

Beginning Jewelry Fabrication

Instructor: Cas Alexander

Students should purchase:

- Brass sheet – 20 or 22 gauge, 4x4” minimum.
- Copper sheet – 20 or 22 gauge, 4x4” minimum.
- Copper and/or brass wire – 14-20 gauge, your choice depending on how chunky you’d like your chain to be. 4-oz spools are plenty—Beadworld is a local supplier.
- FINE silver bezel wire (not sterling!) – 26 gauge, 4mm width. 4” length minimum.
- 2 round or oval cabochon (flat-backed) stones of your choice. Cabochons should be at least 10mm in diameter. NW Rockhounds is a great resource!
- Hard, medium, and easy silver solder. Either 1 foot of wire of each kind of solder (3 ft total) OR 1 DWT each 28g sheet (silver solder is sold in both wire and sheet form). You will need a small amount of easy, medium, and hard solder. DWT is a unit of measurement for fine metals. Seattle Findings sells a solder kit with 1 DWT of each kind of sheet solder.
- 3 packs of 12 jeweler’s saw blades, size 2/0. Make sure to get size 2/0, not size 2!
- Sandpaper (220, 400, 600, 800 grits). Multi-grit packs are available at most hardware stores.

Shopping Resources:

- NW Rockhounds (Northgate) – www.nwrockhounds.com. Great local source, especially for stones and small quantities of metal.
- Beadworld (Northgate) – <http://beadworldseattle.com/home.html>. Primarily beading supplies, but has a really nice selection of small tools, findings (clasps, earwires, etc.) and non-bulk quantities of wire.
- Rio Grande (online only) – www.riogrande.com. Just about everything you’ll need, but base metals are sold in larger quantities. Fast shipping.
- Seattle Findings (Lynnwood by appointment, or online) – www.seattlefindings.com. Receive 10% discount as a student.

The Jewelry Studio has for general use:

(Students are welcome to buy their own tools, but the studio has shared tools available.)

- Jeweler's Saw Frame (4” or 5’)
- Round nose pliers
- Chain nose pliers
- Flush cutters
- Soldering picks
- Cross locking tweezers
- 1mm drill bits (HS#60)
- Paste or liquid flux

Questions?

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