

# DANISH LOVE KNOT

## THREE TIMES CHARM PENDANT AND EARRINGS

By Debora Mauser



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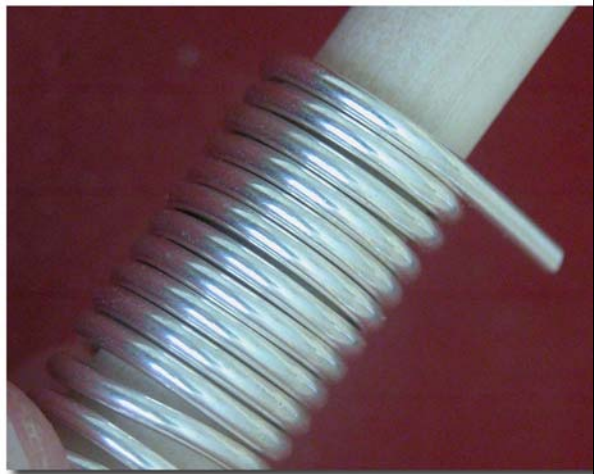
The Danish love knot design has been around for centuries and is extremely versatile. Three Times the Charm is a pendant utilizing three different gauges of wire on three mandrels. This will give you an excellent feel for the bead and its different properties. On the back page you will find a guideline for gauge and mandrels. Earrings will be made with 18 gauge wire. Once you get the hang of this technique your imagination is the only limitation! Use the knot in necklaces, bracelets and earrings! Go wild!

### Tools and Supplies

14 gauge round wire- 24 inches	9.5 mm mandrel
16 gauge round wire- 16 inches	7.5 mm mandrel
18 gauge round wire- 42 inches	6.5 mm mandrel
20 gauge round wire- 4 inches	Cutters
24 gauge round wire- 48 inches	Flat file
26 gauge round wire- 24 inches	Ruler
3 small accent beads 3-4 mm	Round nose pliers
2 straight bar beads	Chain nose pliers
1 focal drop bead	Safety Glasses
Liver of Sulfur	

## Three Times the Charm Pendant

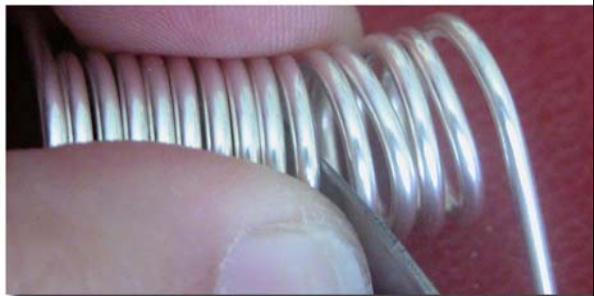
1. Using your non-dominant hand hold the wire approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the end. Use your dominant hand to wrap the wire around the mandrel at least 13 times. Make sure each wrap is right beside the previous one. If wrapping from a coil, use your cutters to cut the coil from the wire. Remember to leave 13 complete coils. If you previously cut the correct length, wrap until the end. Remember to leave 13 complete coils.



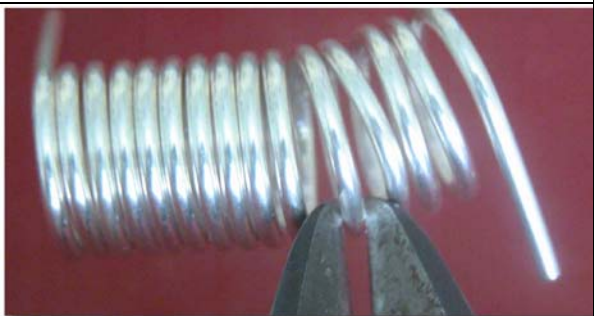
2. Slip coil off the mandrel and trim the ends.



3. Count your wraps and gently pull the coil apart (with fingers or dull knife); just enough for your cutters to squeeze into the opening. Make your cut. Leave four complete rows on the top of each coil! Every four wraps you will make a cut at the back of the coil. You should leave the ends slightly overlapping the center back.



