

Starlight Frames
Wire & Resin by Kerry Bogert



Overview -

Grab an old book and preserve some of its pages when creating unique wire and resin components that can be used as danglers, headpins, and more. Author Kerry Bogert, shows us how to create fun wire frames that feature resin coated papers. To learn more about what you've seen here visit www.kabsconcepts.com and check out Kerry's new book, *Rustic Wrappings*.

Tools -

- chain nose pliers
- round nose pliers
- wire cutters
- chasing hammer
- bench block
- resin
- sponge
- measuring cup and stir stick
- plastic trash bag
- scissors or craft knife

Materials -

- 18g wire
- old book pages or color tissue paper

Steps -

- 1) Using a 10" piece of 18g wire, create a wire shape. To make 2 of the same shape, form both pieces at the same time. Start approximately 3" from one end of the wire and use chain nose pliers to create sharp points if making star or angular shapes.
Tip – There is no right or wrong shape to make! Have fun!
- 2) Next, close your frame shape with a “faux” wrapped loop. When finished, this will appear to be a wrapped loop, however, it is actually a wrapping of wire just below a simple loop. To make this, form a 90 degree bend in the longer length of wire. Grasp the wire shape with chain nose pliers just below the bend just formed. Wrap the smaller 3" tail of wire left in step 1 round the other piece of wire where you formed the 90 degree bend. Trim excess of the wrapped wire. Do NOT trim the excess long piece of wire.
- 3) With chasing hammer and bench block, flatten the frame shape. Once flattened, now is the time to oxidize your wire if looking to create an aged appearance.
Tip – Hold the shape by the long length of wire and hang the wrapped area of wire off the bench block.
- 4) Prepare your resin following the manufacturer's instructions. Be sure to wear safety gloves as resin can sometimes irritate your skin.
- 5) Working on a plastic surface (I use a clean trash bag), dip a small sponge in resin and coat each side of a small piece of paper.
- 6) Dip your wire form in the resin and remove any dripping excess liquid. Then, lay your resin paper onto the wire frame.
- 7) Allow resin to cure.
- 8) Once the resin has fully cured, use scissors or a craft knife to cut away the excess paper that over hangs the edges of the wire frame.
- 9) You can now use your wire and resin piece in a variety of ways. To create a dangle or charm, trim the long end of wire to $\frac{3}{4}$ " and use round nose pliers to form a simple loop. If using your resin frame as a headpin, you can simply string beads onto the wire and finish in your usual style.

Tips for Wire & Resin -

- Resin makes paper waterproof but it can still rip. Handle with care and your piece will be wearable for years to come.
- Make many shapes at once to create multiple wire frames to take advantage of your resin. Once mixed, resin will harden and can not be used at a later date.
- Remember, these can be used as charms or headpins or anything else you can imagine!
- Wire coated in resin will retain its finish indefinitely since the metal no longer has contact with air. Areas of wire not protected by resin will tarnish with age.
- Antique papers will take on an almost transparent quality when coated in resin. Modern papers will look wet. Tissue papers look lovely too and different colors can be layered to create new colors.