



## Tutorial: Mystic Ring

Created by Donna Spadafore

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This lesson teaches you to make a ring which can hold un-drilled stones attractively and securely.

The ring shank design in this tutorial is merely a suggestion. At the end of this lesson you will see other options for the band portion of the ring. Using your own imagination you will be able to adapt the bezel technique in this tutorial so it can be used with many different ring shanks.

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### Materials:

- 12' of 28 ga Round Soft Wire
- 16" of 20 ga Half Round Half Hard Wire
- 1 18mm x 13 mm Oval Cabochon
- Small piece of scrap paper
- Masking tape or painters tape
- Ruler (measuring in millimeters)

### Tools:

- Ring Mandrel
- Flat Nose or Bent Nose Pliers
- Wire Cutters
- Needle File or Wire Rounder
- Round Nose Pliers
- Fine tip pen or ultra fine tip marker
- Any marker that will work on metal

### Prerequisite Tutorial:

- Determining the Length of Wire Needed for a Ring Shank

<http://tutorial.gailavira.com> (scroll to the bottom of the page for free tutorials)

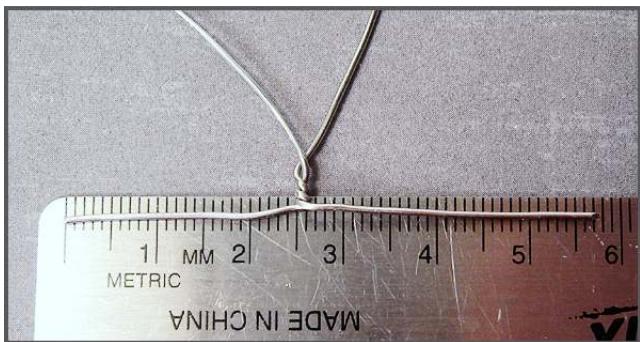


**Step 1:**

Place the stone onto a piece of paper. Using the marker or pen, trace around the stone. Try to keep the line as close to the edge of the stone as possible.

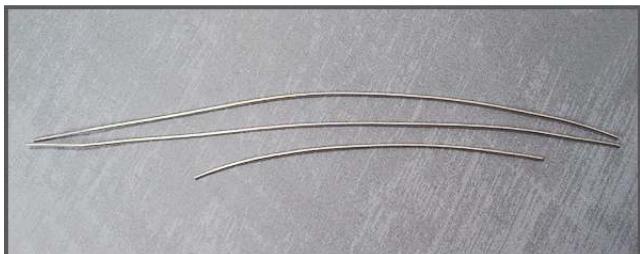
**Step 2:**

Using your ruler, find the center of each of the sides. Draw lines connecting the center points of each opposing side.

**Step 3:**

Using the technique in the "Determining the length of Wire Needed for a Ring Shank" tutorial, Measure the length of wire needed for the size ring you wish to make.

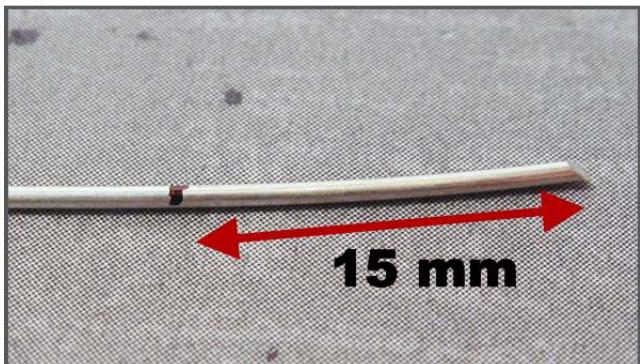
For this tutorial, you will have to subtract 8mm from that measurement. (If using a larger stone, you will have to subtract more than 8mm) Use this number for the next step.

