



# Unity Pendant



Go to Fire Mountain Gems Utube channel to find the VIDEO TUTORIAL for this project!!

This pendant can be made many different ways. As a bold statement pendant, by using a larger cabochon, or a dainty dressy night out piece. Also with many options for centre stones, you can make one for every outfit!



## **Finished Pendant Size**

1 3/8 tall x 1" wide

## **Supplies**

Centre cabochon - charoite - 14mm x 10mm  
OR 14mm x 10mm Amethyst  
9" - 16 gauge 1/2 round Sterling Silver wire - prong frame  
9" - 18 gauge round Sterling Silver wire: prong frame  
10" - 20 gauge round Sterling Silver wire: prong frame  
5" - 18 gauge round Sterling Silver wire - kite frame  
5' - 28 gauge round Fine Silver wire - Weaving Wire  
5mm - 18 gauge Sterling Silver Filled jump ring (optional)  
Swarovski crystal AB, 9x5mm faceted briolette pendant (6007)(optional)  
Finished Sterling Silver chain

## **Tools**

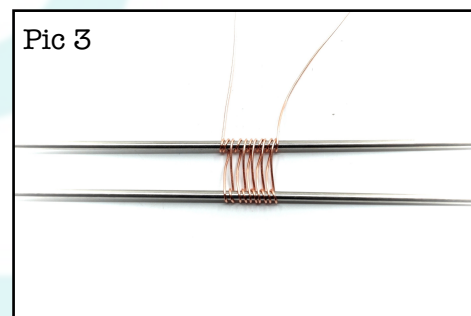
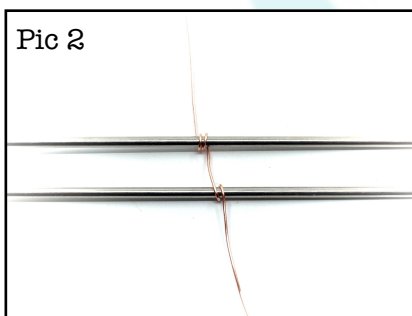
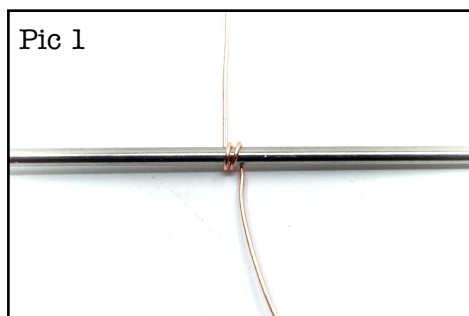
Round nosed pliers,  
Smooth 3mm & 5mm smooth flat pliers  
Wire cutters  
Hammer & bench block  
Permanent marker  
Ruler

## **Weaves & Techniques**

Hammering  
Figure 8 weave

**Please note:** This project can be made with either all copper, bronze or silver wire. Just cut all the pieces out of any chosen wire type.

## Weave and Technique Tutorial



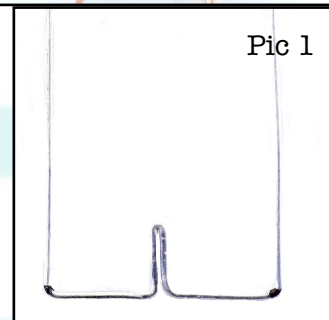
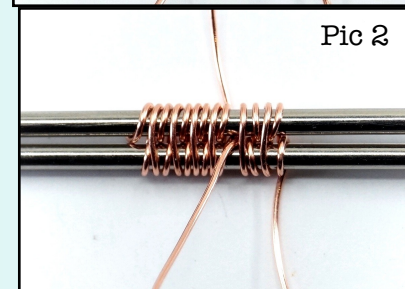
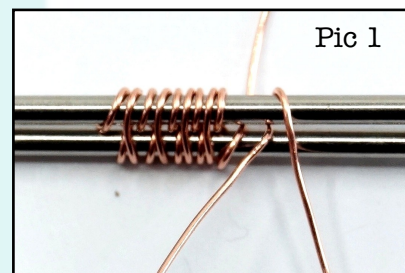
### Figure 8 Weave (2x)

