

Irresistible in copper and elegant in silver, the Love Knot Bracelet is based on a traditional love knot design, and was inspired by one of my favorite crochet patterns from the late 1970's. Learn to make the centerpiece of this versatile design, then add just a few variations to the pattern, and you can make a nice array of stunning and interesting bracelets. Clasped with a matching hook and eye that blends right into the design, this project is sure to be one of your favorites!

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

- 16-gauge dead soft round copper wire (8 feet)
- 16-gauge, 4.0mm copper jump rings (12)
- Liver of Sulphur Gel
- Hot Water
- Nitrile Gloves
- Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers
- Wubbers Narrow Flat Nose Pliers
- Wubbers Wide Flat Nose Pliers
- Italian Heavy Duty Flush Cutters
- 12-inch ruler
- Permanent Marker
- Sunshine Cloth
- Handy File
- #0000 Steel Wool
- Glass container for mixing the Liver of Sulfur patina
- Stainless steel tweezers

STEP 1



- A. Cut two 12-inch lengths of 16-gauge dead soft round copper wire. Straighten each wire by pulling it through a Sunshine Polishing Cloth while applying gentle pressure).
- B. Mark the middle of each wire with a permanent marker. Place the middle of one of the wires in the jaws of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers, and then bend the wire in half around the smaller jaw of the pliers. Bend the second wire in the same manner so that both wires are identical.
- C. If needed, you can adjust the width of your loops using the Classic Wubbers Wide Flat Nose pliers.
- D. The loops just formed should measure approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide as shown to the right.

STEP 2



Using the Wubbers Medium Bail Making pliers, gently make a slight curve on the looped ends of your wires as demonstrated.

STEP 3



Hold the wires such that one of the loops points upward and the other loop points downward.

STEP 4



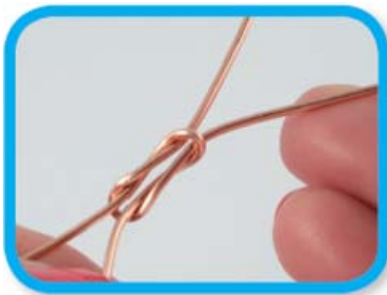
Keeping the wires turned in the same direction as in Step 3, insert the ends of one wire into the small loop of the other wire. While holding the wires so that the ends remain inside hat loop, gently curve the ends of the second wire so that they can be inserted through the loop on the other end of the first wire.

STEP 5



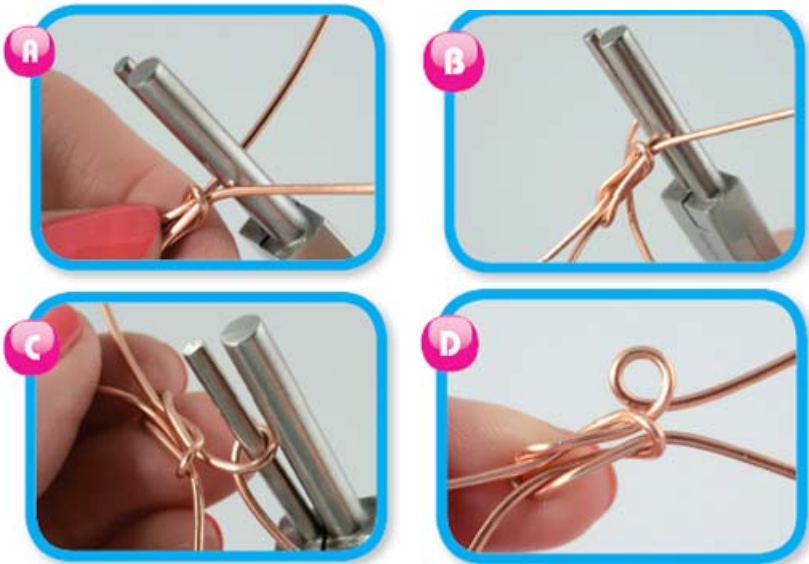
- A. With your hands, grasp the ends of each wire and pull them until the knot starts to form.
- B. You will want to make sure that the two loops remain turned such that one curves up and the other one down, enabling your knot to fit snugly together. Finish tightening the knot by using two pairs of Wubbers Pliers such as the Classic Wide Flat Nose and the Classic Narrow Flat Nose.
- C. With the pliers, you should be able to get your knot tight enough so that the knot measures approximately 5/8 of an inch from end to end.

