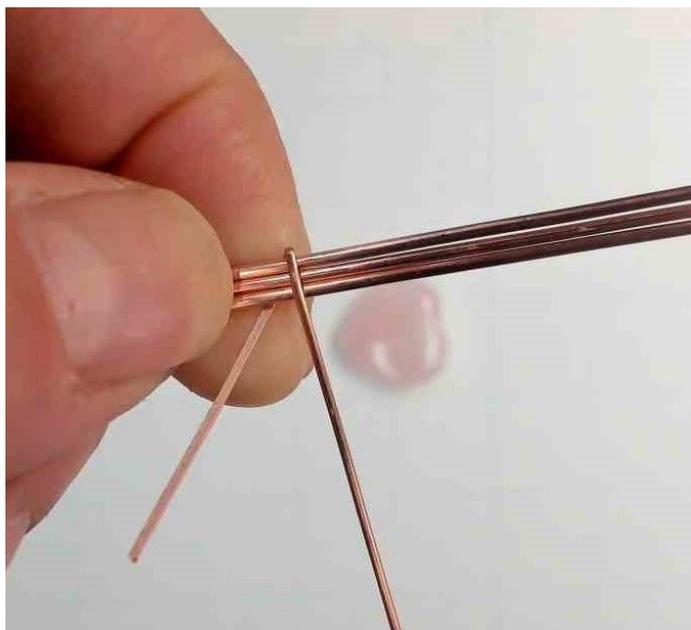
A Peak Ahead...

The next step will guide you through making banding wraps around the 3 round wires.

You will use 18g half round wire.

The first two bands will be at the center of the 3 round wires.

The following two bands will be approximately 1 inch to each side of the first two.



Step 1

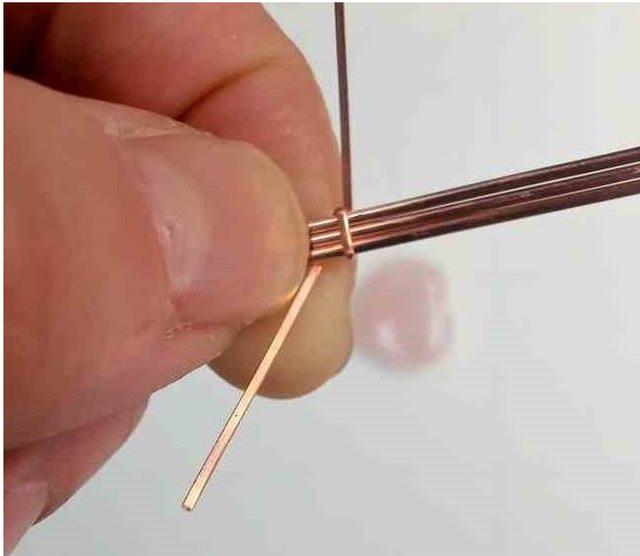
Cut / Use 5 inches of 18g half round wire.

Start wrapping at the center of the 3 round wires.

Hold the flat side facing away from you and bend the upper 1 inch forward and down, making a small 'hook'.

Hold onto the 1 inch end and wrap with the longer end.

Make sure the flat side of the half round is against the 3 round wires.



Use an under / over-hand motion to make 7 neat, tight wraps.

Keep the flat side of the half round wire against the 3 round wires.

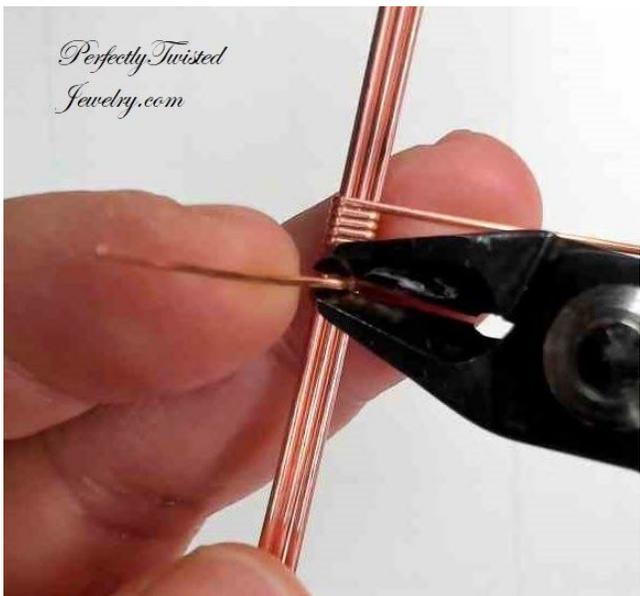
Do not let the half round wire 'twist' while wrapping.



Keep your wraps straight and evenly next to the previous wrap. Do not overlap the previous wrap.

Use flat nose pliers or nylon jaw pliers to gently tap the wraps down against the 3 round wires.

End the wraps on the same side of the 3 round wires.



Use flush cutters to trim away the extra wire ends.

Make the cuts clean and neat and make sure the cuts are all on the same side of the 3 round wires.



