

# Times Square Necklace

By Heidi Parviainen

As the year comes to an end, the anticipation of what is to come is foremost in everyone's mind. People gather, whether it is in person or through the wonder of television, to watch the ball drop in Times Square and welcome the New Year. That long-held tradition inspired the name of this piece.

I need to thank Erin Prais-Hintz of Halcraft USA for her fantastic choice of beads used in this piece and for asking me to partner with her for the Pretty Palettes December challenge.

Every month, Erin hosts Pretty Palettes a design inspiration challenge on her blog. The palette she chose to inspire this challenge can be seen here:

<http://www.halcraft.com/design/pretty-palettes-december-inspiration/>

I hope you have as much fun creating this gorgeous statement piece as I did.



## Materials List

Beads:

- A - Bead Gallery 96420 – glass round copper iris 4mm
- B – Bead Gallery 97788 – silver plated carved diamond
- C - Bead Gallery 94726 – Amber/AB pyramid rhinestone sliders
- D – Bead Gallery 92154 – hematite luster cube 4mm
- E – Bead Gallery 91672 – black glass faceted large cube
- F – Bead Gallery 91342 - crystal faceted starfish
- 1 roll – 20 gauge (.8mm) half hard, gold tone wire
- 1 – 12 inch (30cm) piece of beading wire
- 31 – 7mm gold tone jump rings
- 22 – 5mm silver tone jump rings
- 4 – size 2 crimp tubes
- 4 – crimp bead covers
- 1 – 12 inch (30cm) piece of gunmetal chain
- 1 – 11 inch (25cm) piece of gold chain
- 1 – toggle closure

## Tools

- WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose Pliers
- WUBBERS Apprentice Bent Nose Pliers
- WUBBERS Small Triangle Mandrel Pliers
- Safety glasses
- Side Cutters
- Wire nippers
- Crimping Pliers

## Step 1

String the beads onto the roll of beading wire using pattern: ABAC. Repeat 4 more times and finish the strand with ABA.

Slide a pair of size 2 crimp beads onto the wire and create a loop by passing the end of the wire through the tubes and the first few beads.

Use crimping pliers to fasten both crimp tubes. Use WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose Pliers to attach a crimp bead cover over each of the crimps.

Use wire nippers to cut the beading wire from the roll. Leave a 1 inch (2.5cm) tail. Finish the end of the wire using the same technique as the first side.

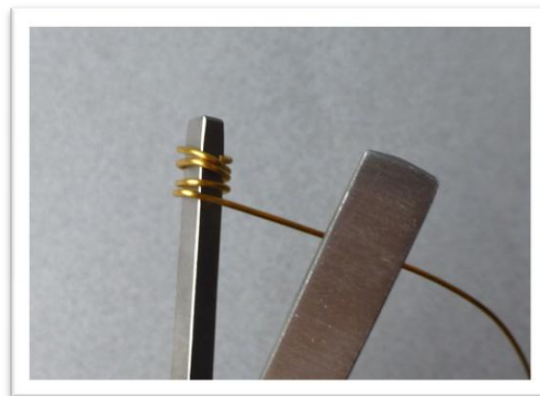


## Step 2

Place the tip of the wire on the center of the flat, inner surface of the smaller, triangle barrel close to the top of the pliers.

Wrap the wire around the triangle. Close the pliers after each wrap and squeeze gently to form the wire.

For best results, wrap the wire no more than 4 times to ensure the wire slides off the mandrel easily.



## Step 3

Use side cutters to cut the formed wire into 9 separate triangles. Be sure to wear safety glasses and cover the wire with your non-dominant hand as you cut.

Place a star bead onto one of the open prongs of one of the wire triangles.



