



Summer Fun Summer Sandals

by Judy Markwell

Tools:

- Side Cutters
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Chain Nose Pliers

Summer begs for bare feet - parties on the deck, bonfires on the beach - so THIS year you can be barefoot and all fancied up at the same time. Not expensive to make and not needing any special tools, these are really not too terribly complicated, but they will take a couple of your evenings .

I've changed my usual format here and it's assumed that you've worked with wire before, so I'm not going into details on the basics - otherwise, this little tutorial would be a booklet..

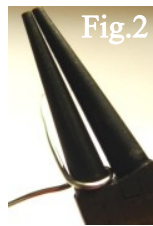
Materials:

- 200 6mm Bicone Faceted Glass Beads
- 100 size 2 Crimp Beads (for spacers)
- 2 Hooks (clasps)
- 2 feet Sturdy Chain with Large Rings (I used a long and short)
- 20 4mm 20 gauge jump rings
- 100 Head Pins (optional)
- Spool of 20 gauge wire

This is the first thing you'll make. Notice that one end is quite a bit larger than the other - make this loop up against the base of your needle



Step 1



nose pliers as shown in fig.2 below. If your pliers aren't big enough at the base to make a loop at least 1/4" across, find something to wrap around that IS that big. This is what all the other pieces will be looping onto. It is much sturdier than using a jump ring right here at the crux of the matter.

After you've made the center ring, make 8 more connectors attached to the center ring as you make them, as shown. Of course, you won't make the extra large ring on any of these. The place where the arrow is pointing has 2 wires going through each of these openings, and you'll need to leave room for them to fit.

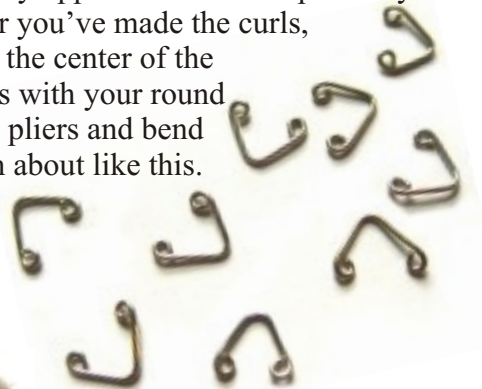
Step 2



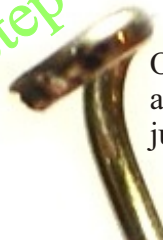
Step 3



Now cut 9 pieces of wire 1" long and curl the ends as shown using your round nose pliers. Make sure the wires are all the same size before you curl them, and make sure the curls are in the same plane, or exactly opposite so that the piece lays flat. After you've made the curls, hold the center of the wires with your round nose pliers and bend them about like this.



Step 4



Open all of the rings on both ends as shown at left, just like they were jump rings, twisting to the side.



Step 5

Take each of those little wire V's and attach them to the center medallion as shown. They're going to flop around a bit, we'll fix that in the next step. Make sure you pay attention and put the wires on so that you're not twisting things. You'll understand that as you actually attach them.

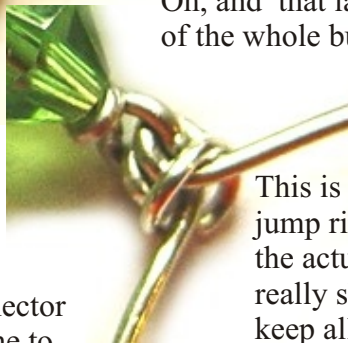
Close each loop after you've threaded that particular loop.

After you attach the first one, make sure to start the next one in a loop that already has a wire through it.

If you skip around it really gets hard

Also, be sure to pay attention to which direction you're threading the wire through as you add each V so that it will lay right. After a couple, you'll have it figured out.

Oh, and that last one that you add will be the hardest of the whole bunch.



Step 6

This is a closeup of the place that I've used jump rings. The arrow in the larger picture shows the actual location. Remember, - this step won't really show - that's not the point, it's just to keep all those little V's going in the right direction.