1. Lay Base Wire #1 on top of the Weaving Wire. Wrap over & around it 3x to anchor it. Spread apart the BW's to the desired width. Go under BW #2 and wrap it 2x. (Pics 1-2)
2. Keep the BW's perfectly straight. With WW go under BW #1 and wrap it 2x. (Pic 3)
3. That's 1 set. Repeat as long as required. (Pic 3)
4. Widening the gap between the BW's, widens the weave. Keep that in mind when weaving. The more times wrapped around the BW, the less dense the weave will be. The tutorial May call for a 3x wrapped Figure 8 weave, that just means how many times each BW needs to be wrapped.

### Fixing a Broken a Wire or Adding more WW Wire

Every time you undo a weave you run the risk of breakage. The fine wire will weaken. Try to remove weave back to a single stitch. Feed new wire in the same hole it broke in but in the opposite direction leaving a 1" (25mm) tail. Hold onto the tail and keep weaving like it never happened. (Pic 1)

Pull on both tails at broken spot to tighten wires then trim off flush against weave. Press down with a pair of pliers to push the tail in to the weave. Run your finger across the break. If you get picked, return and re press with pliers. (Pic 2)



## Let's Get Started...

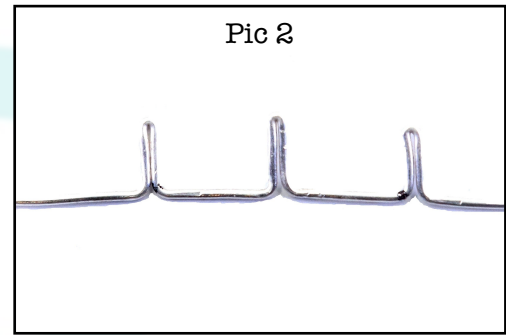
### Step 1

#### Building the Prong Setting

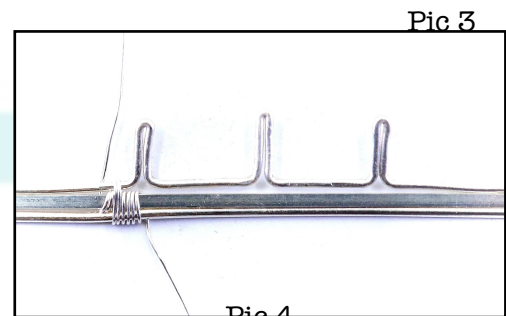
1. Take a scrap piece of 28 gauge wire and measure the circumference of the cabochon. A 14mm x 10mm stone is approx 1 5/8" around. Divide that number by 4 you get about 3/8". That's how far apart we want to make the prongs for the prong setting.

2. Cut a 20 gauge piece of Sterling silver 10" long. Fold the wire in half & press the centre tight. With a 5mm wide pair of pliers, bend the wire away from itself at a 90 degree angle. Repeat for the other side. That's the first "prong". (Pic 1)

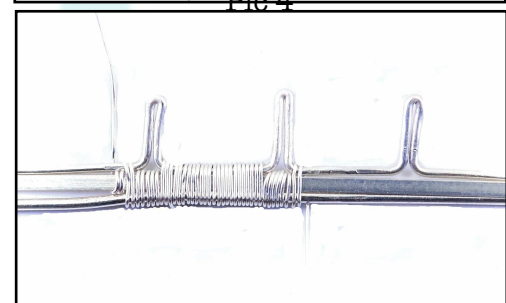
The width of the pliers is used to determine the height of the prong. If your stone is a low dome cabochon, use a pair of 3mm pliers to make the prongs. You can make a "test" prong to see what height your prongs should be. Make sure not to keep pressing the prongs as you can break them at the bend.