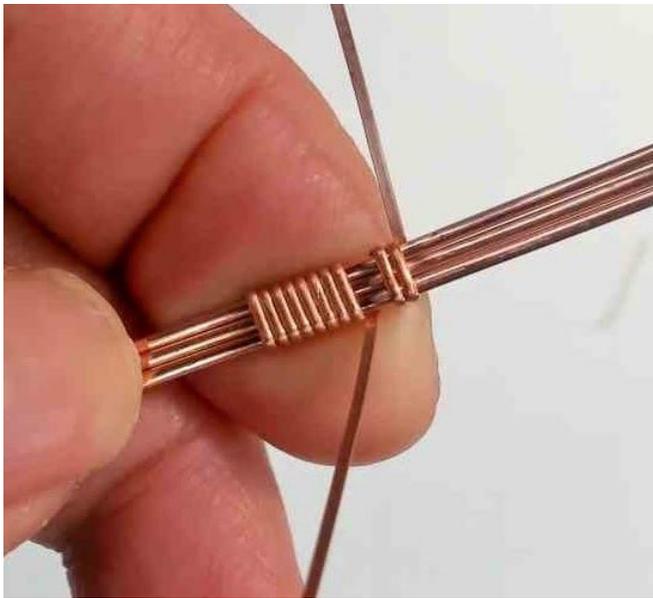
The cuts should end between the two center wires. Not too short to fall off the 'back side' and not too long to protrude off the opposite side.

Use flat nose or chain link pliers to gently tap the cut ends neatly against the 3 round wires.

Cut / Use a fresh piece of 18g half round wire, 5 inches long.

Repeat the previous instruction to create a second set of banding wraps....

Hold the flat side of the half round wire, facing away from you and bend the upper 1 inch forward and down, making a small 'hook'.

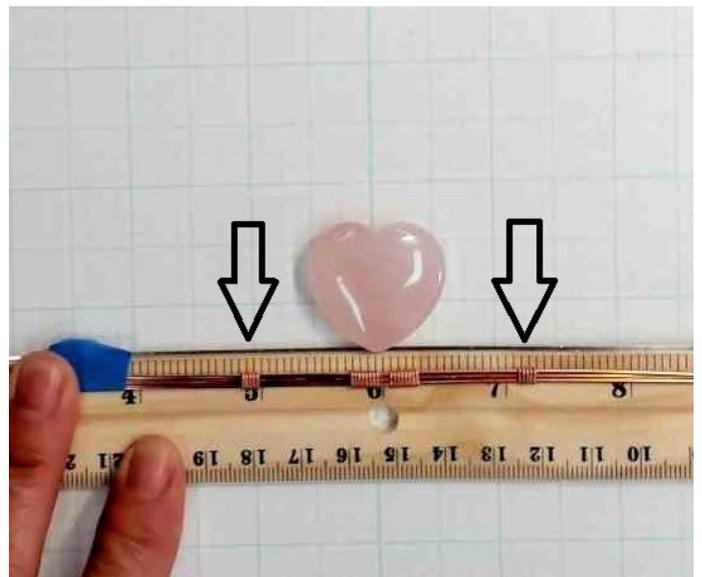
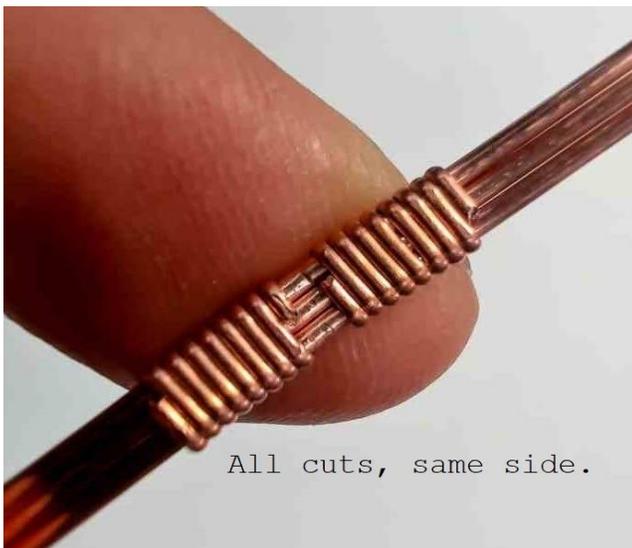


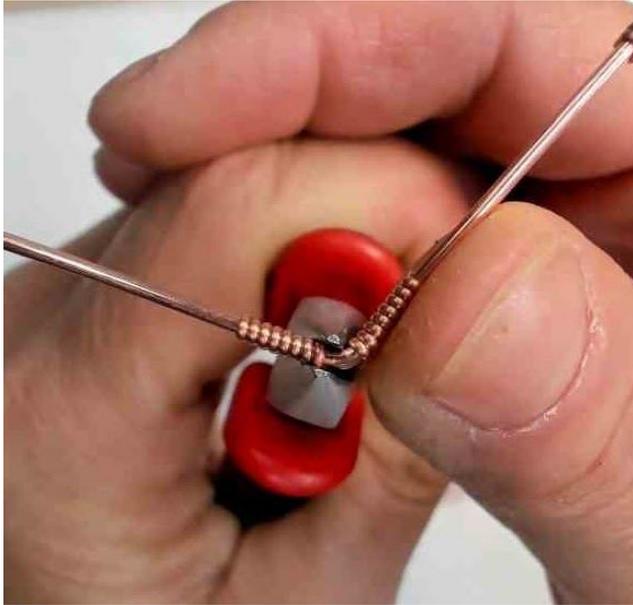
Hold onto the 1 inch end and wrap with the longer end.

Make sure the flat side of the half round wire is against the 3 round wires. Wrap another 7 times. Make sure all your cuts end on the same side of the 3 round wires.

Repeat these steps to create two more wrapped bands, 1 inch out from these first two.

You will have four banded sections total, two at the center of the round wires under the heart point and one to each side.



