Vintaj® Filigree Techniques

Filigree Bale

Use bail making pliers to form filigree into a ring. Add sparkle with a variety of Swarovski crystal.

Step 1
Firmly grip the center of the connector with your bale making pliers, with the back side facing the smaller of the two barrels.

Step 2
A: Bend one end of the connector following the curve of the smaller barrel.
B: Repeat on the opposite end of the connector.

Step 3
A: Use your bale making pliers to round out any awkward bends by gently crimping down while following the curve of the bale.
B: Use your chain nose pliers to line up the holes on each end of the bale.

Add personality to a simple design by wrapping a donut with filigree! Add a small grouping of charms and crystal for the finishing touch.

Bend, twist and twirl filigree to make your own “Creative Settings.” Create settings, bails, rings and much more!

For more inspiration visit vintaj.com

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Basic Filigree Wrapping

Step 1
Turn in the edges of the filigree to approximately the same size and shape as the stone or focal using bail making pliers.

Step 2
Place the stone or focal in the center of the filigree. While holding the focal, use your fingers and or chain nose pliers to turn in the edges of the filigree and secure the focal. Recrimp the edges until they are symmetrical and secure.

Step 3
Pass a 1.5 inch eye pin through the drilled hole in the focal and an opening in the filigree. Bend the straight end of the eye pin around the neck of the looped end and crimp tight with a chain nose plier.

Step 4
Attach jump rings through the eye pin bale. Add chain, beads or a silkkie to complete your necklace.

Add intricate detail to your design by forming a basic filigree wrap. Pull in color with rich cranberry pearls and smoky quartz glass beads.

TIP: Make sure that your filigree is symmetrical with the stone or focal before you begin crimping down. Don’t limit yourself—wrap art glass, semi precious, abalone, enamels, brass focals, pottery, memorabilia, soda bottle caps, guitar picks, concert pins and more!