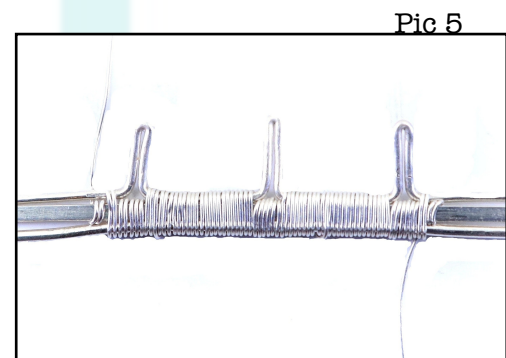
3. With a permanent marker, mark 3/8" from the 90 degree angles on each wire. Line a pair of 5mm tipped flat pliers, after the mark just made, & bend the wire up at a 90 degree angle. Fold the wire in half & press the fold to finish the prong. Repeat for last prong. There's a total of 3 prongs. Make sure all prongs are straight & tight. (Pics 1-2)



4. Cut a piece of 16 gauge Sterling silver 1/2 round wire & an 18 gauge Sterling silver round wire the same length as the prong wire. Mine is 9" long. Line up the 16g 1/2 round (with the flat side facing up) followed by the 18g round below it. These will be lashed together. (Pic 3)



5. Cut a 5' piece of 28 gauge Fine silver wire. Leave a 1" tail & make 2 wraps around the middle wire to secure it. With all 3 wires lined up, lash all three together 2x before the first "prong". (Pic 3)

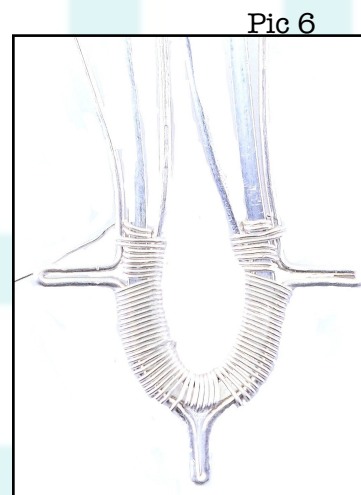


6. At the prong, lash the bottom 2 wires together until you get to the other side of the prong, then go back to lashing all 3 wires together to the next "prong". Repeat until the last "prong". Finish with 2 wraps over all 3 wires. (Pics 4-5)

7. Start to make a "U" shape in the weave with the middle prong being centred at the bottom edge of the arch. Keep checking the cabochon in the frame to get the right sizing. Once all 3 prongs are lined up, arch the ends of the wires to the top of the stone then point them straight up so they lie side by side. (Pics 6-7)

8. The weave won't be as tall as the cabochon. Trim off the 1" 28 gauge wire tail.

9. Curl the prongs towards the centre of the setting. Slide the cabochon into the setting, down through the top opening. Make sure the stone fits tight. If it doesn't curl the prongs more. (Pic 8)





10. Holding the stone pair of pliers, so it

Pic 8

in place, press both sides of the frame, fits tightly around the stone.

with a

Pic 9

11. Rest your pliers



on top of the stone & press the 2 middle tightly together forming a triangle shape above the stone. Straighten both of these wires so they point straight up. Arch the 2 wires on either side away from the centre wires. Make sure the bottom prong and the top 18g wires line up. Adjust the top wires until they do. The prong setting is done. (Pic 9)

18g wires



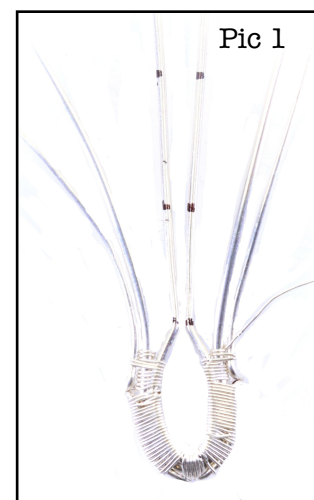
Moving forward you can do any weave you choose or change any element of this design at any point. If you have a favourite weave, use it instead. Play with different shaped wires, add a dangle or decorative beads. This is your pendant be creative!