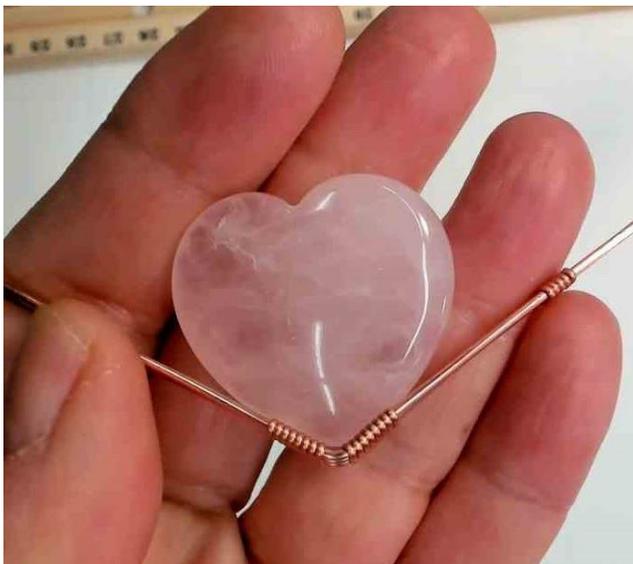


Step 2

Use flat nose or chain link pliers and grab the stack of wires, at the center edge of the center band of wraps.

Use your thumb to gently 'push' the 3 round wires into a slight 'V' shape.

Make sure that this angle is appropriate for the point of your heart stone.



Bend the wires, little at a time and check the angle against your heart stone.

Peak Ahead...

The next images will guide you through bending the 3 wire frame, around your heart stone.

Because this heart stone (and most) are 'tumbled', having 2 curved and polished sides and do not have a flat 'backside', it's hard to do this on the table.

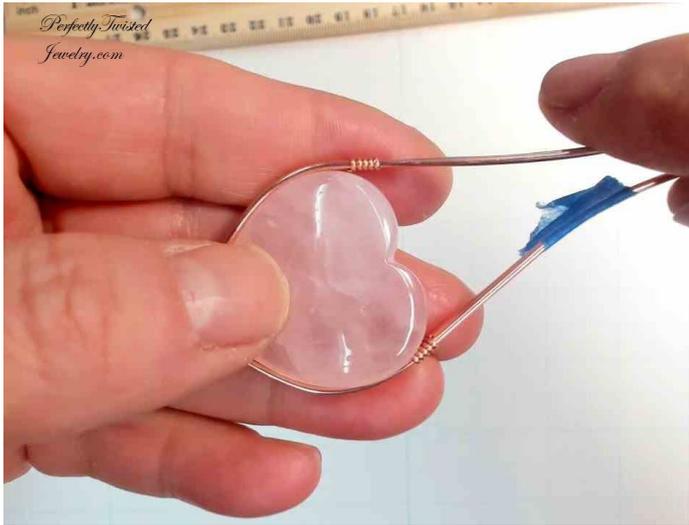
So these images show the bend while holding onto the stone. Look ahead to get a good idea of where we're going with the wire.



Keep the 3 wire frame against the stone, best you can. It will be a bit 'slippery'.

Hold the point of the heart stone, steady into the tip of the 3 wire frame.

Use your other hand to gently bend the two wire sides together and shape the wires around the stone.



Keep the curve above the stone gentle and 'press' the wire sides together, moving from the ends, toward the stone.

The stone is still loose.

Gently set it down and prepare to make wire tabs...



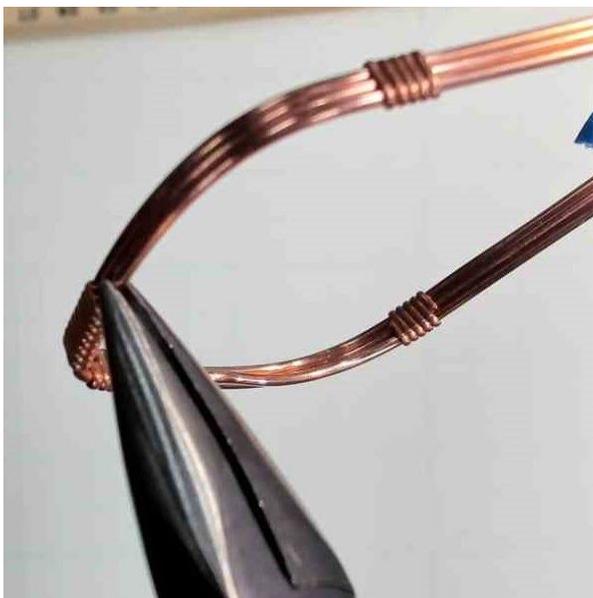
Step 3

Use chain link pliers and firmly grab the outer, most wire, approximately ¼ inch from the edge of the lower wrapped bands.

Make a sharp turn 'inward', creating a wire 'tab'.

Repeat this on the opposite wire, on the other side of the frame.

Grab the outer most wire, approximately ¼ inch from the edge of the lower wrapped bands.



Make a sharp turn 'inward', creating a wire tab.