**Step 4:**

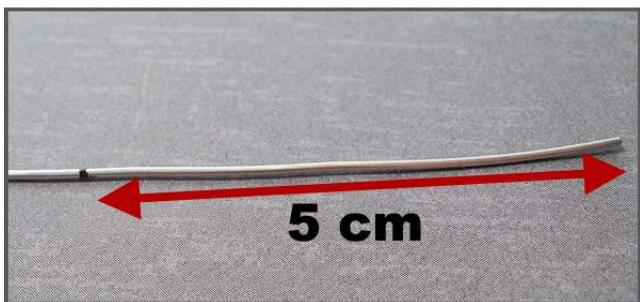
At this point, you will use the measurement from the previous step to determine the length of the 20g wires you will need for the ring.

You will need 2 20g wires that are 10cm (100mm or 4") longer than the determined length for the ring shank.

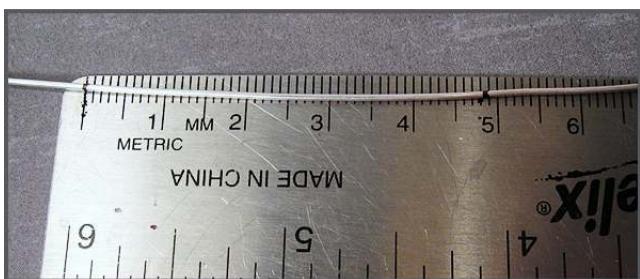
You will need 1 20g wire that is 3cm (30mm) longer than the determined length for the ring shank.

**Step 5:**

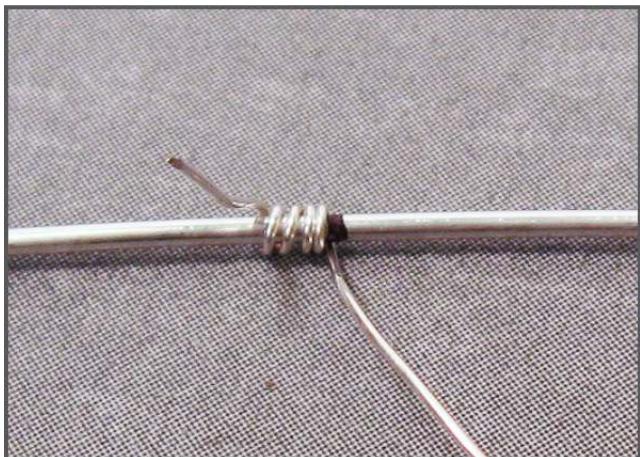
On the shorter wire, mark a point that is 15mm away from the end. Repeat on the other end of the wire.

**Step 6:**

On the two longer wires, mark a point that is 5cm (50mm) away from the end on each side.

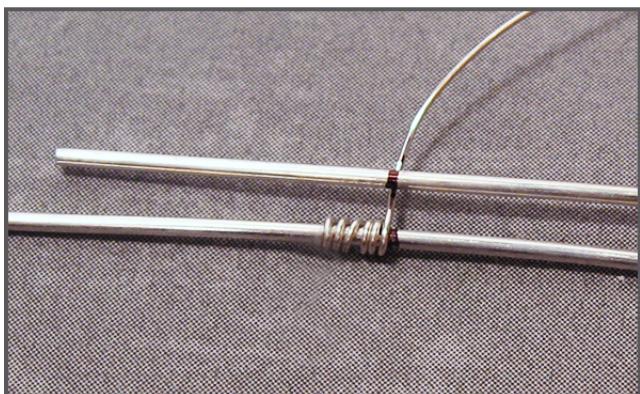
**Step 7:**

If everything was measured correctly, the space between the marks on each wire should be the same length as the number calculated in step 3. If not, re-mark the wire at the correct spot to make sure that the space is the correct length. (There should be enough extra wire in these calculations already for it not to matter too much if you lose a couple mm of length on the ends of the wires)

**Step 8:**

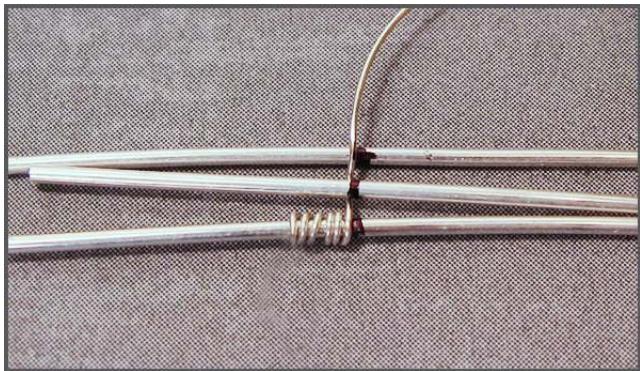
Starting with a 3' length of 28g wire, wrap one of the longer wires 4-5 times. The longer end of the wire should be right at the mark on the wire.

