

## Trick or Treat Bracelet

By Heidi Parviainen

Looking for a way to indulge your sweet tooth a little for Halloween? Does it sound too good to be true? Here's a way you can have all the candy you want without any calories or a trip to the dentist.

My adorable Trick or Treat Bracelet has delicious looking candy corn charms made from polymer clay. I paired them with vibrant iridescent hues for a bracelet that will be a real treat without the guilt.



### Materials List

- Polymer clay – white, yellow and orange.
  - 30 - 10mm faceted metallic purple beads
  - 15 - 6mm orange bicones
  - 15 - 6mm green bicones
  - 6 inches (15.25 cm) chain
  - 1 rhinestone toggle set
  - 30 - 2 inch (5cm) pieces of 18 gauge (1.02mm) silver colored wire
  - 30 – 3 inch ( 7.6mm) head pins
  - Sealer
- 
- Wubbers Small Round Bail Making Pliers
  - Polymer clay cutting blade
  - Polymer clay round head shaping tool
  - 2 pairs Wubbers Bent Nose Pliers
  - Flush cutters
  - Acrylic roller

### Making the Candy Corn

**Step 1.** Condition your clay following the proportions: 1 part white, 2 parts yellow, 3 parts orange.



**Step 2.** Roll each color into a snake of approximately even length.



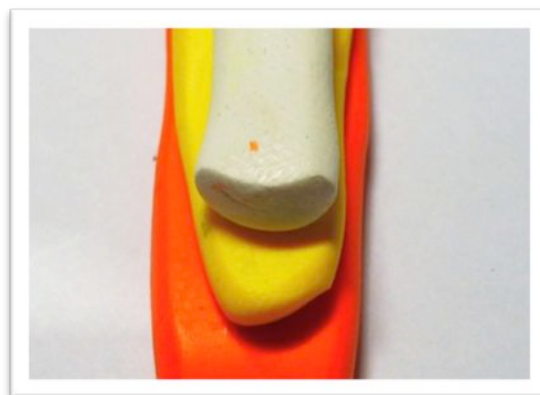
**Step 3.** Use an acrylic roller to flatten each color into a sheet approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6mm).



**Step 4.** Place yellow clay onto the orange, ensuring it is centered. Then center white clay onto the center of the yellow.

The orange clay should be a little wider than the yellow. The yellow should be wider than the white clay.

Trim as necessary to keep your 1:2:3 proportions.



**Step 5.** Invert your clay stack so the white clay is on the bottom.

Place cutting blade along the length of your stack and rest the sharp side of the blade against your work surface. The opposite side of the blade should be almost a 45 degree angle to the surface of the table.

Apply pressure to the blade with your thumbs to hold in place while simultaneously packing the orange side forward with your fingertips. Work from the middle and continue to compress the clay against the blade to the outside edges. Repeat for other side.



**Step 6.** Using a rounded clay tool, smooth the clay where the colors join together.



**Step 7.** Use blade to slice ¼ inch (6mm) pieces from the candy corn cane. Repeat for 30 slices in total.



**Step 8.** Use the larger barrel of your Wubbers Small Round Bail Making pliers to create a loop at one end of a wire piece.

Use the smaller barrel to turn up the other side into a "J" shape. Repeat for 30 wire pieces in total.

(The "J" is necessary to keep the polymer clay from sliding off the wire, once it has been baked).



**Step 9.** Insert the wire into the polymer clay using a smooth, even pressure.

Use the round head tool to smooth out fingerprints.

Repeat for all 30 pieces. Place candy corn onto a piece of parchment and bake following manufacturer's recommendations.

Once the pieces have cooled, you will need to seal them. I prefer polyurethane, but there are many sealers on the market. Follow the instructions of the product you choose.



