

Stranded Wire Necklace and Bracelet



You will need-

One 100g bag of mixed black glass MX051
One reel of 0.315 wire from the range JW301-334
Two Clasps - illustrated MB241
Four 4mm or 5mm jump rings to match

To Start -

Divide the beads into two piles - put approx 25 to 30 beads for the bracelet and the remainder for the necklace. Both will need a variety of sizes but make sure that the bracelet has a good proportion of larger beads.

The Necklace

a, Cut 1 x 2m of wire. Thread one of the larger necklace beads into the middle of the wire. Pick up one end of the wire and pass it through the bead a second time to wrap the wire around the outside of the bead (fig 1). Repeat with the same end of the wire three or four more times to make more straps of wire around the bead.

b, Thread a second bead onto one side of the wire and place approx 8cm from the first one. Hold this bead in place by passing this end of the wire through the bead (fig 2). Repeat to make a few more wire straps around the bead.

c, Repeat to add another seven to ten beads to the wire at intervals - use bigger beads towards the centre of the wire and small ones towards the edges. Leave at least 12cm of wire plain at either end.

fig 1

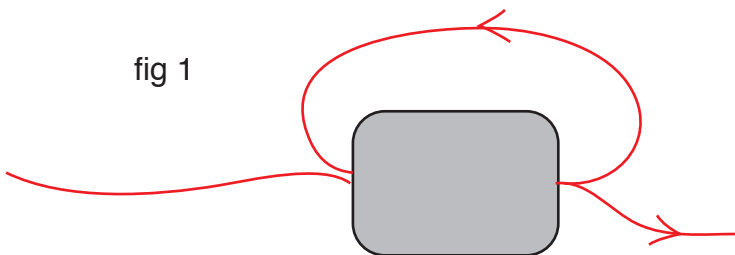
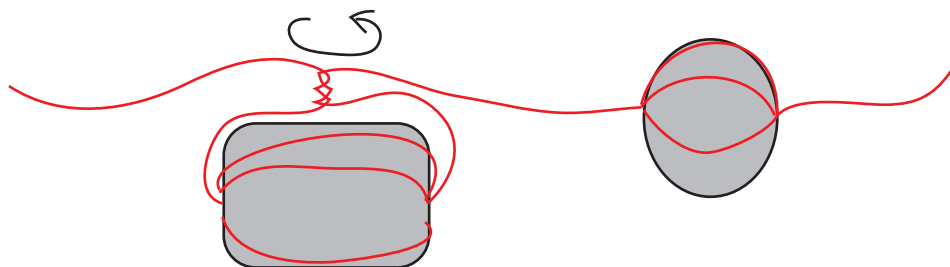


fig 2



fig 3



d, Returning to the centre bead pinch the two sides of the wire together half way along the bead and twist two or three times (fig 3) so the bead hangs below the wire length - repeat for all of the beads on the wire.
e, Repeat from (a) to make seven to nine more wire strands in a similar manner - use the larger beads towards the centre of the wires but mix a few smaller ones in as well.

e, Lay all of the strands parallel moving each one to either side until they lie against one another with an even distribution of size, shape and spacing.

Decide how long you want the necklace to be and fold all of the wires at either end over a pair of round nosed pliers (or a cocktail stick). 1cm from the first folded loop just made fold the wires back towards the end of the necklace (fig 4).



fig 4

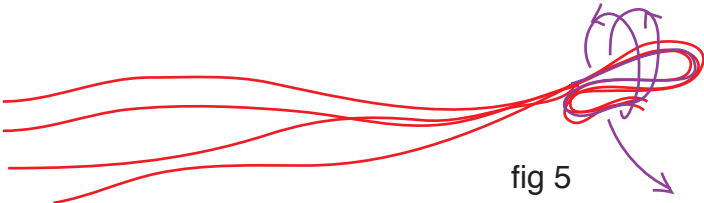


fig 5

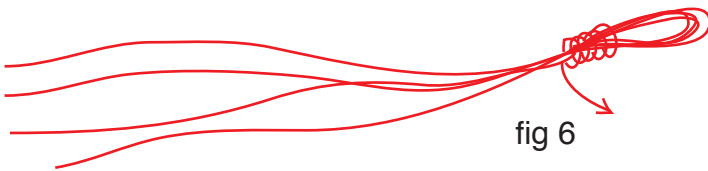


fig 6

f, Select the longest wire and trim all the remaining wires down to 5mm from the end of the necklace loop. Use the long wire remaining to bind slowly and neatly over the cut ends of the other wires (fig 5) and back towards the centre of the necklace. The bindings need to be tight up to one another and reach right down to cover the second fold in the wires made in fig 4 (fig 6). Trim the wire end very closely and push between the wire strands of the necklace to neaten. A dab of PVA glue will stop the end from coming loose and irritating the skin.

Repeat at the other end of the necklace and add the clasp using jump rings.

The bracelet is made in a similar way - following fig 1 and 2 start with 75cm wires and adding five to six large and small beads 2 - 4cm apart along the lengths - do not follow fig 3 which adds the twists to wire next to the beads - if you do this on the bracelet design you will catch the beads on everything when you wear it. Make five or six lengths and finish off as for the necklace.

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Supplies and further help are available at

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