

# Wire Wrapped Cabochon



## Supplies:

Ruler

21g wire (square preferred)

20g wire (half round preferred) for wrapping

A cabochon

Masking tape

Wire cutters

Flat nose pliers

Round nose pliers

Sharpie pen

1. Cut a piece of tape that will fit around the circumference of your cabochon.
2. Wrap the tape entirely around the cab coming together at the top.

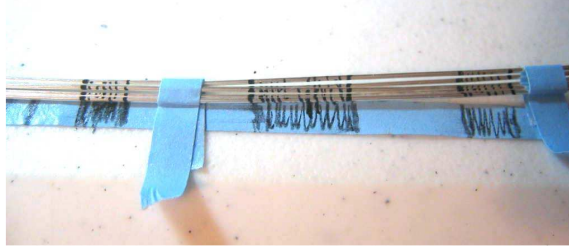


3. Mark, on the tape with the Sharpie pen, where you want your wraps to be. On most cabs you will have the wraps on the bottom and one on each side toward the top.
4. Mark the top of the cab where the tape comes together.
5. Take the tape off and stretch it out on the table in front of you and fill in the spaces where your wraps should be.

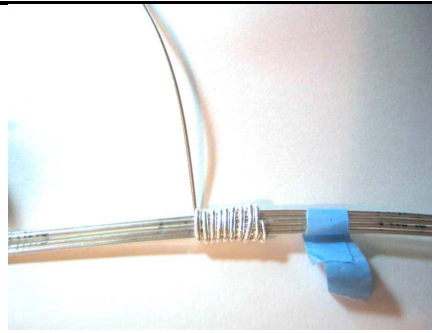
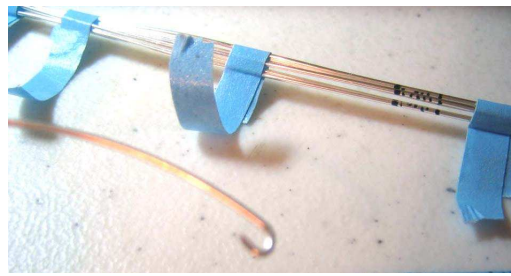


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6. With your ruler measure the size of the cab from your end markings on the tape.
7. Add at least 8" to that measurement and cut five pieces of the square wire to that size. If you have a thin cab you will only need three pieces.
8. Clean and straighten those pieces by holding one end with the pliers and pulling the wire through a clean soft cloth.
9. Make a bundle out of the wires by placing them side by side and binding them with pieces of tape.
10. Measure the center of the bundle and the center of the tape.
11. Place the bundle next to the tape, matching the centers, and transfer your wrap markings onto the bundle with the Sharpie. This will rub off easily later on.



12. At the end of the half-round wire make a small hook. Start your wrap on the wrong side (side with the markings). Hook that hook around the bundle and fasten it down by squeezing it with the flat-nose pliers. Wrap the wire around the bundle being careful to squeeze each and every turn of the wire. **Make sure you end the wrap on the wrong side of the bundle (the same side you started the wrap).**



13. Do this for all of the areas that need to be wrapped keeping the beginning and the ends of the wraps on the side of the bundle with the markings!

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14. Now comes the difficult part! You need to gently bend the bundle in the shape of the cab. You may need to use tape to keep the bundle and cab together during this process.
15. When you get the cab surrounded by the bundle tape the bundle ends together at the top.
16. You may have to remove the cab for this next step. Take your flat-nose pliers and gently pull out the wires between the wraps on the back of the cab. You will pull them so that they will support the cab from the back.



17. Reinsert the cab and carefully pull those wires on the front of the cab to hold the cab in on that side.
18. Bend the two back wires over a pen or sharpie to make the bail. Now start wrapping the stem including the bail in that wrapping.



19. Once your cab is stable in the wrap, your bail is made and the stem is wrapped you will need to find something to do with the remaining wires. You can keep it simple and just wrap them around the stem. Otherwise you will need to do something decorative with them. In this picture I made kind of a waterfall effect with them and attached the ends around the wires on the back.

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I also coiled two of the wires at the stem.

20. Take a file and file down any raw edges that might get caught on clothes. Enjoy your new pendant!

Gen Smith

[gen@new-bel.com](mailto:gen@new-bel.com)

[www.new-bel.com](http://www.new-bel.com)