At this point, You can either cut the tail wire and press it close to the core wire, or leave it there if it is easier for you to work with it, and cut it at a later time.

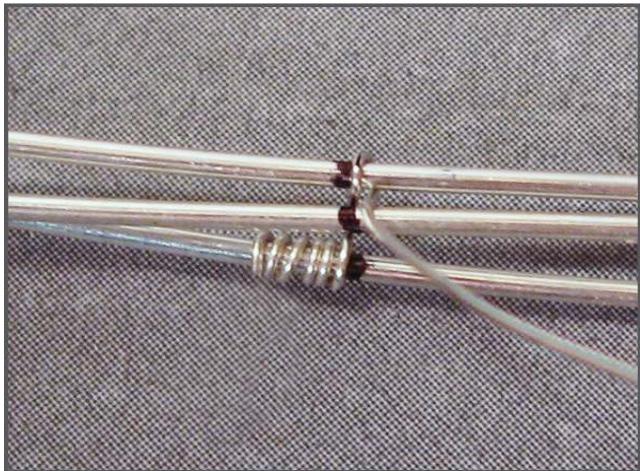
**Step 9:**

Place the shorter 20g wire next to the longer wire, with the 2 marks lined up, and the 28g wire underneath the second wire.

You will actually need the 20g wires to be as close as possible with the 28g wire between them. I have left them slightly apart in the photo to easier show the detail.

**Step 10:**

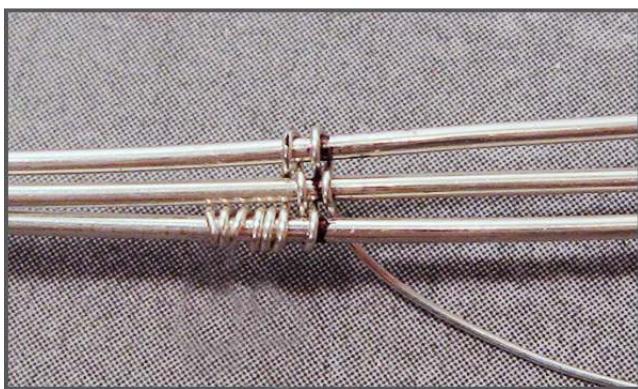
Place the last 20g wire next to the shorter one from the previous step, also lining up the marks. The 28g wire should now lay on top of the third wire.

**Step 11:**

Wrap the 28g wire around the third 20g wire , bringing it back up between the second and third wires.

**Step 12:**

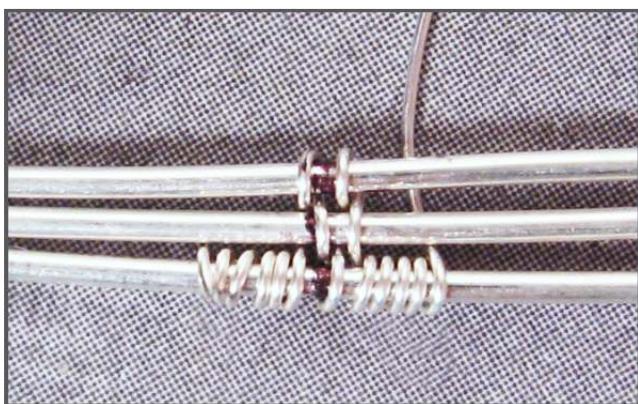
Pass over the middle wire and taking the 28g wire between the first and second 20g wires and back underneath the first wire.

