



Take a peek inside for
step-by-step instructions to
make this cool mosaic mirror.
It's so easy! All you need is

SOLDERING SUPPLIES...

...a handful of mosaic tiles and
a pair of basic craft mirrors!

solder on!

{CREATIVE INSPIRATIONS *free* FROM HOBBY LOBBY.}

1.



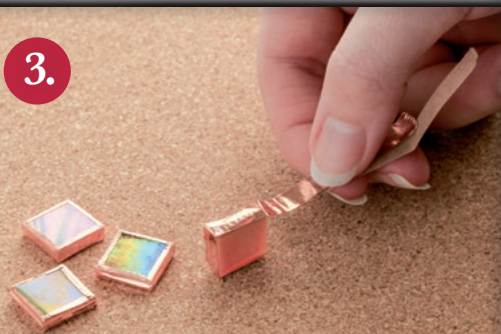
Using a corkboard as your work surface, lay out the mosaic tiles you want to use. We used 24 around a 3" x 3" mirror.

2.



Using a glass grinder, grind down the raised seams on the mosaic tiles so that they will line up evenly. Be sure not to overgrind—you just want to grind down the seams, not the tiles themselves.

3.



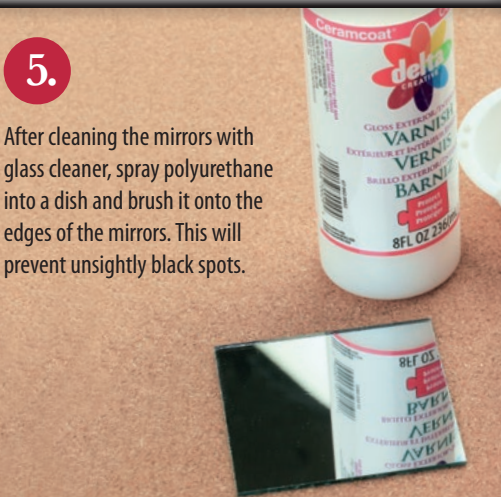
After washing the glass residue off the tiles and drying them thoroughly, wrap copper tape around the edges of each tile. The copper tape is necessary for the solder to work.

4.

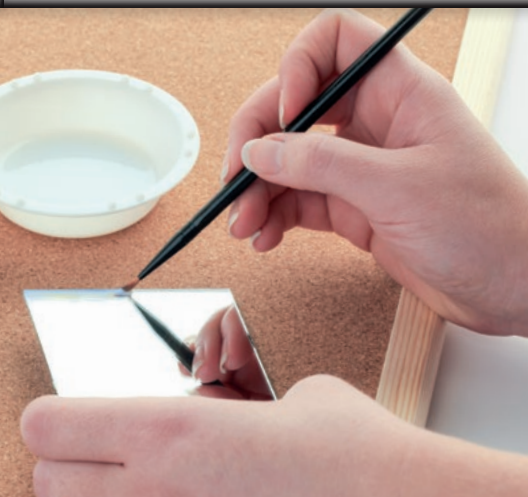


Use the burnishing tool to remove all the bubbles and work the copper tape firmly over the tiles.

5.



After cleaning the mirrors with glass cleaner, spray polyurethane into a dish and brush it onto the edges of the mirrors. This will prevent unsightly black spots.



6.



Cover the edges and at least 1/8" from the edges to the backs of the mirrors to ensure a complete seal. Then let the polyurethane dry.

7.



Dispense some copper tape from the roll and peel off the backing.

8.