## Step 2

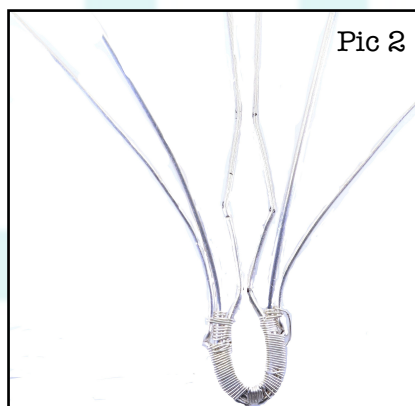
### Building the Bail

**Bail Options** - You can make your bail as wide or as thin you like. Play with proportions to decide what look & length you want your bail. Make sure the planning is done on paper. The Figure 8 weave does NOT like to be done, undone then redone. The 28g wire kinks and makes your finished bail look lumpy. It's better to restart with a fresh piece of wire then constantly reusing the same piece.

1. Starting where the 18g wires meet at that top of the stone, measure & mark 1/2" & 1" on both arms. Where the wires meet, on top of the cabochon, bend the wires away from the centre at a 45 degree angle. (Pic 1)



2. At the 1/2" mark bend the wires 45 degrees towards the centre of the Bail. At the last mark use your pliers to press the wires together to get them to point straight up side by side. (Pic 2)



3. To finalize the "bail shape", the 1/2" marks should be 4mm apart. Take the time to sharpen each bend & make sure the bail is straight & in line with the centre of the stone. You can also work harder this area with a hammer and bench block or running



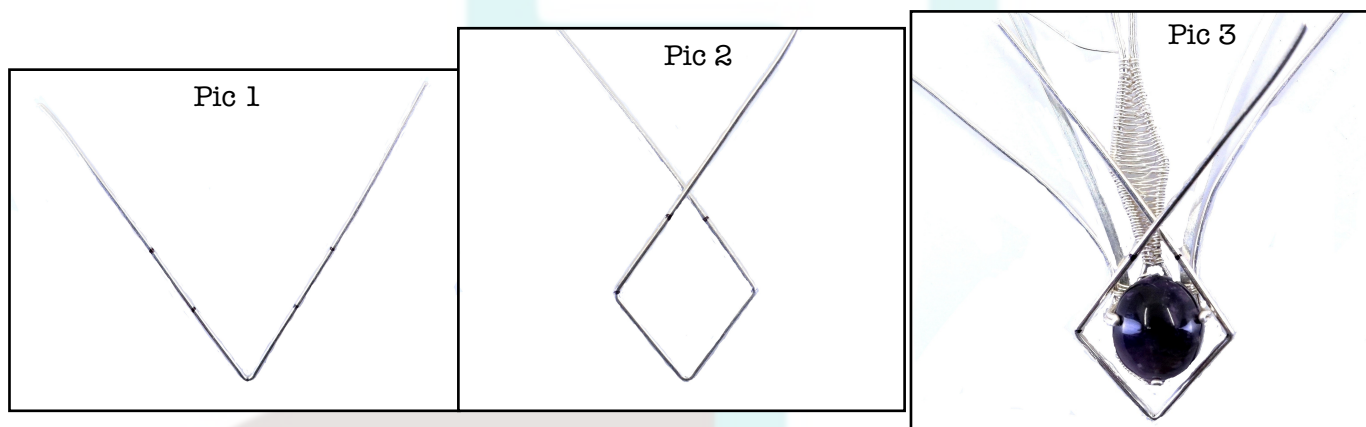
your fingers (or pliers) up & down the wires. Doing this step will make it easier to keep the frame from collapsing or shifting. The finished bail, once folded, will be about 1/2" tall. This is a diamond shaped Bail. (Pic 2)

4. Have the back of the pendant facing up. With the attached 28g wire, do the figure 8 weave between the two wires. (starting right where the wires meet above the stone) Make sure to keep the frame shape solid. Take your time. Push your work back onto itself after every 2 sets so there's no gapping. Continue this weave from the very first mark to the last mark on the wires. (Pic 3)