**Step 13:**

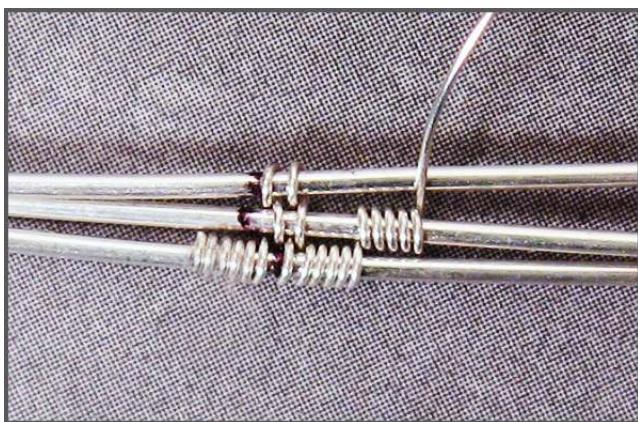
Repeat the over/under pattern from steps 9-12 one more time.

This initial weave is to keep make it easier to hold the three wires together while working the rest of the band.

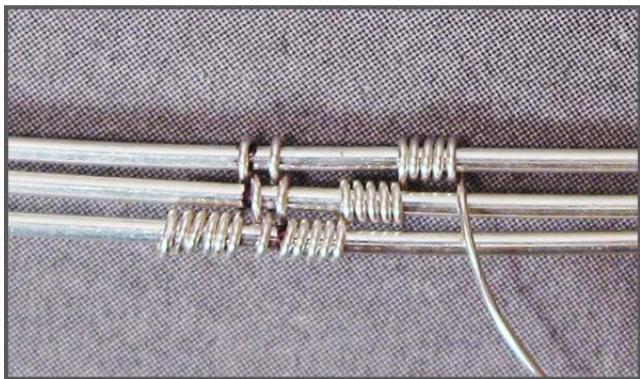
Please note that in the picture the weave is beginning to go past the original starting point. Throughout the project you will need to keep adjusting the wires so that the marks stay lined up.

**Step 14:**

Wrap the first 20g wire with the 28g wire five times. End the final wrap with the 28g wire going down between the first and second wires, and underneath the second wire.

**Step 15:**

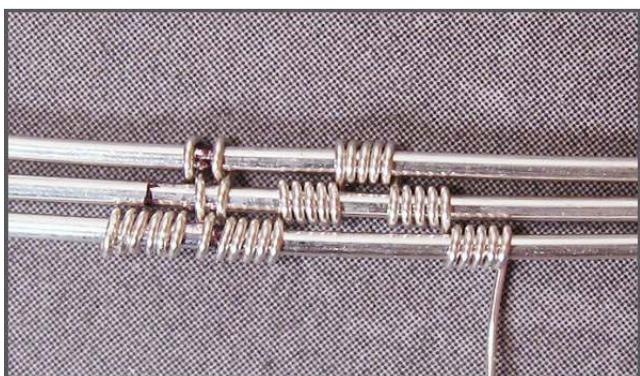
Wrap the second 20g wire with the 28g wire five times. This time, end with the wire going up between the second and third wires.

**Step 16:**

Wrap the third wire five times, ending with the wire coming up again between the second and third wires.

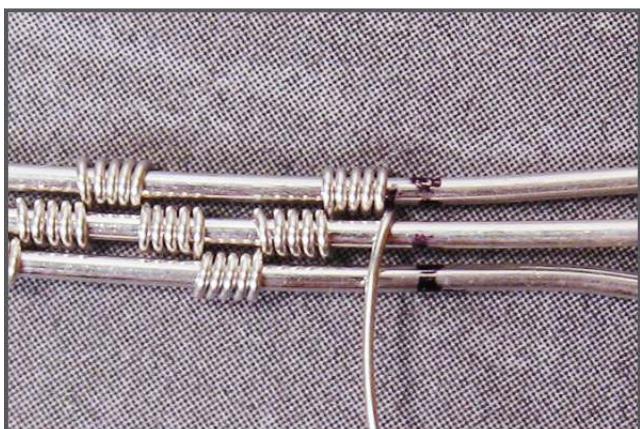
**Step 17:**

Wrap the middle wire five times, ending the final wrap with the 28g wire going downwards between the first and second wire, with the weaving wire laying underneath the first wire.

**Step 18:**

Wrap the first wire five more times.

