

1406-3

Brenda Schweder demonstrates how to rivet fancy crystal stones to a bracelet.

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<http://youtu.be/m5rPXXRKULU>

Riveting: Leather Tiled Bracelet with Steel Connectors and Closure



Materials needed

- Swarovski innovation Article 53000, gunmetal, 40-50, Black Diamond (086)
- 16 gauge steel wire (big box hardware stores, sold as rebar tie wire)
- Leather (8.5" x 11" x 1 mm thick"), black (Jo-Ann, Michael's)

Tools

- White dressmakers chalk
- Metal-edged ruler
- Large scissors or craft knife
- Rivet fly press with coordinating inserts and vacuum pump
- Heavy duty cutters
- Chain nose or flat nose pliers
- Round nose pliers
- Bench block or anvil
- Ball peen or utility hammer
- Wire brush/steel wool (Fine, 00)
- Renaissance wax and rag

** Use pliers (and tools) dedicated to use with steel wire*

Instructions

Prepare the leather tiles

1. Measure, mark and cut four tiles 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and round-off each corner.
2. Mark-off five dots at $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch intervals $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch from each edge. Mark a fold line at the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mark.
3. Set the tiles aside.

Prepare the wire connectors

4. Cut four 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch lengths of wire and mark each center point
5. Bend a U-bend at the inch mark on either side of the center mark that leaves a 1/8-inch clearance.
6. Repeat to all four lengths.
7. Trim the overlapping wires at the center point so that the ends butt.
8. Hammer the wire shape.
9. Clean and finish each connector.

Prepare the wire closure

10. Cut one 6-inch length and one 5-inch length and mark each center point.
11. For the male end, pick up the 6-inch length and bend a tight u-bend at the center point. Form both wires, parallel, for one inch. At this point, bend right angles outward with the edge of a flat nose pliers.
12. At one inch from this bend, mark and form another u-bend to both ends leaving a 1/8-inch clearance.
13. Trim the overlapping wires at the center point so that the ends butt.
14. For the female end, bend a short bump-out at the center point using the edges of a flat nose pliers and continue to shape the angles as in Steps 11 and 12.
15. Trim the excess wire to both, and hammer and finish the closure components.
16. Bend a U-bend to the male closure end to form a hook.

Assemble the bracelet

17. Turn on the fly press vacuum pump and place one rivet back in the bottom jaw.
18. Insert the short edge of one leather tile through one connector and fold that edge over back to back at the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mark.
19. Insert the crystal rivet, crystal first into the top jaw.
20. Position the center dot on the folded leather component, face-up, directly over the rivet back on the bottom jaw.
21. Turn the handle counter clock-wise until the rivet is through the leather layers and the handle feels tight.

(Check the alignment as the top jaw lowers and the proximity to any adjacent rivets as they can mar/crack.)

Check the rivet and carefully re-press if the finished rivet sits too high.

22. Repeat steps 16-18 to complete this row of crystals.

23. Insert the short edge of a second tile to through the other side of the connector and repeat steps 16-19, connecting all four tiles together.

Add the closure halves to each end by repeating steps 16-19 as well.

Guest:



Brenda Schweder