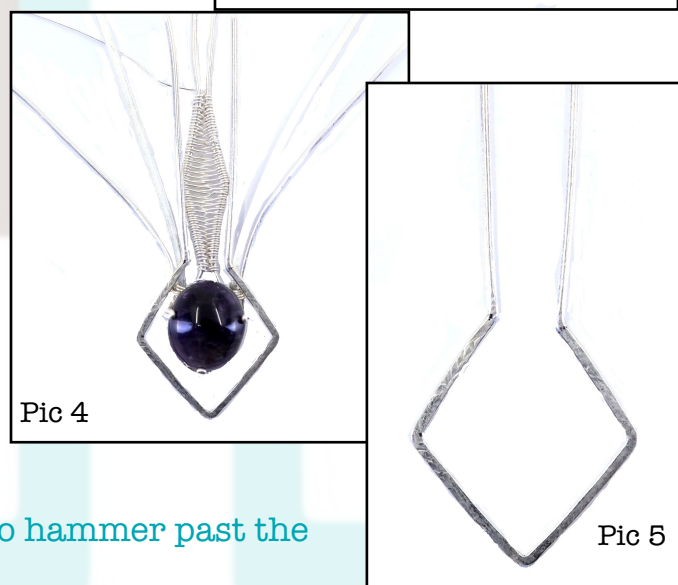
### Step 3

#### Building the "Kite Frame"

1. Cut a 5" piece of 18 gauge round Sterling silver wire. Measure and mark centre. (2-1/2") Fold wire to 90 degree angle. Put your pliers in the fold & press on each side to make the fold a crisp corner. (Pic 1)
2. You're making a kite shaped frame. Measure & mark 5/8" & 1-1/8" down each arm. The first mark is to be bent toward the centre of the frame at about a 90 degree angle. (Pics 2-3)

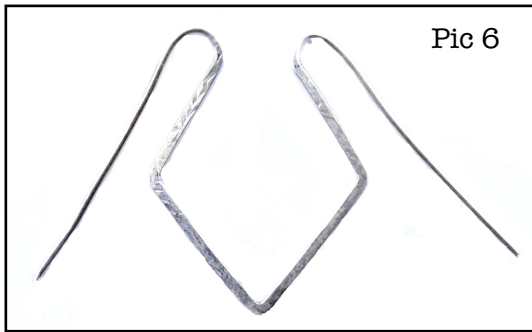


3. The second mark points straight up. Keep going back & forth, with a pair of pliers, in the bends to make them nice and crisp. (Pic 4)
4. Measure across the centre of the frame horizontally from bend to bend. The width should be about 3/4" wide. The "kite frame" should be 1" tall with the ends of the wires pointing straight up. Gently adjust so everything is even. Set the pendant back in the space. (Pic 4)

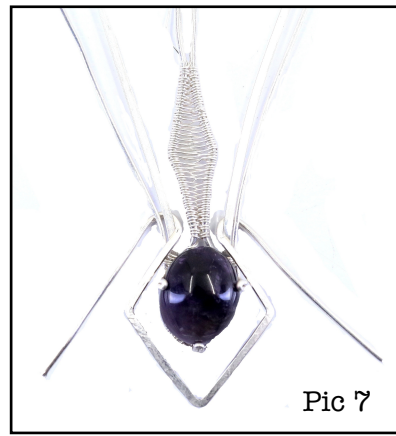


After the frame is made, gently hammer it on a bench block to work harden it. Be careful not to hammer past the top marks. (Pic 5)

5. Each end of the "kite frame" sits on either side of the "bail frame". Make a tight loop clockwise on the right side & counterclockwise on the left at the original 1-1/8" marks made earlier. Finish it so it points out to the sides. (Pic 6)