STEP 6



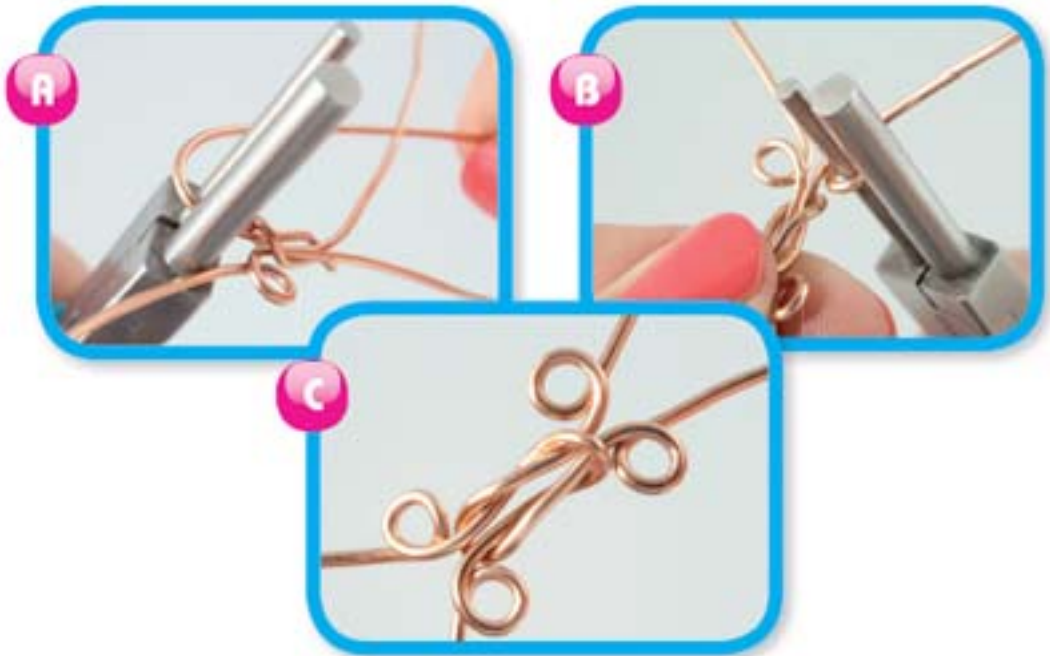
Move the ends of the wires so that they form a “v” on each end of the knot.

STEP 7



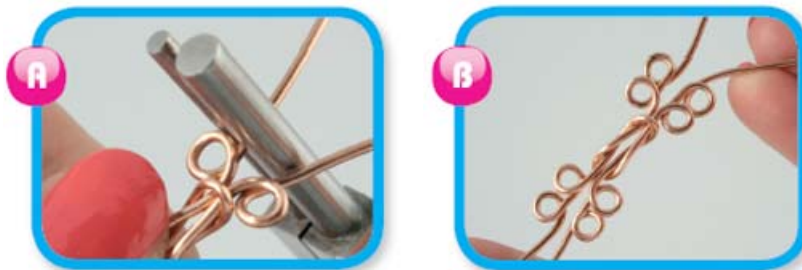
- A. Using the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers place the larger jaw inside the “v” on one end of the love knot.
- B. Begin coiling the first wire around the smaller jaw of your Bail Making Pliers making sure to cross the wire on the underneath side.
- C. You will form a complete loop, and this loop will help hold your knot in place. You can use your Wubbers Bail Making Pliers to adjust the position of the loop so that it touches the knot as shown in the photo D.

STEP 8



Repeat Step 7 on the remaining three wires, being sure to cross the wire underneath each time as you form a coil (Photo 8A & 8B). When you have finished all four loops, your piece will look like the example shown in Photo 8C, and the four loops will hold your knot securely together.

STEP 9



You will add 4 more loops by repeating Steps 7 and 8. Start by placing your pliers as shown in Photo 9A, still making sure that you cross the wire underneath as you form the loop. Photo 9B shows the Centerpiece with the second set of loops completed.