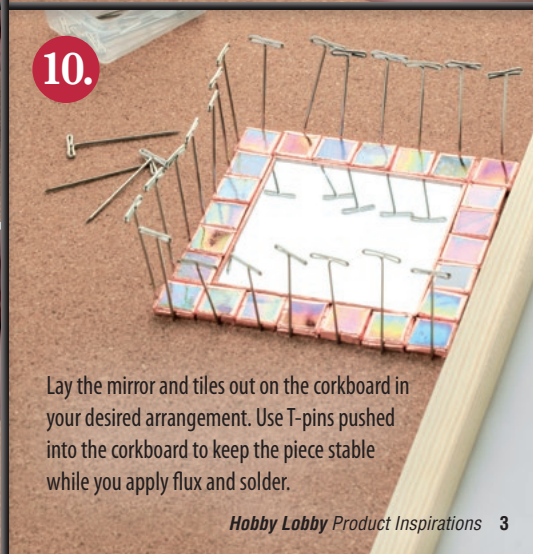
To form a double-sided mirror, place the mirrors back to back and wrap copper tape around the edges.

9.



Using the burnishing tool, work the copper tape firmly over the edges of the mirrors. You will need to smooth out any bubbles that may have formed under the tape.

10.



Lay the mirror and tiles out on the corkboard in your desired arrangement. Use T-pins pushed into the corkboard to keep the piece stable while you apply flux and solder.

11.

Brush a thin layer of flux over the copper on the tiles. Flux is a chemical compound that gives the pieces a permanent bond.

**12.**

Apply a small amount of solder to the seams and corners to hold the piece together.

**13.**

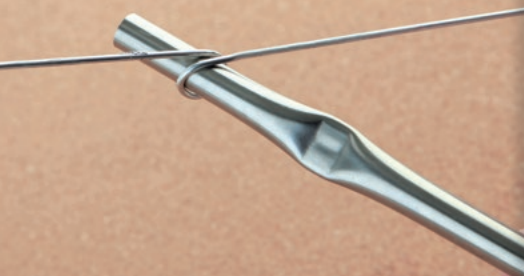
Remove the pins, and apply a thin layer of solder around the whole piece. This process is called tinning. When cool to the touch, turn the mirror over, and repeat the soldering process on the other side.

**14.**

Run a rounded decorative bead of solder over the tinned areas to give the piece a nice, uniform look.

**15.**

Sand two copper rods to remove any film or residue. Then apply flux and solder to the rods. Wrap one of the rods around a small cylindrical object to form a loop. Repeat with the other copper rod.

**16.**

Trim the loops to size.



17.



Decide which side will be the top of your mirror, and place the loops at the corners. Brush a thin layer of flux where the loops meet the edge of the mirror.

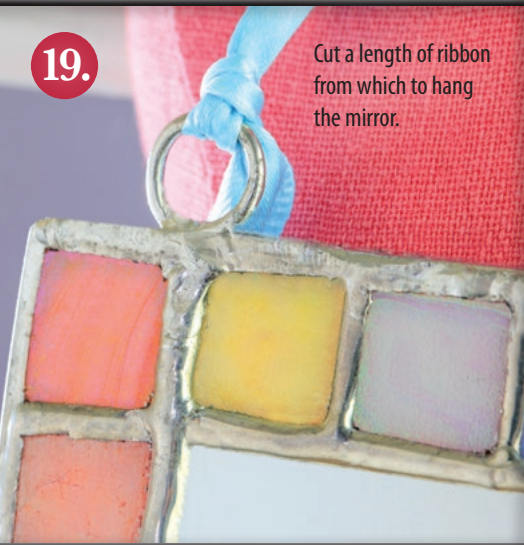
18.



Solder the loops to the mirror.

19.

Cut a length of ribbon from which to hang the mirror.



20.

Knot one end of the ribbon to each of the loops.



Shine Time All done? You should have a piece that looks something like this. Don't worry if it's not an exact match. The key to making unique soldered pieces is to go with the flow. The little bumps and ridges are a big part of what makes a project like this one one-of-a-kind.





Ooh-La Looking Glass

It would make a great gift, but odds are, you'll want to keep this goodie for yourself. Here are some tips to help you create a look you can't wait to display.

- Clean everything thoroughly before you begin—that means glass, mirror and soldering tool.
- Don't leave the soldering tool in any one place on your project for too long. It could cause cracks in the glass.
- Apply flux with a light hand. If you use too much, it can seep under the edges of the copper tape.