**Tip: If you prefer, you can make one set of 4 wraps, cut and then repeat for 3 sets of 4.**



4. Repeat for one more cut, this will give you three complete 4 coil sections.



5. Once you have three coils, use your flat file and file the ends of each coil so that there are no sharp edges.



6. Make sure the ends of the coil are close to the inside coils, they should not be 'spread apart'.



7. Holding the first coil in your non- dominate hand; gently open the end of one coil.

**Tip: You can use your fingers or a dull knife blade for this. My favorite tool is a watchmaker's knife.**



8. Slide it over the 4 loops of the second coil. Slip and twist the second unit into the first coil; much like you would a key onto a key chain.

**Tip: This is a twisting and sliding motion. As you slide the second coil onto the first, twist your dominate hand back toward you.**



9. When finished the two coils will be totally interlocked.



10. Now hold the two coils so they act as one piece. Use your chain nose pliers if necessary.



11. Gently open the end of the third coil and start to wind this coil onto the other two.

You will have to spread this end out wider so it can go over both coil one and two. Don't spread the coils any farther apart than you have to. This can be a tight fit! . Make sure that the third coil is twisted onto the other two coils in one step. This is the hardest part of joining the three sections of your knot, especially in large gauges.



12. Once the coil is together, locate the ends of each coil and twist until the ends are hidden inside the coil.

**Tip: Your fingers are probably the best tool for this.**



13. Take your fingers (or your watch maker's knife) and spread each coil apart.

**Tip: I usually work my way around the coil 2 or 3 times to get the fit correct. Once you have achieved a consistent look, the bead should be firm and not twist around on itself.**



14. Now you have the technique, you can add these knots into your jewelry at anytime. Make your two more love knots, one in each gauge wire; following the above directions in steps 1 – 13.



15. Wrap your focal bead using 26 gauge wire, leaving a small closed eye pin at the top. Trim ends and set aside.

**Note: Make sure that this closed eye pin is tight!**



16. Cut a 24 inch length of 24 gauge wire.



17. Bend in half and slip focal bead on one end of wire and slide it down to rest in the bend of the wire.



18. Slip smallest love knot onto the 24 gauge wire. Make sure to feed the wire through the center of the knot.



19. The focal bead should hang just below the knot. The closed eye loop will be hidden in the Danish Love Knot.



20. Continue by threading straight bead, medium knot, straight bead and largest knot on to the 24 gauge wire.





21. To create the bail, wrap the 24 gauge wire over a mandrel.



22. Create a closed eye loop by wrapping the doubled 24 gauge around the base three times.



23. Cut 24 inches\* of 24 gauge round wire.

Tip: Half round wire can also be used but if you chose half round, you can not add the accent bead. The length will vary with the size of your bail.



24. Hold the wire in your non-dominant hand. Using your dominant hand wrap one end of the wire around the base of bezel three times.



25. Slide your accent bead onto the wire.



26. Place the accent bead on front of the bezel.



27. Wrap the wire around the bail once directly behind the accent bead. Pull tight.



28. Wrap the wire around the base of the accent bead several times. This forms a nice design element often referred to as 'nesting.' Additionally it helps to anchor the bead and hide all our bail wraps.



29. Continue wrapping the bail with the 24 gauge wire until the entire bail is covered. Each wrap should be right beside the previous wrap.



30. When complete bail is wrapped, finish off by wrapping the wire around two or three times to anchor the wire at the back of bail.