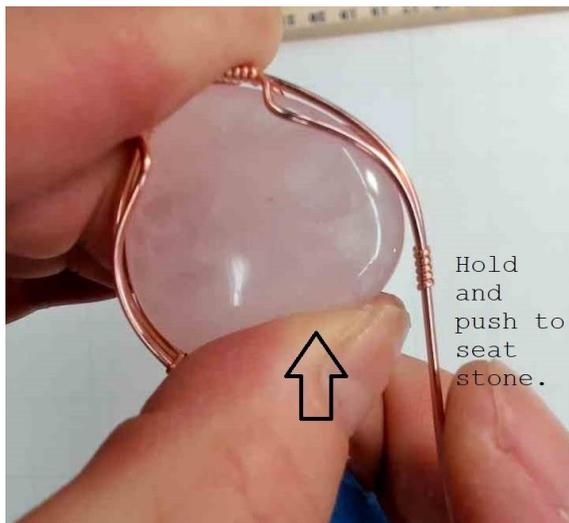
Try to keep both wire tabs as even as possible.



Turn the pendant frame over and repeat making tabs on both sides of the pendant frame.



Because your heart stone is not 'flat', you will need to make some room in the wires for the stone. Use your fingers and gently spread out the wire tabs.



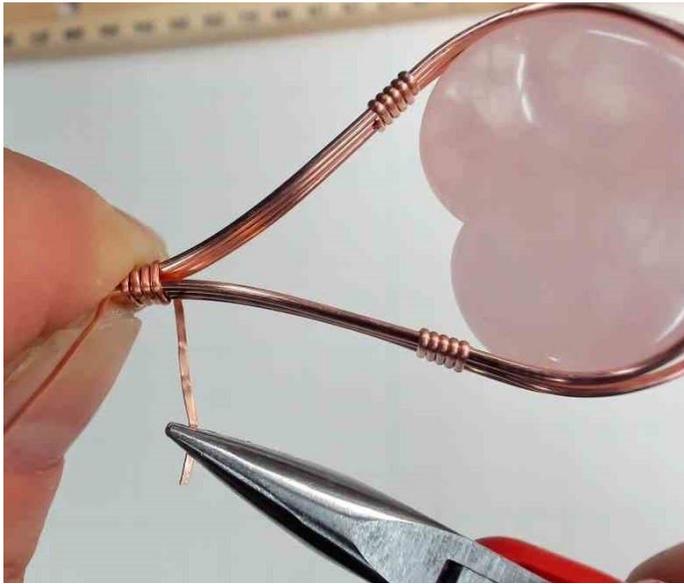
Step 4

Cut a fresh piece of 18g half round wire, 12 inches long. Hold the flat side away from you and bend the upper 2 inches forward and down, making a short 'hook'. Set this aside for use in a few minutes.

Seat your heart stone carefully between the wire tabs. Work carefully as the stone can still fall out.

Use your free hand to press the wire tabs evenly into the body of the stone. Hold the stone firmly in place and work the wire ends together, taking hold of them approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to 1 inch above the stone.

Take the prepared half round wire. Hook the short end over the neck of the pendant...



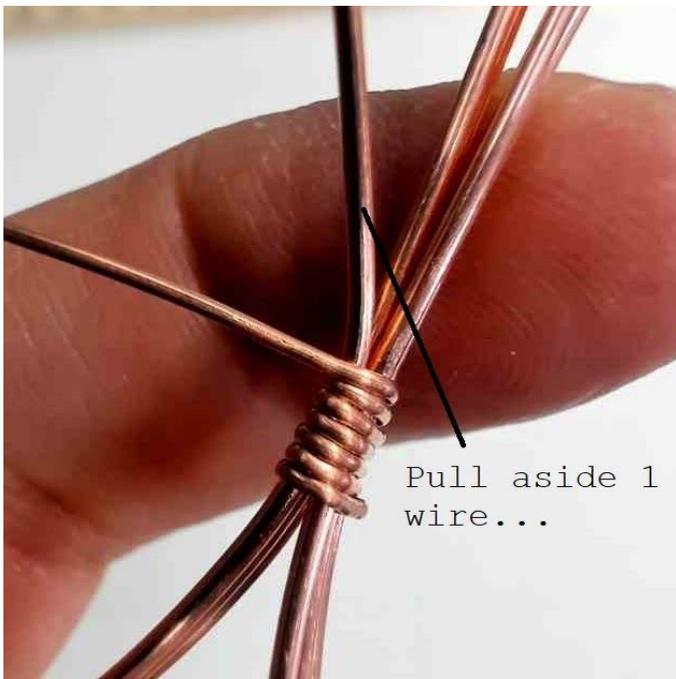
Use the SHORT end of the half round to make 5 to 7 tight wraps, moving TOWARD the stone. As you wrap into the wider spaces in the wire, it might be easier to use pliers to help wrap the final turns.

Use the chain link pliers to gently tap the wraps together as you go... this will also bring the round wire sides closer together.

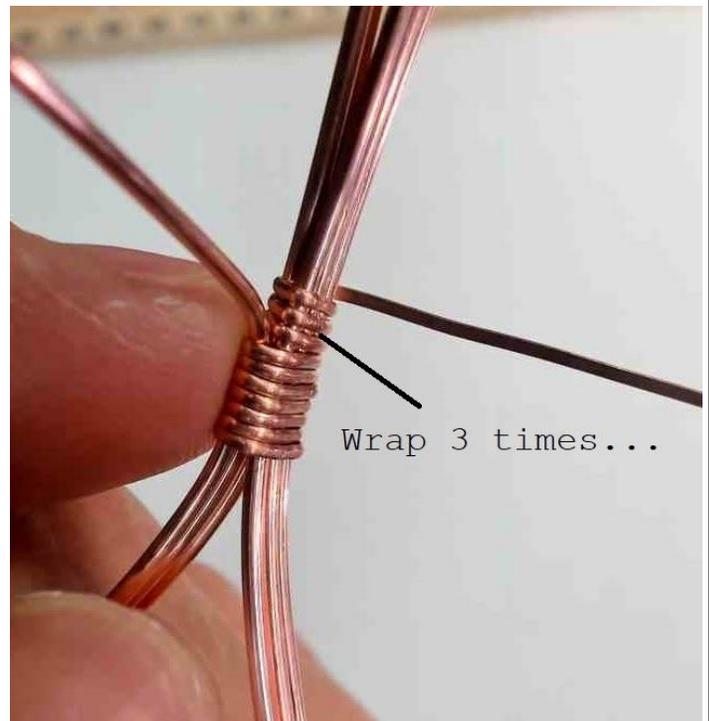
After 5 to 7 wraps, cut the SHORT wire end away only. Tap the cut end into the round wire sides.

