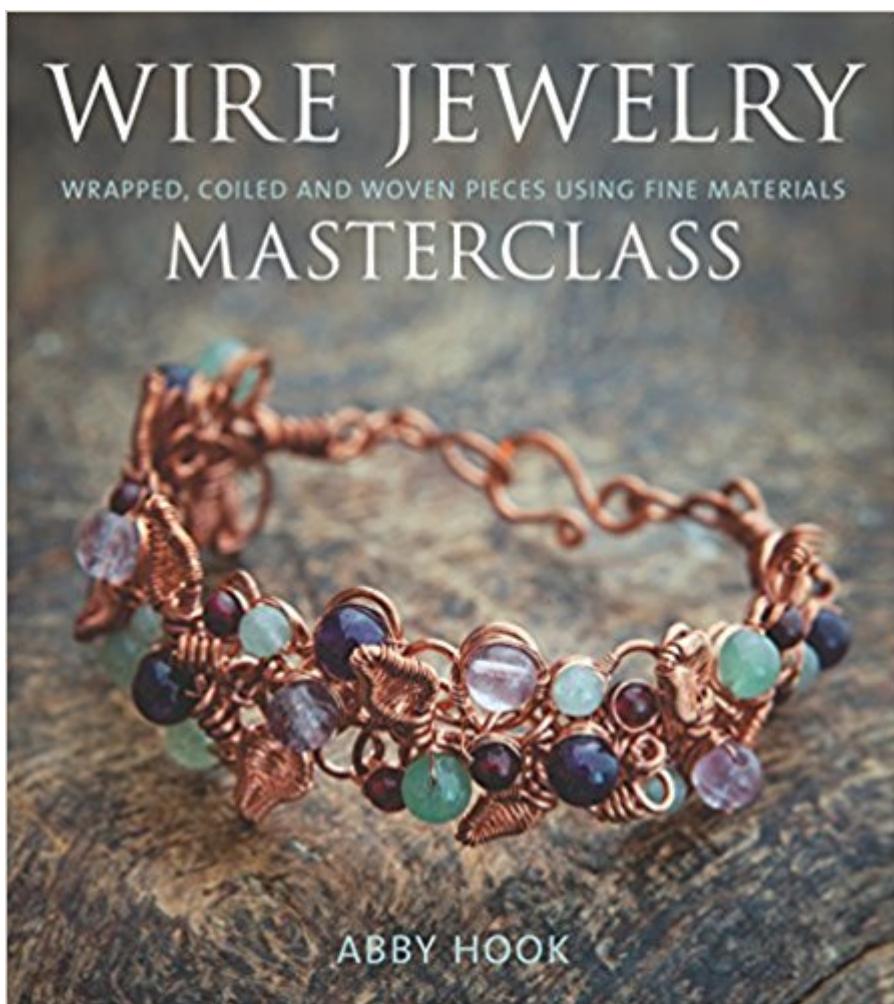


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# Wire Jewelry Masterclass: Wrapped, Coiled And Woven Pieces Using Fine Materials



## **Synopsis**

Comprehensive and fabulous, *Wire Jewelry Masterclass* takes an in-depth look at an intricate and rewarding craft. The 24 projects, which range from simple Dragon's tear briolette earrings to a Poseidon-under-the-sea pendant, will delight and inspire jewelers of all levels and tastes. Divided into beginner, intermediate, and advanced sections, this beautifully photographed step-by-step guide is the ticket to wire jewelry expertise!Â

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Guild of Master Craftsman (April 3, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1861088426

ISBN-13: 978-1861088420

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 119 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #71,666 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Jewelry & Beadwork > Beadwork #33 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Jewelry & Beadwork > Jewelry

## **Customer Reviews**

Abby Hook has been making jewelry since she was a child and has focused on wire techniques for the past 10 years. She currently teaches her skills and designs through online tutorials and is an approved teacher on [www.jewelrylessons.com](http://www.jewelrylessons.com). She is also one of the judges for Jewelry Lessons' International competition. Abby contributed several articles in GMC Publication's respected *Making Jewellery* magazine.

This is EXACTLY what I was looking for in a wire work book! I wasn't able to preview the inside of the book, so I took a chance and luckily it paid off. I have many books on jewelry making and wire working. Most of the projects aren't ones I'm crazy about or they're too simple or too 'out there'. This book is perfect. Some of the techniques and projects are more basic, but the level of advancement goes up quite a bit and every one of the projects is beautiful and useful!!! This is the book to purchase if you'd like some nicely detailed, beautiful projects for wire working. It's worth more than the cover price, since you could easily spend this much or more just buying a couple on on-line

tutorials. I would give this book 10 stars if I could! It's one of the best I've ever seen in the jewelry making category.