STEP 10



- A. The last 4 loops of the Centerpiece will be made using Steps 7 and 8, but with one slight variation. You will position the pliers with the smaller jaw inside the “v” and wrap the wire around the larger jaw, forming a larger loop.
- B. Again, make sure to cross the wire on the underneath side of the loop. After adding these 4 loops, your Centerpiece should resemble the example in the photo.

STEP 11



- A. Once the last four loops are formed, you will want to reinforce each loop by rotating the wire around the large jaw of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers another full rotation underneath each loop. That is, each of the last four larger loops will be doubled. Reposition the jaws of your Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers as needed to be able to complete the loops.
- B. You may need to adjust the wire (i.e., close any excess space between the loops) with a pair of Wubbers Wide Nose Pliers.

STEP 12



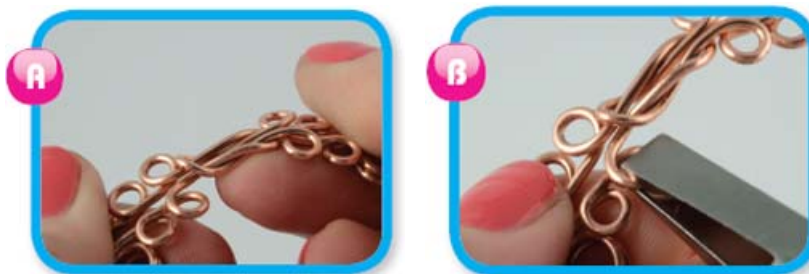
You will need to trim each wire on the underneath side of the Centerpiece. Using a pair of Heavy Duty Italian Flush Cutters, place the file at side of the jaw of the cutters against the link (Photo 12A). Cut the wire at an angle (Photo 12B), and then file to remove any sharp edges.

TOOL TIP

The Handy File is a great option for smoothing the rough edges of your wire. It is flexible and will allow you to bend the sanding surface to the perfect angle to work on curved pieces. The file is two-sided. The side without the logo is coarser (220 grit) than the side with the logo (400 grit). I often start with the coarser side, and then finish sanding with the finer side of the file.



STEP 13



Hold each end of the Love Knot Centerpiece as shown and add a gentle curve to the link (Photo 13A). In addition, the loops formed earlier will likely need adjusting. Using your Wubbers Classic Wide Flat Nose Pliers, gently adjust each of the loops so that they are uniformly placed and turned at the proper angles (Photo 13B).

STEP 14



Create side links for the love knot bracelet. Cut four 8-inch lengths of 16-gauge dead soft round copper wire. These will be used to make 2 Side Links. Repeat Steps 1 through 9, making 8 loops as shown. Reinforce each of the last four loops by rotating the wire another full rotation underneath each loop. Trim the wires, and sand any rough edges using a Handy File. Form the link so that it curves in the middle as shown and adjust each of the loops as needed using a Wubbers Classic Wide Flat Nose Pliers.

STEP 15



Cut four 6-inch lengths of 16-gauge dead soft round copper wire. Make two short links following Steps 1 through 8. Reinforce each of the four loops just formed by rotating the wire another full rotation underneath so the loops are doubled. Trim the wires, and sand any rough edges using a Handy File.

STEP 16



Cut two 6-inch lengths of 16-gauge dead soft round copper wire to make the clasp. One wire will become the hook and the other the eye of your clasp. To make the hook, bend one of the wires in half using the small jaw of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers (Photo 16A). Adjust the

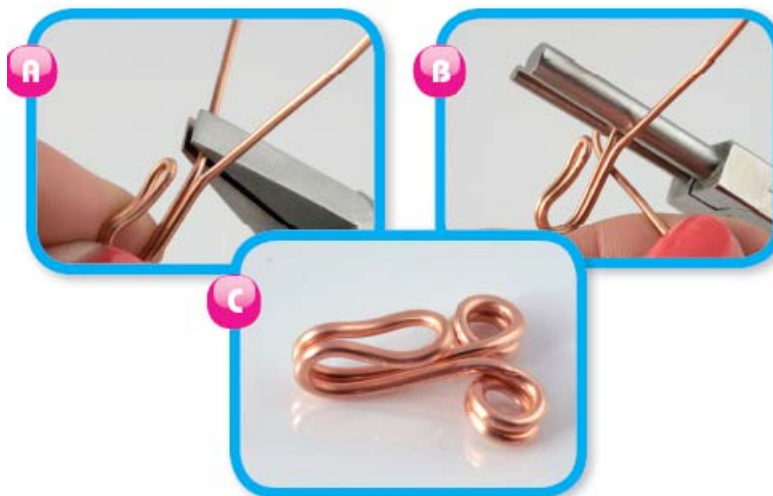
width of the loop using the Classic Wubbers Wide Flat Nose (Photo 16B). The loop just formed should measure **less** than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide so that it will fit through the eye of the clasp.