31. Trim excess wire closely on the inside of the bail. Use chain nose pliers to tighten this final wrap if necessary.

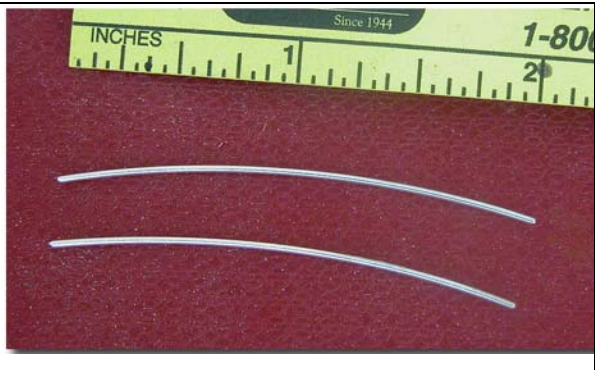


## Danish Love Knot Earrings

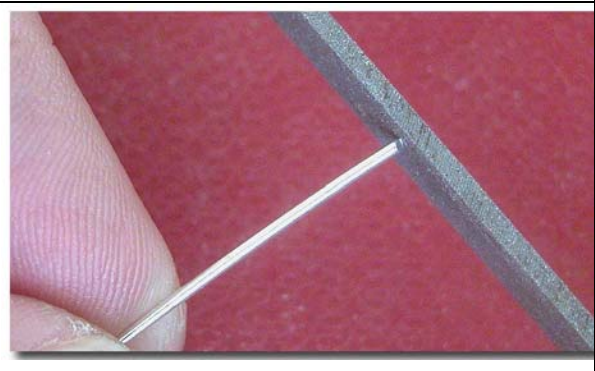
1. Make two knots following basic Danish Love Knot instructions.



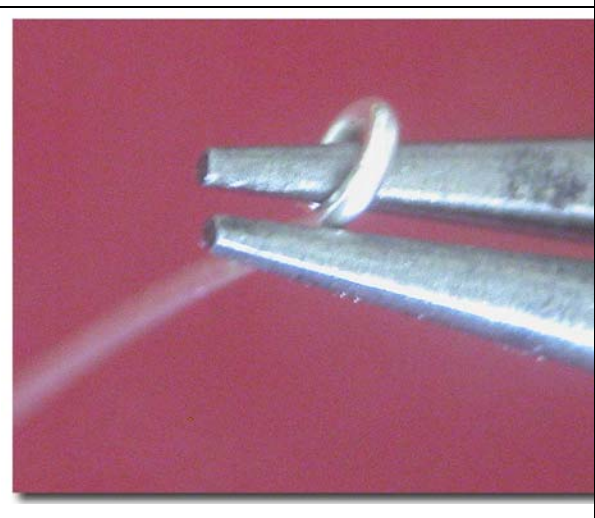
2. Cut xx inches of 20 gauge wire for earring wires.



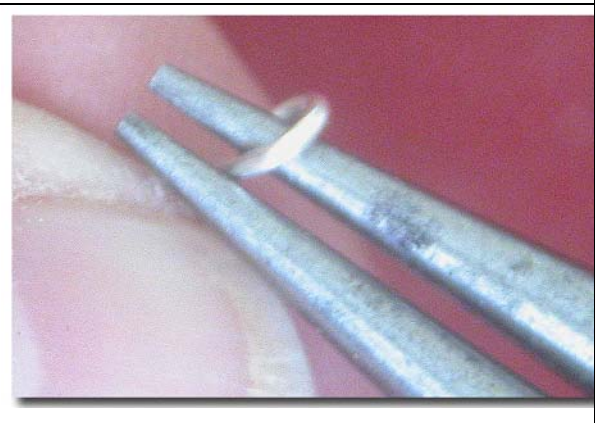
3. File both ends smooth.



4. Using the round nose pliers in your dominate hand, grasp the end of the wire about 1/4" up from the tip of the pliers. Form an open eye pin by twisting you hand away from you. Reposition the pliers if necessary to complete an entire circle.



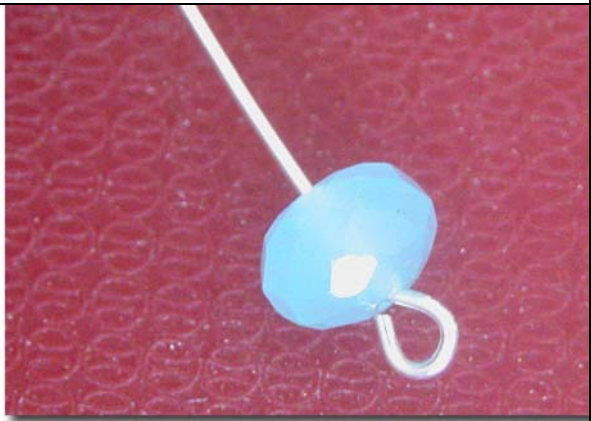
5. Holding your thumb at the point that the wire starts the circle, twist your hand 1/4 turn toward you. This will 'break the neck' of the eye pin.