Remember to keep adjusting the 20g wires so that the marks stay lined up.

**Step 19:**

Repeat steps 15-18 until the weave is about 2mm away from the second set of marks on the 20g wires.

**Step 20:**

Weave as in steps 9-12 two times, ending with the 28g wire coming up between the second and third 20g wires.

**Step 21:**

Wrap the 28g wire around the middle 20g wire a few times to secure it. Do NOT cut the 28g wire yet.

**Step 22:**

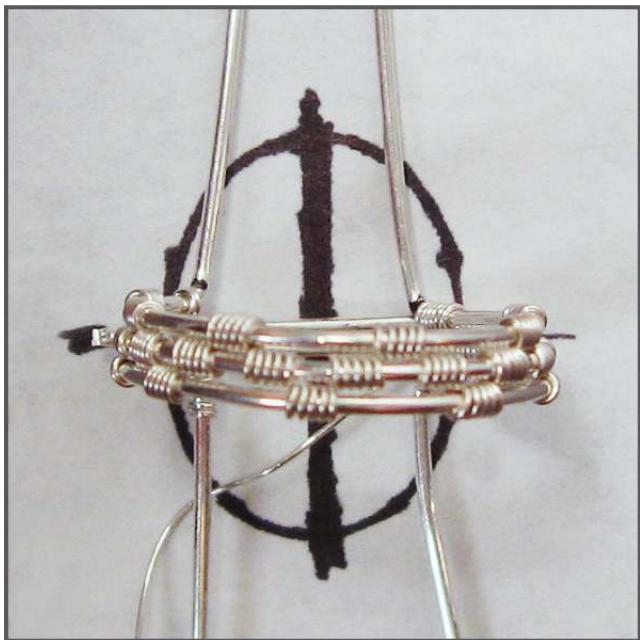
Bend the outer 20g wires away from the middle wire on each side of the weave at approximately a 90° angle. Try to get the bends as close to the ends of the weave as possible.

**Step 23:**

Shape the ring on a mandrel. The two shorter pieces should overlap each other.

It will be easier to make the ring a couple sizes smaller than you need, then open it back up to the correct size later.

During the rest of the tutorial, the ring shank will most likely become misshapen. Don't worry about this until the end of the tutorial. At that point you can place the ring back on the mandrel to reshape the shank.

**Step 24:**

Place the ring back on the piece of paper. Make sure the point where the longer wires come out if the weave is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm-2mm away from the inside edge of the tracing.

**Step 25:**

Turn the ring over again. Using your round nose pliers, curl the ends as shown in the picture.

Do not let the curls close completely.

**Step 26:**

Continue wrapping the middle wire with the 28g wire until you have a section that is approximately 4mm.

**Step 27:**

Wrap both of the curled wires together.

**Step 28:**

Once you reach the point where there is no more room to wrap the two wires together, begin wrapping the other middle wire separately.

At this point only wrap a few times to secure it, but do not cut the wire.

**Step 29:**

Place the ring back onto the stone tracing and make sure it is still the correct size as in step 24.

If it is, continue onto the next step. If not, try adjust the size of the curls until the ring fits in the tracing correctly, then continue.

**Step 30:**

Close the curls with your pliers, and then finish wrapping the middle wire all the way to the weave. Cut the 28g wire and press it flat against the 20g wire.

**Step 31:**

Using masking tape, or painters tape, secure the ring to the tracing. Make sure that it is centered correctly using the lines that were drawn through the center points of each side of the oval.

**Step 32:**

Using either your fingers or your pliers (whichever you feel you have better control with) shape the longer ends of wire to match the oval shape. Keep the wires 1½mm-2mm inside the inner edge of the tracing. At the center points of the top and bottom of the oval, bend the wires outward as shown in the photo.

**Step 33:**

Remove the ring from the paper and hold it against the back of the stone. Make sure that the wires are inside the edges. If not, continue reshaping the wires as necessary.

Be careful not to overwork the wires to the point that they break.