STEP 17



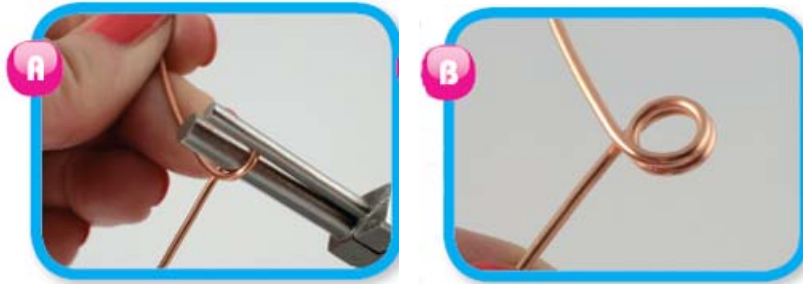
Using the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers, make a slight curve in the looped end of the wire as demonstrated (Photo 17A). Turn the wire over, then position the smaller jaw of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch from the end of the loop as depicted (Photo 17B). Rotate the pliers so that the wire rolls around the small jaw, making the hook for the bracelet clasp (Photo 17C).

STEP 18



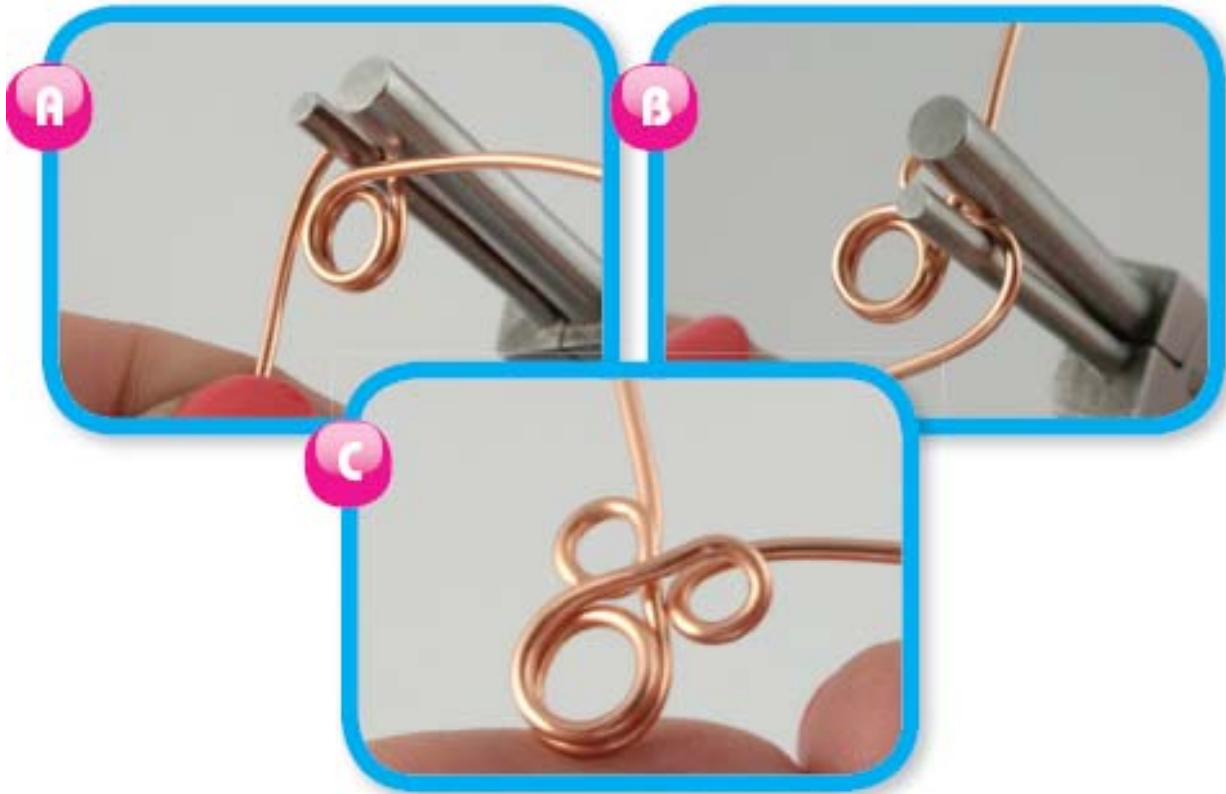
With a pair of Wubbers Classic Wide Nose Pliers, bend the wires so that they form a “v” shape as depicted in Photo 18A. Then, place the large jaw of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers in the center of the “v” and roll the wire around the small jaw of the pliers to form a loop on each side, making sure to cross the wire underneath (Photo 18B). Reinforce by adding a double loop as shown in Photo 18C.