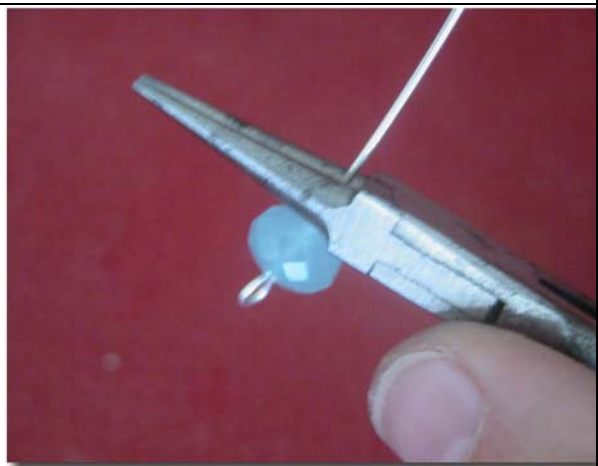
6. Your eye pin should be centered over your earring wire.



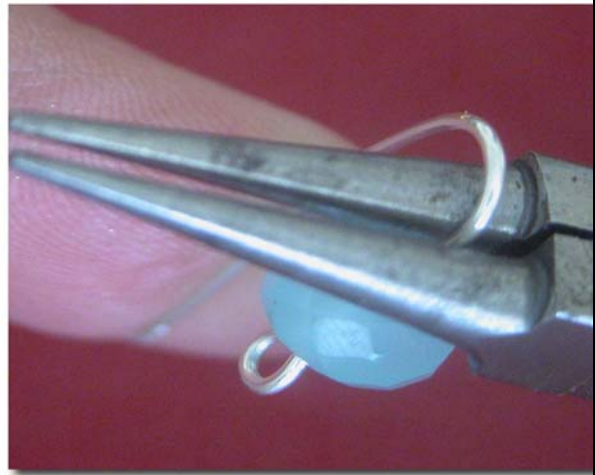
7. Slip accent bead onto the wire.



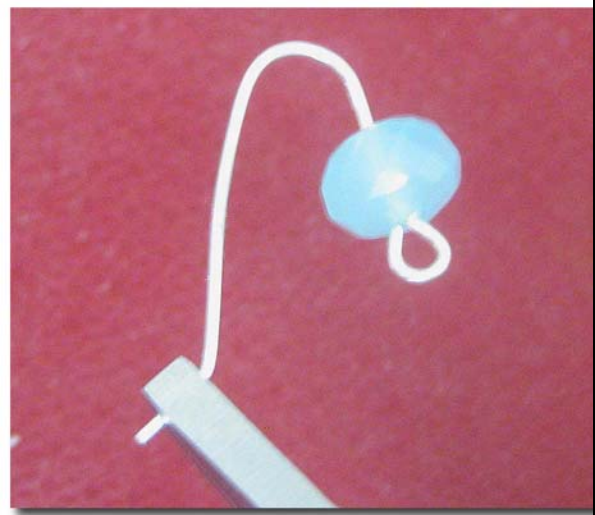
8. Hold the wire at the back of the round nose pliers with the accent bead tight against the bottom of pliers.



9. With your finger, gently bend the wire over the back of the pliers.



10. Using flat nose pliers, make a 30 degree bend in the end of the wire approximately 3/8" from the end.



11. Lay the earring wire on your bench block and hammer the curve. This will harden your wire and it will hold its shape.



12. Use flat nose pliers (chain nose will work as well) to open the eye loop. Always open by moving the end of wire back; never by opening the circle out.



13. Insert one of the outer loops of the love knot in the open eye loop of the wire.



14. Close eye knot with your chain nose pliers.





15. Repeat for all steps for 2<sup>nd</sup> earring.



Use Liver of Sulfur if desired. Tumble at least 30 minutes to harden and shine.