I think I am probably never going to be fully satisfied with any particular book on wire jewelry, but I do like this one a lot. (I think my strategy is just going to be ordering a whole bunch of books that excel at certain things and try to cobble together knowledge of the subject that way. Hopefully I do not end up with too many gaps.) In terms of being an actual book (as opposed to an evaluation of the projects, which will come later), this is very nice. The photography is lovely and clear throughout. The steps of each project are illustrated with individual photos and matching instructions. (The photos are kind of small, but I guess I didn't notice so much because I work with a lighted magnifier most of the time, so I could just slide the book under the magnifier if I needed to see better detail.) Every image is in full color and the paper is nice and sturdy. You may have to bend the spine to keep the book open while you work (this is not an issue for me). A variety of metal finishes are used in this book. I very much like the inclusion of copper, as that is what I have chosen to work with. (I decided I was going to learn everything about one metal, from wire to stamping/embossing on up to copper clay.) But don't feel limited. The bracelet on the cover, for example, could be made with silver or gold or some base metal if that is what you prefer. There is a small amount of information about oxidation and such. I am definitely a fan of the idea of using hardboiled eggs instead of liver or sulfur. (I have a PhD in chemistry and I am averse to using poorly-defined mixtures developed by alchemists. Not only is there a flammability issue with liver or sulfur, but it can have a short shelf life in lump form and the actual mixture isn't very precise, which could lead to results that are not reproducible.) Moving on: The book is divided into sections with projects of increasing difficulty. One thing I definitely like is the variety. There are necklaces, bracelets, and earrings, but there are also simple clasps and chains (few clasps and chains, but still, they are there). There are also instructions for making your own earring findings (which I may try if I can track down some niobium or titanium wire). So following this book, you will be able to make lots of different things and it has the potential to keep you busy for awhile. The one criticism I might level is that a fair number of the projects involve taking tiny wire (say, 28 gauge) and wrapping it around fatter wire. This does give some pretty neat results, but later projects in the book start to resemble one another quite a bit. One note: The author lives in the UK and so most of the suppliers are in the UK. But, these days, it is not hard to do an internet search and find what you need. I actually buy the majority of my wire and tools here on . (I am just a beginner and pretty happy with what I have purchased so far. I reserve the right to become picky about things later on.) Overall, though, this is a lovely book with lots of

useful information and I am glad I bought it!

This book is a fairly detailed guide to a wide variety of wire wrapped jewelry techniques. There are instructions for making your own findings/components like clasps, earwires, bead dangles, headpins, and even a bead cone and a brooch pin. For me, this was the big selling point. I want to make my own components to save money and open up my options for personal style. The projects are grouped from easy to advanced, and include rings, bracelets, pendants, and necklaces. Within the projects, there are instructions for even more techniques. As someone else mentioned, while some of the projects may not match your personal style, they will provide a lot of inspiration to add to your own style. I am in love with the lace filigree-inspired cuff and can't wait to have the skill to make it. I love that this book uses a simplified list of tools and even an alternative way to oxidize metal without liver of sulfur (eggs! whodathunk?). Some books require endless lists of tools that really eat up your wallet. On the other hand, I do wish she had provided a little more detail on selecting tools and differences in materials.

This book is fabulous. The projects have great variety and really do help you improve your techniques from start to finish. Projects are properly classified by their skill level i.e. easy, intermediate and advanced, yet you'll find beautiful projects that anyone would enjoy making or wearing throughout. I also like that the pictures for every project show variations in how the project will look if you use a different wire color (copper vs. silver) or a different bead (faceted vs. round), or a different bead size, etc. I think that really helps you make a project using the supplies you might have on-hand instead of trying to exactly reproduce the author's project. I love that the author takes you through the instructions step by step but then helps you 'make it your own'. I consider myself an intermediate wire wrapper and I think there is plenty for me to learn and practice in this book. One last thing - there's a lot of variety in the projects. Earrings, necklaces, rings, pendants, clasps, chains - no matter what your interest, I think there will be something for you.

I normally don't buy crafting books without checking them out in person, but this one had many glowing reviews, so I decided to take a chance. It was well worth it. The projects are beautiful and the instructions are very good. I'm a beadwork teacher, so I am fairly picky about instructions and illustrations in this type of book, and I think the author and publisher did a good job of both. Although I could probably find a few quibbles, they're minor. As you would expect, the projects range from beginner to expert and include earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings. I feel a beginner would be

able to start with the simple projects and be able to advance quickly using this book. I started with one of the more advanced projects, the Poseidon pendant, and it turned out great. I would recommend this book highly to anyone wishing to learn the intricacies of wire jewelry.

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