**Step 34:**

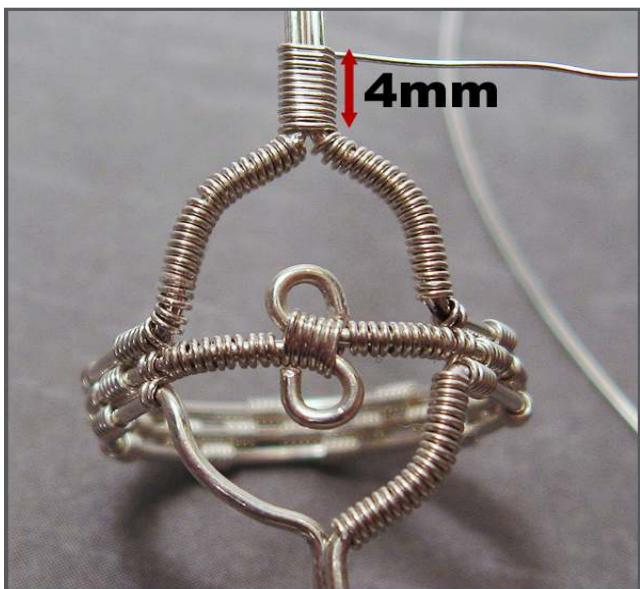
Using the 28g wire, wrap one of the 20g wires so that it is covered from the end of the weave, all the way to the bend at the tip of the oval. Cut and secure both ends of the 28g wire.

**Step 35:**

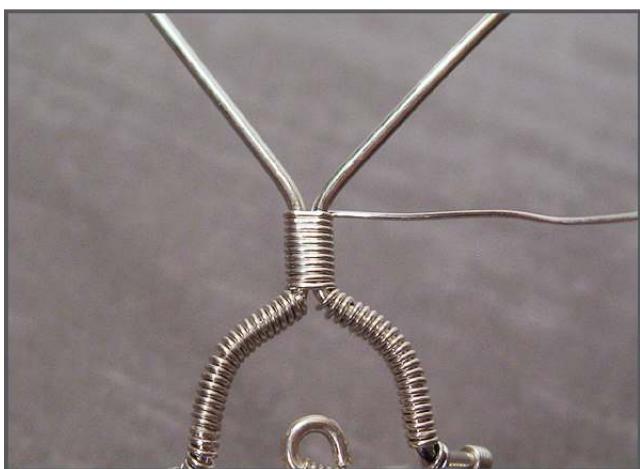
Repeat step 34 on the wire that is diagonally opposite the first wire.

**Step 36:**

Starting with a 2½' piece of 28g wire, begin wrapping one of the remaining 20g wires at the end of the weave and continue all the way to the bend at the top of the oval. Do NOT cut the 28g wire at this point.

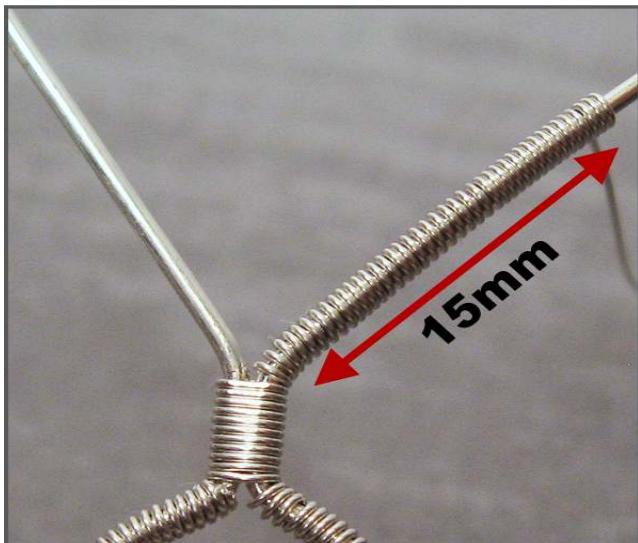
**Step 37:**

Wrap the two wires together. Continue until you have a section that is 4mm long.

**Step 38:**

Split the two wires above the wrapping apart.

It does not matter how far you split them. This is just to make the next steps easier.

**Step 39:**

Wrap the 20g wire with the 28g wire until you have a 15mm section.

Do NOT cut the 28g wire.

