



Fine Silver Wire Bracelet

<Objective>

- Learn how to braid silver wires with Kumihimo Disc
- Firing SV925 findings with Art Clay Silver

<Tools and Materials>

Art Clay Silver 650 Clay Type 10g / Art Clay Silver 650 Paste Type 10g / Fine Silver Wire 0.2mm x 60m / Kumihimo (Wire Braiding) Disc / A Pair of SV925 (Sterling Silver) Hook Clasps

Cooking Sheet/ Underlay/ Craft knife/ Plastic roller/ Plastic strips 1mm (a pair)/ Fine file/ Medium fine file/ Brush (flat)/ Tray (for mixing paste)/ Tweezers/ Spatula/ Cutting pliers/ Rubber block (small)/ Stainless brush (short bristles)/ Burnisher/ Sponge sanding Pads(#320-600, #800-100, #1200-1500 grit)/ Polishing cloth/ Silver polishing cream/ Stainless net/ adhesive tape/ Ruler (enough in 15cm)/ Pen & memo pad

Making Process

1. Cut fine silver wire to 1m each. Make 4 groups of 15 silver wires. Pile 1 group of silver wires together, and fold in half at the center point. Bind the center point with thread. Keep all wires straight. Twist the both ends of the wires to hold and fix with adhesive tape. This preparation makes each wire not get twisted, and helps you weave the wire more easily.
2. Hook the wires in the slits of the Kumihimo Disc. Make sure the wires are not loose.
3. Start weaving. Tight weaving on each wire is the key to success. Pay attention to the part where the wires are crossing over. One tip for tight weaving is to hold the wires on your left hand (approx 90 °opposite of clockwise.) when you drop down the top wire. Repeat this when you make each weave. Also, pull the rest of the wires which you did not weave to make the weaving tight, and repeat this every weave.
4. When you have woven the wires about 13cm in length, twist the edge and cut the excess wire.
5. Bundle up the ends of the silver wires with flat pliers and attach the sterling silver cap clasp (SV925). Bind them with clay and dry. Paint the end part with Paste type, add some clay, cover with paste, and attach the silver wire to the silver clasp. The excess clay will be pushed out from the clasp, and smear this on the silver wire end to fix the joint of the clasp. Check the overall curve shape of the silver wire and set the position of each clasp so that you can hook the clasp easily.
6. Roll out clay 1mm thick, and wrap around the joint part of clasps and wire. Make a smooth join by smearing the clay in the wires. Consider the curved design of silver wires when you add the clay on clasps.
7. Sand the clay parts with a hand file and sponge sanding pad to get a smooth surface. Be careful not to scratch the silver wire with the file.
8. Apply 650 Paste type to sink it into the join area between the clay and silver wire. Dry the piece.
9. Fire the piece at 650°C for 30 mins.
10. With a fine file, smooth the surface where 650 Paste was painted. Be careful not to cut the silver wires when filing.
11. Brush the entire piece with the stainless steel brush to reveal the silver luster. You can also use a magnetic tumbler. If you do so, please polish the piece for a shorter time period than usual and check the piece regularly because the wire can be broken if left too long.
12. Polish to get a mirror finish on the surface of the silver parts which you made with clay by using the sponge sanding pads and polishing cloth. Again, please be careful not to cut the wires in drying, filing and polishing. If you notice the joint area is not smooth enough, fill the crack with 650 Paste or Oil Paste, and finish it up again.

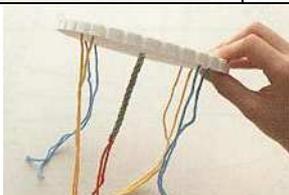
Silver Wire braiding seminar information

Introducing basic technique of Kumihimo braiding using the Kumihimo Disc



8Z spiral (with 8 bundles of wires)

	<p>1) Hook the wire in the slit # 4, 5, 20 & 21. Hook the other pair of wires in #12, 13, 28 & 29.</p> <p>Move wire #5 → #19.</p>	
	<p>2) Move wire #21 → #3.</p>	
	<p>3) Turn the Disc to a clock wise direction vertically. Move wire #29 → #11.</p>	
	<p>4) Move wire #13 → #27. Completed 1st stage. Now the number of slits slide to the next numbers.</p>	
	<p>(2nd layer) Turn the Disc back and keep same movement.</p> <p>5) Move #4 → #18, and #20 → #2.</p>	
	<p>6) Turn the Disc to a clock wise direction. Move #28 → #10, and #12 → #26.</p> <p>Keep the same movement until the cord becomes your desired length.</p>	



The braided cord looks like this



8S spiral (with 8 bundles of wires) / reversed spiral of the 8Z.

Hook the wires the same as with 8Z.

	<p>1) Move #20 → #6 Move #4 → #22</p>		<p>2) Move #12 → #30 Move #28 → #14 1st stage Completed. Now the number of slits slid to next numbers.</p>
	<p>3) Move #21 → #7 Move #5 → #23</p>		<p>4) Move #13 → #31 Move #29 → #15 Keep the same movement until it becomes the desired length.</p>