Step 7

No closeup here, just make a little connector with one of the glass beads, attaching one to each point of a V as shown below.

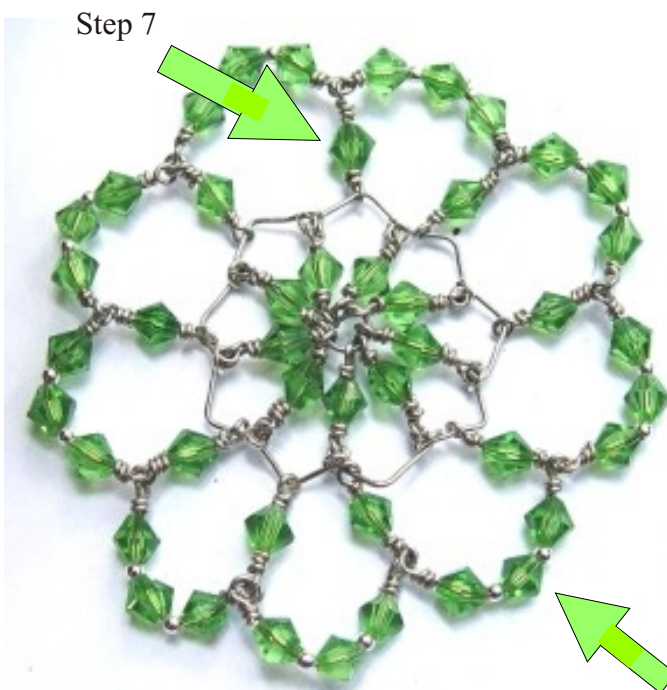
. They won't stay in place yet, that's fine. Make sure there's room in the loops that are on the outside for two wires to go through again.

Step 8



Take a couple of inches of wire, and thread glass beads and crimp beads as shown here. You're going to wire wrap each end to the beads you've attached in step 7 - It should look something like what's at left.

After you've finished these two steps, you'll need to bend and wiggle things to get them to lay down - just play with it until things seem right - until things lay flat.



Step 7

Step 8



Make a little ring to hold the sandal in place. I just wound wire around itself as shown here. Just remember these two things

#1 It doesn't need to fit your toe so go large, the tension from the ankle chain keeps it in place, so make it easy and

#2 The ring here doesn't really show, so don't bother making something pretty.

I just wrapped the wire around a broomstick, then pulled it a little tighter, and wrapped each end of the wire around itself.



At this point you add two wires to the ring. Cut two 3" pieces of wire, and thread 4 glass beads and 3 crimp beads as shown. These will attach the toe ring to the medallion.

The trick here is when you're wrapping the second wire around the ring, make sure it goes through around the ring AND through the first loop, as shown by the arrow at right. This keeps the two wires together.



Step 10

Now attach the ends of those two wires to the medallion as shown below. Just attach them through one of the loops in the intersection there, and match it on the other side. I've found it really doesn't matter where you attach it, as long as it's actually in a small loop.



Step 11

Cut a piece of chain about 12" long and attach your hook to one end. To decide where to attach your medallion to the chain, hook the chain around your ankle with the hook of the chain on the inside of your ankle. Put the medallion over your toe and play with it until you decide where you want to attach it. I use two more of the wired connectors to attach the medallion to the chain.

The connectors are hooked over one of the crimp beads, and I've used another large loop there, like the first one at the beginning of the tutorial. The large loops will keep things moving freely. All of this takes place at the place marked as Step 11 in the photo on the left. .

Now all you have to do is add the dangles as shown in the first photo if you're interested in having them. I attached one bead in each of the small loops on my chain using a head pin, and made a longer than usual wrap area, so that my beads would hang down a little. Make a second sandal that matches - Ta Da!!

Again, in this tutorial I'm hoping that the pictures will be self explanatory sometimes, I'm not expecting beginners to tackle this project. Just play with it, and I'm sure you'll be getting compliments at the beach in no time..... Judy