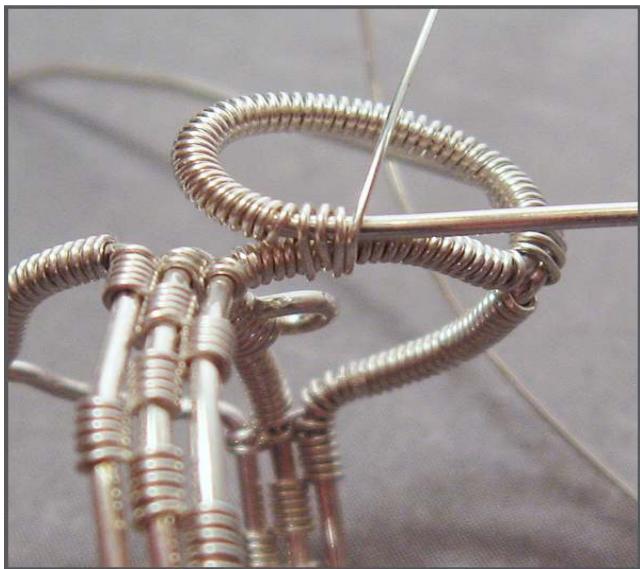
**Step 40:**

Hold the stone onto the ring shank (it you prefer you can tape them together to help keep it in place, but you will still have to hold it firmly).

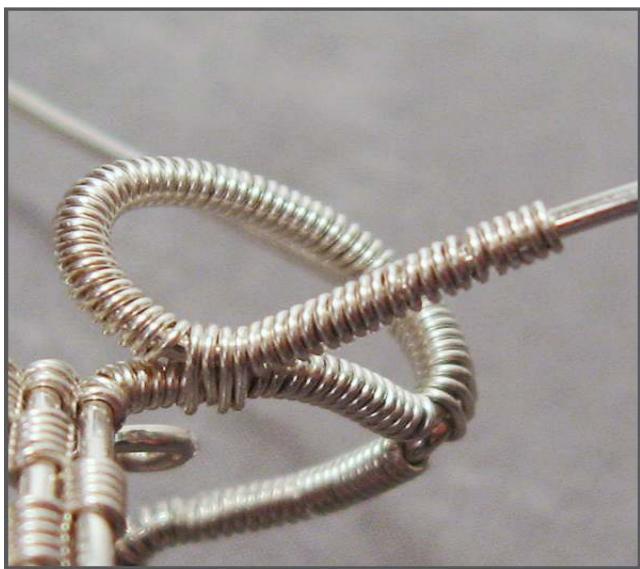
Bend the 4mm section up over the edge of the stone.

**Step 41:**

Still holding the stone in place, shape the 15mm section so that it drapes over the front of the stone and slightly curls underneath itself. The end of the coil should be close to the ring shank.

**Step 42:**

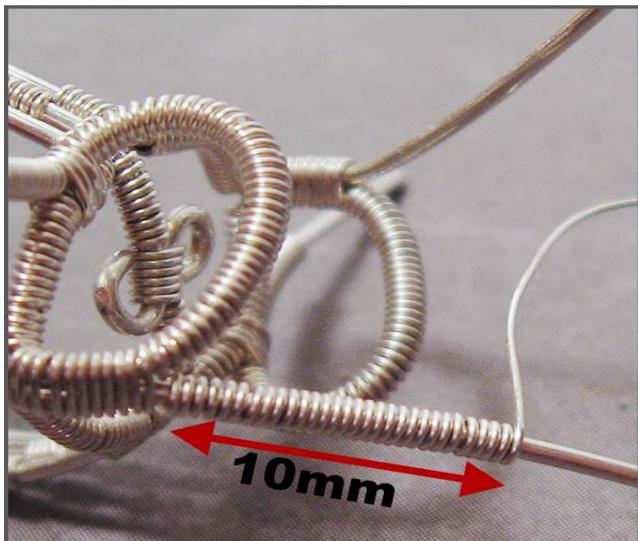
Secure 20g wire to the frame by wrapping them together 4 times approximately 2mm-3mm away from the ring shank.