Do not cut away the longer portion of the half round wire. You will continue to use it in the next steps.

Remove all the tape from the wires.



Pull aside 1 wire...



Wrap 3 times...

Pull aside 1 round wire from the 'front' of the pendant....

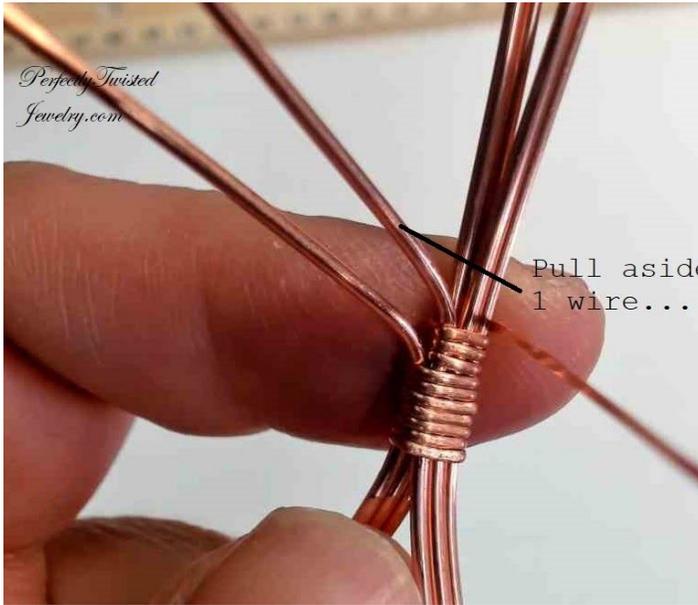
Use the long end of the half round wire to wrap up the neck, moving away from the stone.

... make 3 tight wraps moving up the round wires and away from the stone....

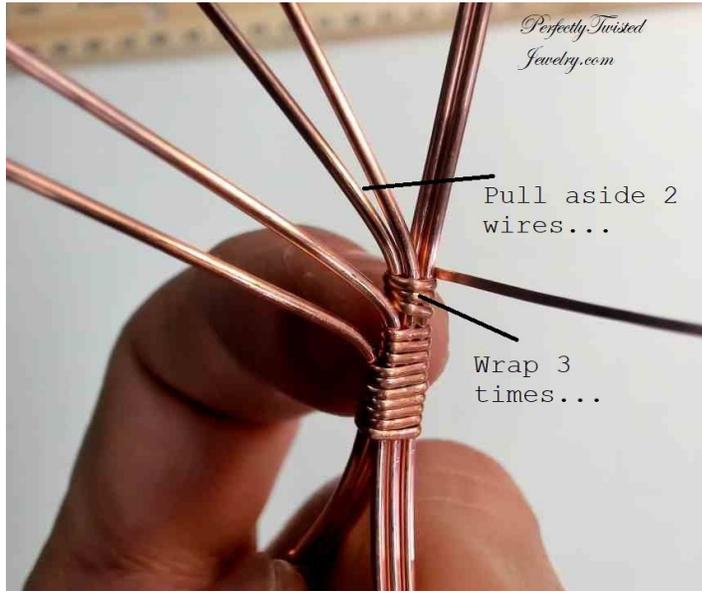
Make sure you keep the flat side of the half round wire against the round wires, the whole way up...