STEP 19



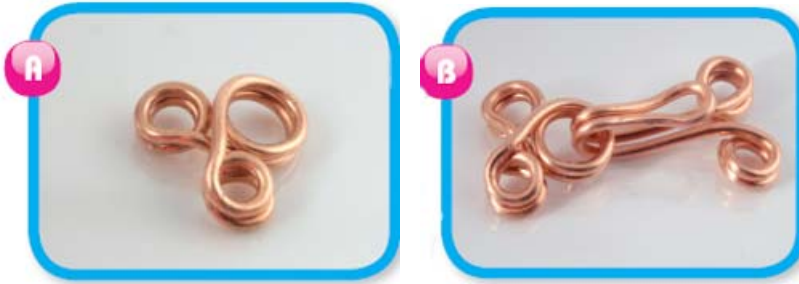
To make the eye part of the clasp, grasp the middle of a six-inch wire with the jaws of the Wubbers Medium Bail Making Pliers. Then begin to rotate the wire around the larger jaw of the pliers (Photo 19A), adjusting the position of the pliers as needed until you have made a double loop (Photo 19B). The ends of the wire should form the v-shape as shown.

STEP 20



Form a loop around the smaller jaw placing the large jaw of the pliers in the middle of the “V” (Photo 20A). Position the loop such that it is snugly touching the “eye.” Form a second loop by lacing the large jaw of the pliers in the middle of the “V” (Photos 20B and 20C).

STEP 21



Reinforce each of the last two loops formed in Step 20 by rotating the wire another full rotation underneath the first loop so that it is doubled (Photo 21A). Congratulations the clasp is finished (photo 21B).

DESIGN TIP

To lengthen the bracelet, you could add another set of loops to the hook and eye clasp as shown. You can also vary the number of the loops on the links to adjust the length of your Love Knot Bracelet. For example, if a smaller size is desired, you can make your bracelet using the Centerpiece and four of the Small Links. In fact, the Small Links make an attractive bracelet just by themselves!



STEP 22



Using 4.5mm outer diameter copper jump rings, connect one of the Medium Links to each side of the Centerpiece.

STEP 23



Connect the Small Links to each of the Medium Links. Last, attach the clasp to the Small Links.

STEP 24



In this step, you will add a beautiful antique finish to your bracelet. In a well-ventilated area, add a small amount of Liver of Sulfur Gel to a beaker or glass bowl of about 8 oz. of hot, but not boiling water. There should be enough water to completely submerge your bracelet and the water will be a bright yellow to light brown color. Stir with your tweezers until mixed. Take care not to get the mixture on your hands and to avoid breathing the fumes. You may wish to wear a pair of Nitrile gloves to protect your hands. Lower the bracelet into the solution using a pair of stainless steel tweezers,. Allow the bracelet to turn completely black and then remove it from the solution and rinse thoroughly with running water. To dispose of the liver of sulfur solution, it is fine to dilute it with plenty of water and pour it down the drain, flushing the pipes with water for a few minutes afterward.