**Step 43:**

Continue coiling the 28g wire onto the 20g wire for another 8mm. Cut the 28g wire and press it close to the 20g wire.

**Step 44:**

Repeat steps 36-43 on the wire that is diagonally opposite the previous wire you worked.

**Step 45:**

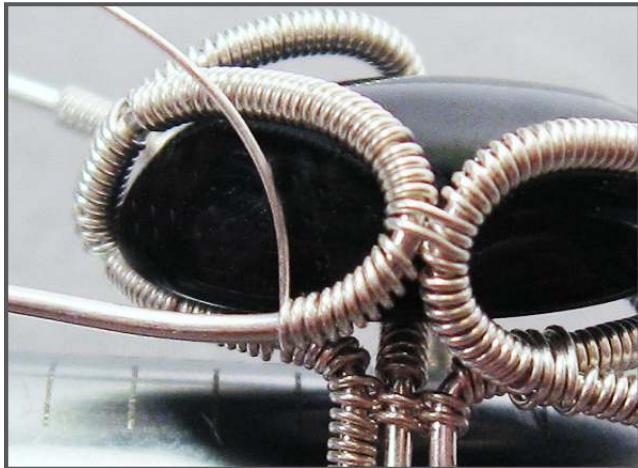
On one of the remaining bare 20g wires, using 2' piece of 28g wire, coil a 10mm section.

**Step 46:**

Holding the stone onto the frame. Shape the wire so that it lies against the stone curving slightly toward the side.

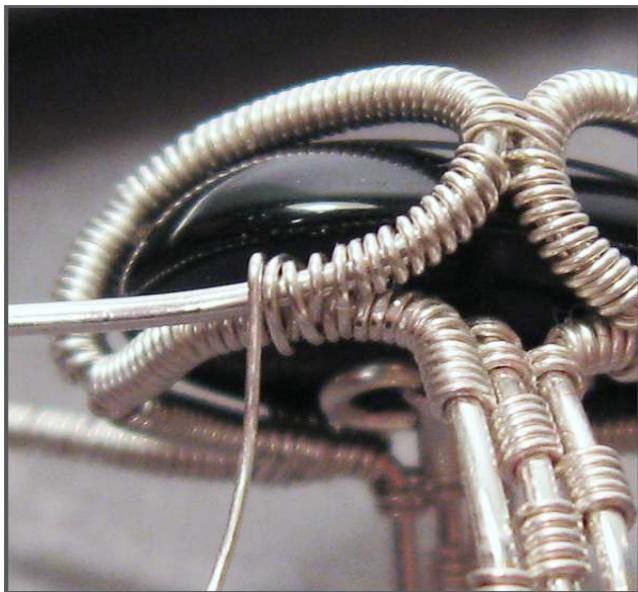
**Step 47:**

Wrap the two wires together on the side of the stone 2 times.



**Step 48:**

Coil a 4mm section.



**Step 49:**

Secure the wire to the frame by wrapping the wires together 4 times, approximately 2mm-3mm from the ring shank.



**Step 50:**

Coil an 8mm section. Cut the 28g wire and press it close to the 20g wire.

**Step 51:**

Repeat steps 45-50 on the last remaining wire.

**Step 52:**

Cut all 4 20g wires 1/16" – 1/8" away from the end of the coils and file them smooth.

**Step 53:**

Spiral all 4 coiled wires and press them against the stone.

If needed, reshape the ring shank by placing it on the ring mandrel and pushing it down to the correct size.

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This bezel can be combined with many different bands. For the Rose Quartz ring to the left, I used the same technique as the band in the tutorial, but with only 2 wires.

For the two below I made a strip of "Wrapped Connector Posts" for the shank. The River Stone ring on the right was made a couple of sizes larger then needed then shaped by pushing the center of the section outward with the tips of a pair of round nose pliers.

For both the types of shanks shown here there is no brace created from a third wire in the center of the frame (as in this lesson). This makes it a little trickier to work the bezel, but with a little practice it can be done.

The Wrapped Connector Post tutorial can be found here:

<http://tutorial.gailavira.com> (scroll to the bottom of the page for free tutorials)