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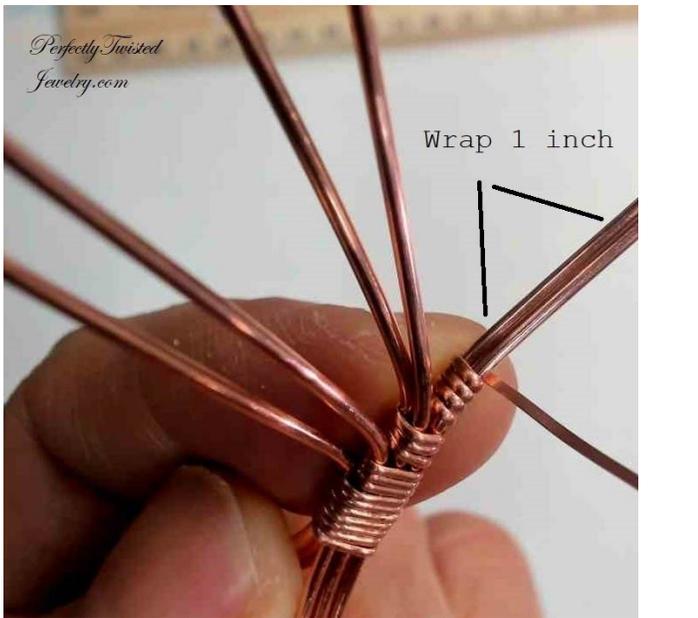
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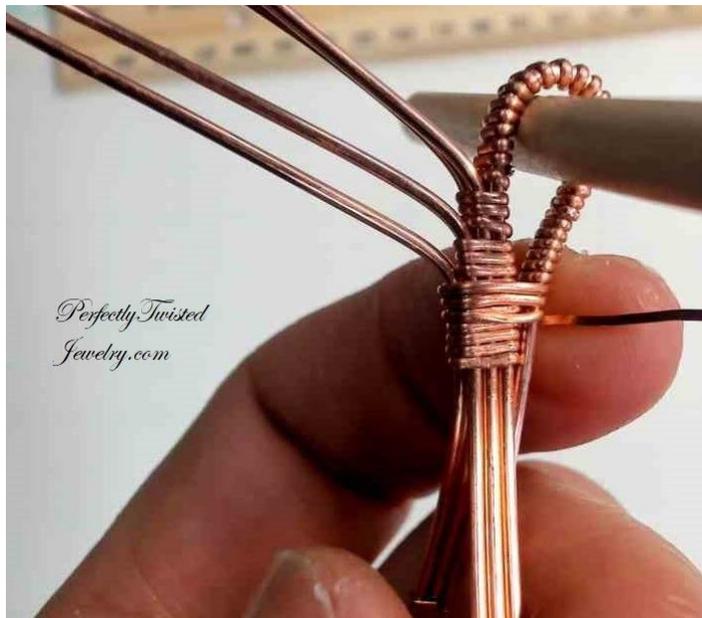
... pull aside another single round wire....



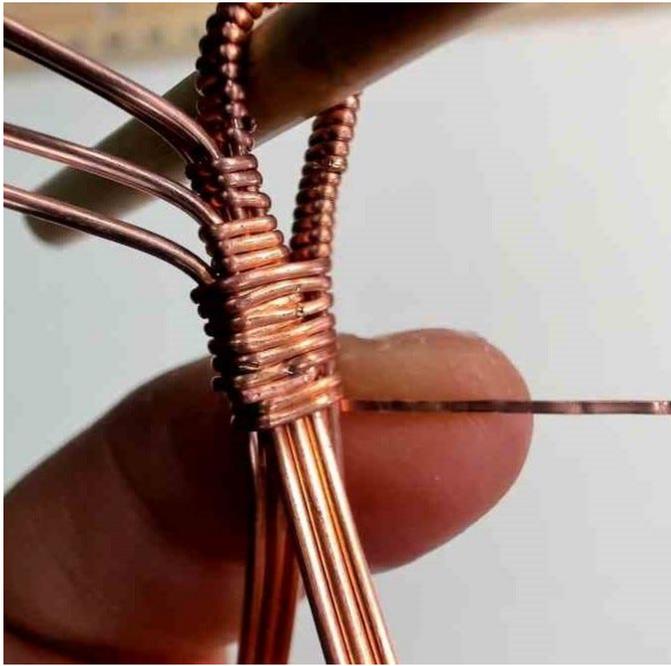
...make 3 more wraps moving up the wires, then pull aside 2 round wires....



... continue to wrap up the remaining round wires, for 1 inch.... **Do not cut away the remaining half round wire yet.**



Use a pencil, pen or round dowel and bend the wrapped wires, bringing the wire ends down the back side of the pendant.

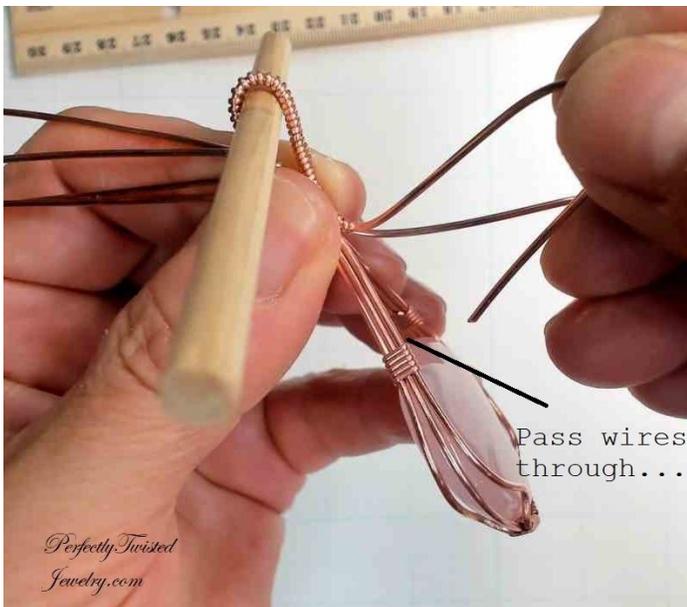


Use the remaining length of half round and wrap all the way around the neck to secure the bale.

Continue wrapping until you reach the bottom of the bale neck. End the half round wire at the back of the pendant.



Wrap the half round end tightly around the 2 round wires traveling down the back of the pendant. Make a close cut and use your chain link plier to tuck the cut end.



