

Working with a jeweler's grade concrete opens up an unlimited realm of mixed media projects available to jewelry makers of all levels. This project uses the EnCapture™ Artisan White Concrete Kit to achieve a look that will take you right to the water's edge.

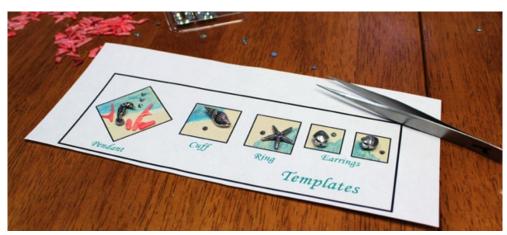
Supplies

- Bezel & Embeddables Kit by EuroTool®
- EnCaptureTM Artisan White Concrete Kit
- Embellishments of your choice (ex. Small coral beads, crystal flat backs)
- Small natural bristle paint brush, #2 flat (optional)
- White acrylic paint (optional)

Tools

• Baby or Classic Wubbers Chain Nose Pliers to attach ear wires

Designing and Making Your Pendant



Even though the new White $EnCapture^{TM}$ Artsian Concrete has a slightly longer setting time than the original natural color of $EnCapture^{TM}$, it is still important to plan your project before you start mixing.

See the Appendix for a template that you can use to lay out your designs. I first used colored pencil on the template to draw and color in the water line. Then, I went to my bead stash and found a few beads and crystals to complement the Embeddables that were included in the kit. As you can see, I placed the Embeddables and beads directly on the template. I then put my template right next to my mixing area.

Step 1—Mix the EnCapture™ Artisan White Concrete







Please refer to mixing instructions included with your EnCaptureTM Artisan White Concrete Kit. To make the pendant for this project, draw 2.5ml Activator into a syringe. Put 1 tablespoon of the dry concrete in a cup and add only 2ml of the Activator, reserving the last .5ml. Stir thoroughly. If the mixture is too dry, you may need to add the other .5ml of the activator. All of the concrete should be evenly moistened, but of a crumbly consistency as shown in the above center photo. Divide this mixture evenly between two cups (above right photo).

Step 2—Add Yellow Pigment to the Concrete



To mix the sand color, add a very tiny amount of Yellow Iron Oxide pigment. I dipped a clean stir stick into the pigment, then tapped it gently over the cup to dust the color into the mix. Stir thoughly.



The above right photo shows the sand color compared to the natural white color of the EnCapture™.

Step 3—Pack Concrete into Bezel

Using your design template as a guide, pack the sand colored concrete into the bezel with a pallete knife. The mixture needs to be pressed in well so that there are no air pockets. Keep the top of the concrete even with the top edge of the bezel. Later, as you add the embeddables, the concrete may extend above the edge of the bezel. As long as it is packed densely enough, your pendant will be very durable after fully curing for about a week. It should be "wearable" after 24-48 hours.



Step 4—Add Blue Pigment to the Concrete and Pat into the Bezel



Mix the blue pigment into the concrete in the remaining cup. The blue pigment is not as intense, so you will need to add a bit more of it compared to the Yellow Iron Oxide.



The above right photo shows the color of the "water" as compared to the natural white color. Using your design template as a guide, add the blue concrete to the designated area of the bezel. Once you have finished packing in the concrete, use a wet wipe to clean any extra from the edge of the bezel.

Step 5—Add Embeddables to Complete the Design







Using tweezers, place the embedable objects into the concrete. After the correct placement is achieved, press the objects into the concrete with a flat tool such as the back end of tweezers or the blade of your palette knife. As long as the objects are pressed in just deep enough so that the concrete makes some contact with the side, they should all stay securely embedded. Check once more to make sure you have cleaned concrete from all the bezel edges as well as all your tools.



The Finished Pendant

Helpful Tip: EnCaptureTM has been formulated so that it will securely hold objects pressed into it. After your piece dries, check the embeddables to make sure that they are tightly attached. If you find that any of the objects have not been pressed deeply enough, Super Glue may be used to securely re-attach the embeddable object.

Part 2—Cuff, Ring, and Earrings with Surf

Step 6— Mix the EnCapture™ Artisan White Concrete and Add Color



The cuff, ring, and earrings in this set are made to look like the beach with the surf washing in. To create this effect, mix a batch of white $EnCapture^{TM}$, as shown in Step 1. You will need to reserve about 25% of the white concrete to make the foam. Split the remaining 75% into approximately equal portions. Repeat Step 2 to make the sand color and Step 4 to mix the blue for the water.

Step 7—Pack Concrete into the Bezel







Pack the sand colored concrete into a bezel, using your template design as a guide. Add a small section of white concrete along the edge of the "sand" as shown in the above left photo. Your piece will be more visually interesting if you vary the width of the "foam." Fill the remaining space with the blue mixture. After all three colors are packed in the bezel, add additional texture to the foam section by patting more white concrete onto it. It is fine to make a raised and dimensional area as long as it is packed together densely so that there are no air pockets. Clean the bezel to remove any concrete on its edge.

Step 8—Add the Embeddables to Complete Your Designs

Repeat Step 5 using your template as your guide.

Step 9—"Punch It Up!" and Finish It Off







If you want to add highlights to the foam, you can use white acrylic paint. You will only need a "dot" of paint. Touch your brush just into the edge of the paint, applying a very tiny amount. Tap the brush lightly on a clean area of the pallette to evenly distribute the paint on the bristles. Tap the brush on the foam in a light pouncing motion, adding tiny highlights—no need to use a brushing action. Allow to dry. Using Wubbers Chain Nose Pliers, add the earwires to the earrings and a chain to the pendant.

Appendix

