


(Download pdf) Ancient Wire - An illustrated guide to making jewelry in the manner of the Vikings and other ancient cultures

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Helene Jacobs

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Helene Jacobs : Ancient Wire - An illustrated guide to making jewelry in the manner of the Vikings and other ancient cultures before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Wire - An illustrated guide to making jewelry in the manner of the Vikings and other ancient cultures:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Clear and helpful By wiredweird My introduction to Viking Knitting came at an open studio event, where I saw some finished work on display. It captivated me immediately - the miraculous transformation of metal into something as soft and pliant as fabric. Although the artist had never taught before, she agreed to a private lesson, and I've been at it happily ever since. Nothing can replace a good teacher, but this book comes as close as a book can. It patiently explains each step, using BW photos that clearly demonstrate what's going on. Although somewhat limited in scope, this covers its range beautifully. I haven't seen another reference that teaches this technique, and really can't imagine needing another. (The book doesn't present other basic techniques such as wire crochet, but I respect an author's right to her choice of subjects.) Like anyone who learned in a different school, though, there are a few things I'd do differently than shown here. Among them, only one really seems to matter: after drawing the chain, I work it back and forth around a dowel. This eliminates the gritty feel as the chain flexes, and gives the silky smoothness that makes this technique so magical. (I also anneal the chain before drawing, but that would require tools that Ms. Jacobs has chosen not to present.) The BW photos could be a bit larger and sharper, but I appreciate Ms. Jacobs's effort to keep this book affordable. If you can't find a teacher of your own, try

learning from this - you might surprise yourself.-- wiredweird (not the same wire)4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating and easy to follow.By Silure DumnoniiI do quite a lot of jewellery making but wanted a way to provide my own 'chain' for pendants and so on. This little book does everything I need. The instructions are fairly easy to follow although sometimes it's a bit hard to tell which is the working end of the wire from the photos, a simple label would have helped in this regard but the photos are good enough that study and experimentation allowed me to work out what was what.The process is not quick but I think this will be one of my travelling projects as the equipment you need is small and simple and none of the necessary tools take up much room. If you already do beading or other jewellery making you probably have all the essentials. I liked the fact that Helene gave instructions on how to make simple extra tools that you need for this way of working eg, a draw plate, I made my own and it really was easy.I've really enjoyed experimenting - and you need to because in some cases there's not much explanation of how to move on from the basics to the more complex eg. from a three loop handle to a five or six loop handle. Having said that I had no problem working it out once I'd mastered the basics.If you've done any kind of wire work or beading you'll have no trouble following what's going on. If you're a complete beginner this is a great way to learn a skill that ends up with a really complex looking product that is actually very easy to create.Projects are included but only in a very loose way that allows you to make the project your own.I'll be buying Helen's second book when I've worked my way through all the projects in this one.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good layout and instructionsBy D. ParksWell researched and documented. Good layout and instructions. Spiral binding is handy for laying book open while using it to teach yourself a weave.

This book will not only show you how to create chains in the manner known as Viking Knitting, Viking Wire Weaving or Viking Chain Knitting, but how to finish them, and also how to create other items such as rings and hollow ovals. Chapters include: Tools and Materials, The Handle, Basic Technique-Through Two Handle Loops, Basic Technique-Through One Handle Loop, Single Loop Handle, Double Technique, Adding a New Piece of Wire, Estimating the Length of the Finished Chain, Drawing the Chain, Finishing, Tips and Tricks, Clasps, Connecting Rings, Rings, Wire Caged Glass Bead, Hollow Oval, Leather Cord Center Necklace or Bracelet, Twisted Wire Center Bracelet. 79 pages, 121 Black and White illustrations.