Step 5

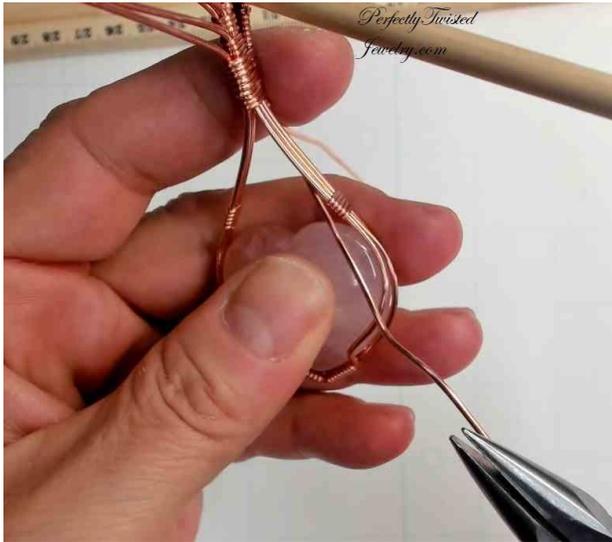
You can work with the dowel in place or removed if you're comfortable.

Pass the two wires running down the back of the pendant, through the opening above the stone and to the front of the pendant.

Pull the wires out long, making a soft curve in the center, then push the end through the opening...

Use pliers to help you pull the wires through to the front if needed. Align one wire to the right of the pendant front and one to the left.

Straighten and smooth out the wires with your fingers.



Use your thumb and put gentle pressure against the wire... turn the end around the banded sides and loop back through the opening above the stone.

Make 1 ½ turns around the shoulder of the stone, ending the wire at the back of the pendant.



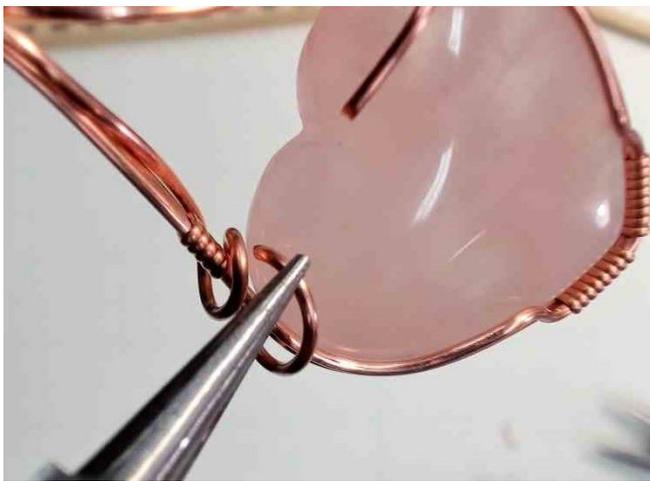
Repeat this with the opposite wire, making your loops around the shoulder, as even as possible with the opposite side.



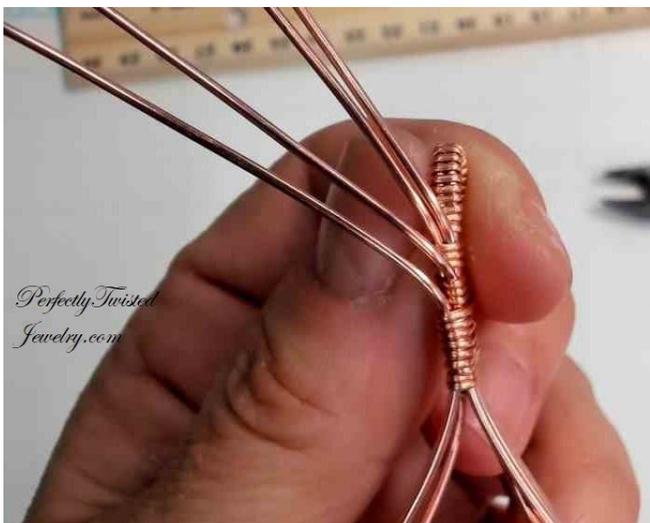
End the wire at the back of the pendant.

Look at the loops from 'above' the stone and work them even with your hands.

Use flush cutters and trim the wire ends to ½ inch each.



Use round nose pliers, grab the end of the wire and turn the cut end, elegantly under the previous shoulder coil. Do this to both sides making them as even as possible.



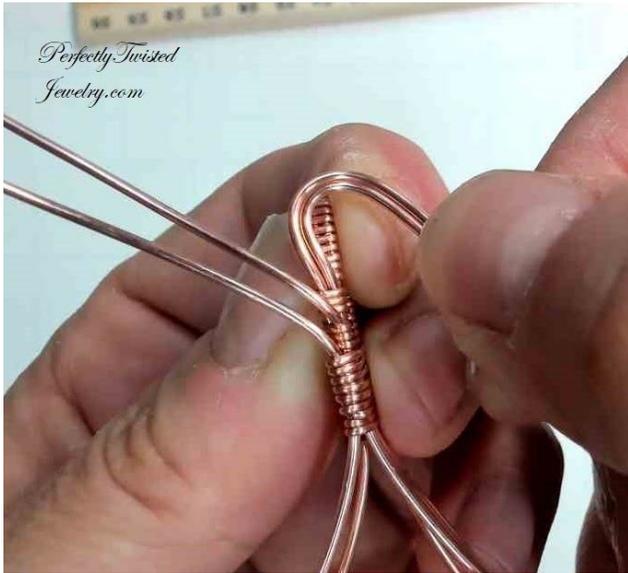
Step 6

Use your fingers to straighten and align the loose wires at the bale as shown in the image.

Peak Ahead...

You are about to make decorative elements in front of the bale, above the stone.

Read ahead to see where we're going with each of these wires before you handle them.



Using the two wires at the top of the pendant... work them together into an open loop, crossing in front of the bale. Keep the wires neat and aligned while working, then bring the ends gently across the pendant to the opposite side.