Pic 6



Pic 7



Pic 8

6. Hook each arm UNDER the 1/2 round & 20g wire on each side. Slide the frame down so it sits over the cabochon. (Pic 7)
7. To attach, wrap each "kite frame" wire around the 20g & the half round wires twice on each side. Do this slowly. Make sure to secure the kite frame by pulling each loop tightly, with pliers, as you go. Be careful not to distort the frame. Push the loops together tightly & slide them down the 2 wires so the frame touches the top of the cabochon. Bring the 18g wires back to the front & trim them off on top of the 2 wires. Press each spot to flatten & secure. (Pics 8-9)
8. Centre the "bail" section on a 3-4mm round nosed pliers or small looping pliers. Fold the bail over the pliers so it now points straight down & is centred over the middle of the stone. (Pic 10)

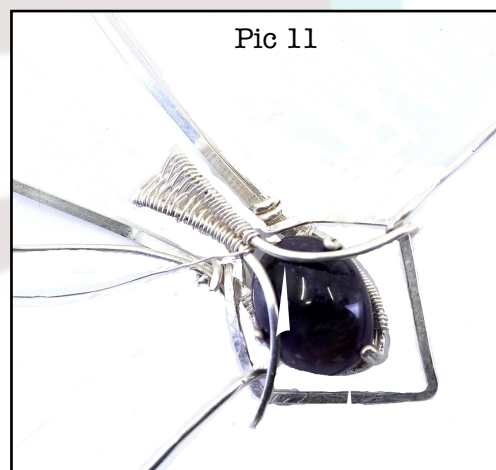


Pic 9

9. Arch each end of the "bail" wires to the top "prong" on each side. Lash the wire around



Pic 10



Pic 11



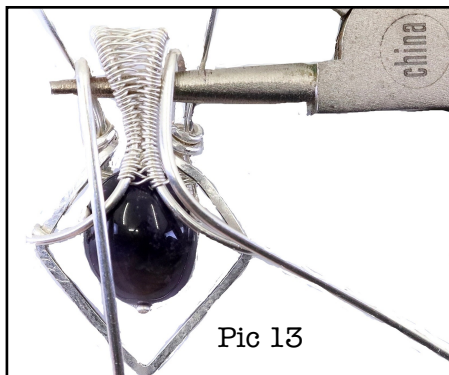
Pic 12

the outside of the "kite frame" then up between the stone & the "kite frame" ABOVE the loop just made. Gently pull each side tight. Wrap around to the back, trim off excess wire & press to secure. Repeat for both sides. (Pics 11-12)

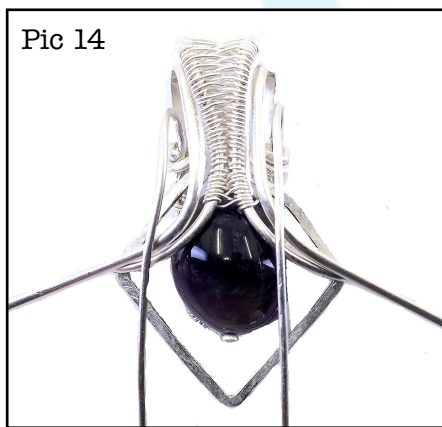
Constantly be checking the pendant to make sure everything stays straight & nothing deforms. Anything not in the right spot, correct it right away.



10. With the attached 28 gauge wire, continue the Figure 8 weave to fill in any space between the bail and the top of the cabochon. (If needed) Pull 28g to the back of pendant & wrap around a side of the “kite frame” 3x. Trim off excess wire on the front of the pendant. (Pic 12)
11. For the 1/2 round wires, these loops will be shorter than the woven bail height. (to protect it from chains rubbing against the fine wire.) Put the round nosed pliers in the bail & fold the 16g 1/2 rounds so they point down. Make the loops about