## Making the Beaded Drops

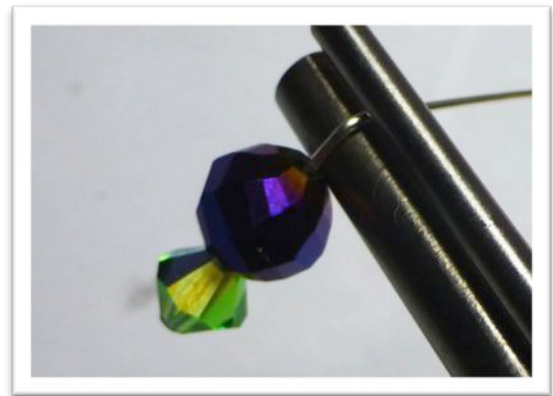
**Step 10.** Place a bicone then a purple faceted bead onto a head pin. Holding the head pin with your Wubbers Bent Nose pliers resting on the bead, bend the wire at a 90 degree angle over the top of your pliers.

I like to use the Wubbers Bent Nose Pliers to do this so the wrapped portion of my loop is always a consistent size.



**Step 11.** Place the head pin between the barrels of your Wubbers Small Bail Making Pliers with the small barrel in the top position.

Wrap the wire over the top of the small barrel to begin forming your loop.



**Step 12.** Rotate your pliers to finish the loop by wrapping the wire under the barrel.



**Step 13.** Grasp the loop across the diameter with your Wubbers Bent Nose Pliers.

Hold firmly enough to prevent it from slipping, but gently enough not to damage the wire.





**Step 14.** Wrap the tail of the wire around the straight portion of the head pin.

Continue to wrap until you have exhausted the wire or you come in contact with the bead.

Use Flush cutters to trim any excess wire.

Repeat steps 10-14 for all 30 head pins.

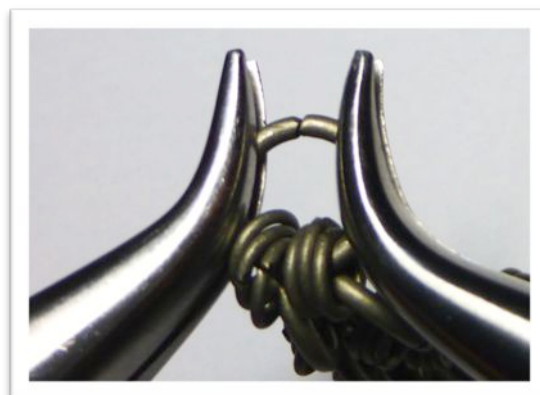


**Step 15.** Use 2 pairs of Wubbers Bent Nose Pliers to open the 4th link on your chain. Remove the link from the small connecting links.

This chain includes links that are a larger wire gauge. For the thicker gauges, I reverse the jaws of my pliers for better grip. A larger portion of the link comes in contact with the pliers when you use this method yielding you more control.

To open the link without distorting the shape, place the jaws of the pliers close to the seam of the link. I like to use the 10 and 2 o'clock position to ensure a good grip without the slip.

Then rotate your dominant forward and your other hand towards you, simultaneously, to open the link.



**Step 16.** Place a beaded head pin, candy corn charm and beaded head pin on each side of the open link.



**Step 17.** Thread your large link back through the smaller connecting links before you close it.

You will have 3 charms on each side of the connecting links.



**Step 18.** For the next link you will reverse the order of the charms and continue to alternate until you have used all of them.



**Step 19.** Add 2 small connector rings to the end of the bracelet and attach the toggle bar.

Repeat for opposite side to attach the loop of the closure.



**The finished bracelet!**



## Review Questions

- 1) What tool is used to blend the clay layers?
  - a) A PMC blender tool
  - b) A rounded clay tool
  - c) A tissue blade
  
- 2) Heidi likes to use which Wubbers pliers to make the first bend for her wrapped loop?
  - a) Wubbers Classic Bent Nose Pliers
  - b) Wubbers Jumbo Round Mandrel Pliers
  - c) Wubbers Medium Triangle Mandrel Pliers
  
- 3) What tool is used to cut slices of the candy corn cane?
  - a) Pencil
  - b) Rounded clay tool
  - c) Tissue blade
  
- 4) What are the two pairs of Wubbers Bent Nose Pliers used for?
  - a) Squeezing the jump rings into oval shapes
  - b) Opening and closing the jump rings
  - c) Flattening the ends of jump rings