#### Step 4

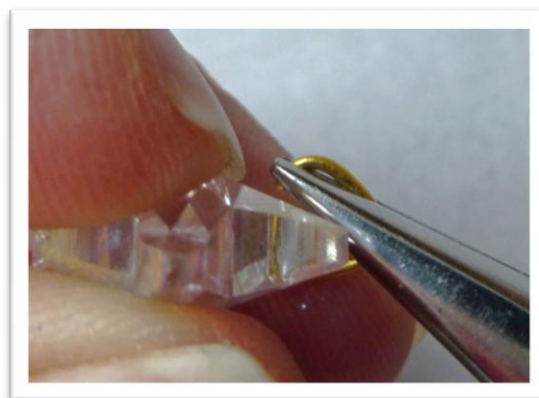
Use your thumb and the first two fingers of your non-dominant hand to hold the star bead. Rest the triangular wire against one of your fingers to hold it in place.

Place the WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose Pliers across the point of the triangle and the bottom edge of the wire triangle. (Be sure the pliers are not touching the glass bead).

Apply a downward pressure toward the open side of the triangle to guide it into the hole of the star bead.

Flip the star over and use the same technique to tighten the other side.

Use the same technique on the remaining star beads to create a total of 9 star pendants.



#### Step 5

Slide an open gold jump ring through the outer corner of the slider on the beaded strand.

Place a silver jump ring onto the open gold jump ring.

Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.

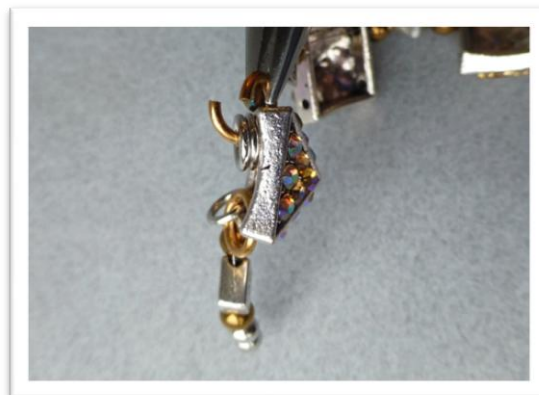


#### Step 6

Slide an open gold jump ring through the opposite corner of the slider.

Place 2 silver jump rings onto the open ring.

Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 7

Loop a gold jump ring through the silver jump rings located on either corner of the slider. Be sure to leave the second jump ring, added in step 6 loose on the outside of the slider.

Place a star pendant onto the open ring.

Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 8

Slide an open gold jump ring through the outer corner of the next slider on the beaded strand. Slide two silver rings onto the open jump ring.

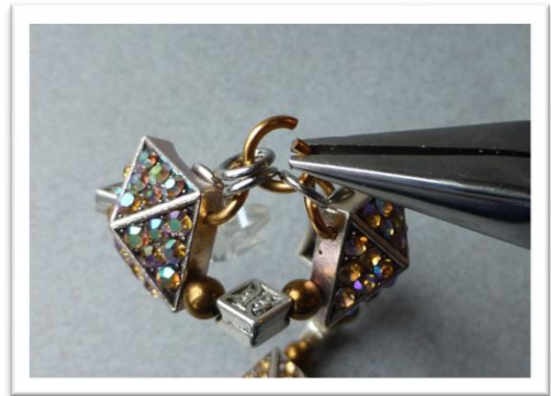
Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 9

Loop an open gold jump ring through the loose, silver jump ring on the first slider and the closer silver jump ring of the second. Place a silver jump ring onto the open gold jump ring.

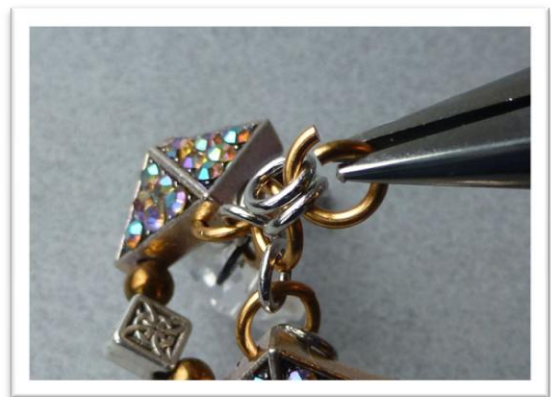
Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 10

Loop a gold jump ring through the silver ring added in Step 9. Place a silver ring onto the open gold ring.