Pic 13



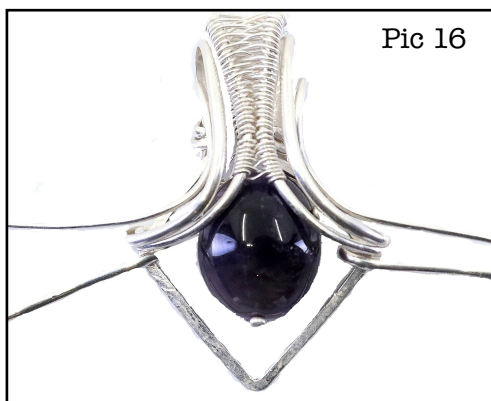
Pic 14



Pic 15

3-4mm below the top of the “woven bail”. (Pic 13)

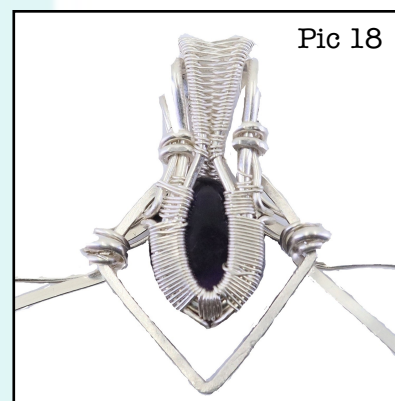
12. On the 20 gauge wires by the bail, wrap the beginning of each side around a 4mm round nosed plier. Point the wire straight down. (Pic 14)



Pic 16



Pic 17



Pic 18

13. With the 1/2 round wire, arch it to follow the “bail” wire down to the corner of the “kite frame” on both sides. Repeat this step with the 20 gauge wire making sure each new wire sits above the last. (Pic 15)

14. Wrap the 1/2 round, on both sides, around the the “kite frame” & come up BELOW the “Bail” wire. (Pic 16)

15. Wrap the 20g wires around the “kite frame” coming up ABOVE the 1/2 round. (Pics 17- 18)



Pic 19



16. Turn the pendant so the bottom of the “kite frame” is now pointing up. (Pic 19)

17. Make shallow 1/2 moon shapes, with the 1/2 round wires, so the ends will secure to the opposite side of the “kite frame”. (Pic 20)

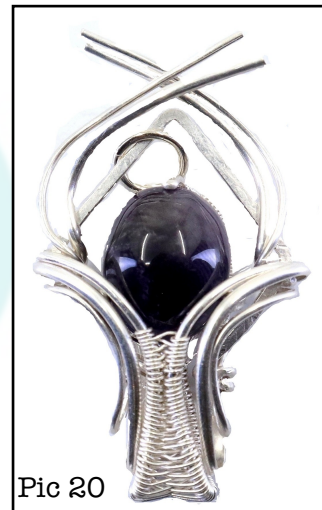
**OPTIONAL TIP** - I have added a 5mm jump ring, right now, to the bottom point of the “kite frame”. I put it there in case I want to add a dangle to the pendant at the end. If you choose not to add the dangle it can be removed. Right now it's a place holder.

18. Trim the 1/2 rounds down to 1/4” past the frame. On the left side, secure the 1/2 round to the frame by wrapping the end around the outside of the right side of the frame. The end wraps over then around the frame & ends BELOW this wire. Trim off excess & press end into the frame to secure. (Pic 21)

**Please note** - when looking at the pendant, bail pointing up, the left side bottom wires go OVER the right side

19. For the 20g wire, follow ABOVE the 1/2 round. Wrap the end over & around the frame with the end wrapping ABOVE the 20g wire. You may need to slide the 1/2 round down the frame to get it to sit above it. (Pics 21-22)

20. Repeat the same process for the other side but these wires will go ON TOP of the previous wires. Trim off excess wire and press with pliers to secure. (Pics 23-24)



Pic 20



Pic 21



Pic 22



Pic 23



Pic 24



Pic 25

21. Double check every secured wire. Check to make sure the bail & the bottom of the pendant line up. You can choose to put the

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chain through either the 20g bail wire or the 1/2 round bail wire. Add more wires or weaving wherever you like to make a more elaborate creation. If you're not antiquing the piece, you can



choose to add a dangle to the jump ring or remove it now if you're not.  
(Pic 26)



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