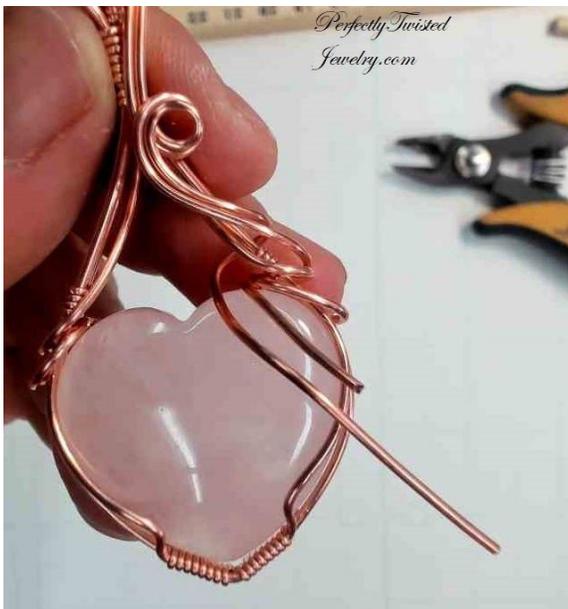
Use your thumb and hold the two wires at the center of the pendant, then use your other hand to create a soft bend in the wires, back across the pendant to the opposite side...

Continue to curve the two wires up and over themselves, then back down, creating a tight decorative loop at the center of the pendant.





Put your thumb on the decorative loops and bring the wire ends gracefully around the banded side wires, then back through the opening and back to the front of the pendant.



Cut the wires so that the 'outside wire' is a bit shorter and the more inside wire is longer.

Use your fingers and move the wires onto the center face of the stone.



Use round nose pliers, grab the end of the short wire and make a tight turn, moving upward and inward to create a small cute spiral.



Hold the longer wire with your thumb and turn the end of the wire to create a gentle curve moving with the shape of the heart.

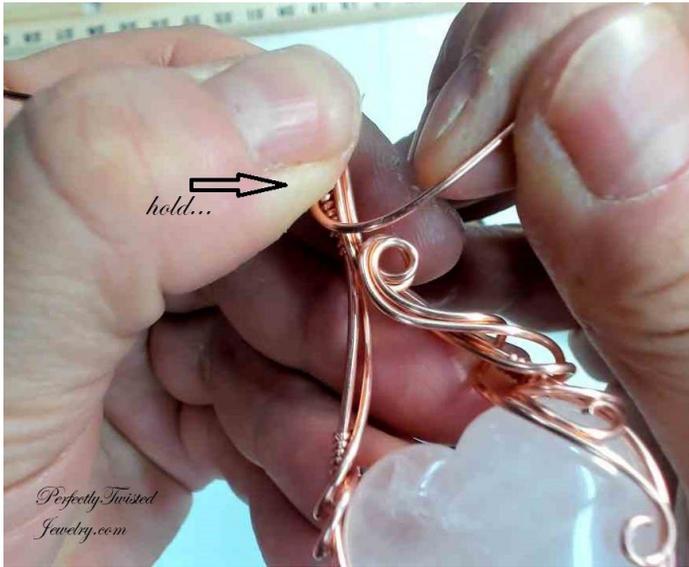
Use round nose pliers, grab the wire end and make a sharp upward turn to create a small spiral which curves in the opposite direction as the first one.

Use your fingers to manipulate the spirals elegantly into place if needed.



Use the second single wire to make a decorative turn across the front of the bale, following the curve in the first wires and create another decorative loop.





Use your thumb, hold the wire in place just above the first decorative loop...

... turn the wire end up and over itself to create a small decorative loop.



Bring the wire down, across the pendant, following the line of the first two decorative wires.

Use your thumb, hold the wire steady at the front of the pendant. Bend the wire end around the banded side wires to the back of the pendant, then back around to the front.



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Lay the wire elegantly near the other decorative spirals, cut the wire to approximately 1/2 inch.

Use round nose pliers, grab the wire end and make a decorative open loop.

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Use the last decorative wire... make a long curve in the wire and bring it across the front of the pendant.

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Make a long gentle curve in the wire and bring the end through the opening above the stone, passing the wire to the back side of the pendant.

Make sure the curves are elegant and hold the wire in place at the back of the pendant....



... loop the wire around the banded sides once or twice, to create elegant coils.

End the wire at the back of the pendant. Use your fingers to shape and lay the coils elegantly if needed.



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Use flush cutters and trim the wire to approximately 1/2 inch. Use round nose pliers to turn the cut end and tuck it under the previous coil.



From this point, the pendant can be done if you desire. Otherwise, you can continue and use additional wires and beads to embellish the design.

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Use half round wires to add texture to your wires.

Cut 5 inches of 18g or smaller half round wire. Make a small hook at one end.

Hook around two decorative wires and make 3 to 5 wrapped bands.



Trim away the extra wire lengths and leave just 2 or 3mm ends.

Use chain link pliers, bend the tiny cut end around to the backside of the wires and tap tight.

Do this in a few places to add texture and also to secure any long lengths such as longer spirals.





Use 28g or 26g small round wire to add accent beads or gemstones to your design!

Wear on your favorite copper chain, leather rope or beautiful pink ribbon! The bale is wide enough that you could also probably wear this on a strand of favorite beads!

Enjoy! Thank you for your continued support! I am a small business / artist / teacher and appreciate your business very much.



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