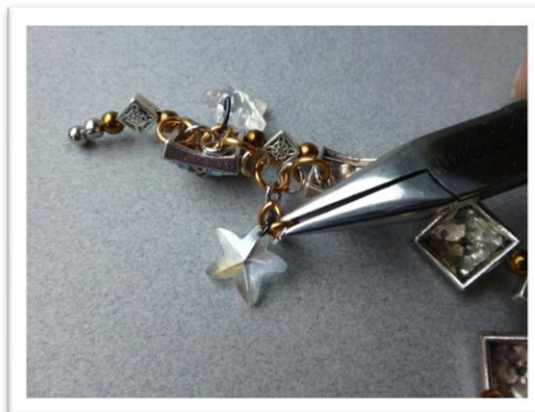
Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 11

Loop a gold ring through the silver ring added in Step 10. Place a star pendant onto the ring. (The wire on the star pendant is black in this photo to help clarify placement).

Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose Pliers to close the gold jump ring.



### Step 12

Repeat the pattern described in Steps 6-11 across the remaining sliders.

The finished piece will look like the illustration.



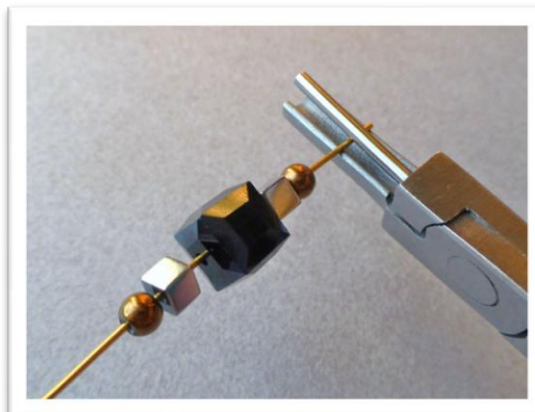
### Step 13

String beads ADEDA onto the roll of wire.

Use the WUBBERS Small Looping Pliers to form a loop on the end of the wire.

Form a loop on the opposite side of the beads. Use side cutters to trim the wire.

Use the same technique to create 6 beaded links.



### Step 14

Use WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose Pliers to open the loop on one end of a beaded link. Add another beaded link and close the loop. Add a third link to create a 3 link chain.

Create a second 3 link chain using the same technique.



### Step 15

Add a gold and silver jump ring to the 3 link chain.

Use a second gold jump ring to connect the 3 link chain, the strung beads and the gold and gunmetal chains. Be sure to add them in the proper order to assure the necklace hangs properly and does not tangle.

Repeat in mirror image for the opposite side.



### Step 16

Use a pair of WUBBERS Apprentice Chain Nose and Bent Nose to open 4 silver jump rings.

Attach 2 to each side of the necklace adding the toggle or closure of your choice.

Add or subtract jump rings to adjust the length of the necklace.



### Step 17

Accessorize your favorite outfit with this on trend, mixed metal beauty.



### Review Questions

- 1) What is the proper way to open a jump ring?
  - a) Unroll the ring using WUBBERS Round Nose Pliers
  - b) Use a pair of WUBBERS Chain Nose Pliers to pry it open
  - c) Use 2 pairs of WUBBERS Chain Nose, Bent Nose or Flat Nose Pliers to twist it open

- 2) What safety precautions should be used when cutting wire?
  - a) Wear safety glasses
  - b) Cover the wire with your non-dominant hand
  - c) Both A and B
  
- 3) What shape WUBBERS Mandrel Pliers does Heidi suggest to make the star pendants?
  - a) WUBBERS Half Round Mandrel Pliers
  - b) WUBBERS Oval Mandrel Pliers
  - c) WUBBERS Triangle Mandrel Pliers
  
- 4) What precautions does Heidi suggest to prevent chipping or breaking the star beads while forming the pendants?
  - a) Do not allow the pliers to touch the bead
  - b) Brace the bead between your thumb and first two fingers
  - c) Both a and b
  
- 5) What techniques could be used to customize the length of the necklace?
  - a) Add or subtract jump rings
  - b) Use ribbon or cording in lieu of jump rings
  - c) Add or subtract beaded links
  - d) All of the above