Transfer an image

Dress up a toggle for an asymmetrical lariat

by Mary Lynn Maloney

I wanted a warm, mixed-metal piece with the closure as part of the design, so I started with a bunch of different metal components. I kept the beads to a minimum to punctuate the graphic black floral imagery.

1 Cut an image from a transfer sheet to fit an oval toggle pendant. Soak the image in water for 40 seconds. Slide the filmy portion of the transfer onto the oval. Discard the backing and dab the image with a paper towel to remove the excess water.

2 Use a paintbrush to apply a thin coat of sealant over the entire pendant. Allow to dry. Apply a second coat and allow to dry.

3 On a head pin, string a 4–6 mm bead. Make a plain loop (How-Tos). Make three bead units.

“I really dig the dangly chain belts that were worn slung low on the hips of medieval gowns.”
4. Cut a 2-in. (5 cm) piece of 3–4 mm link chain. Open the loop of a bead unit (How-Tos) and attach an end link. Close the loop. Repeat with a 3-in. (7.6 cm) and a 4-in. (10 cm) piece of 2–3 mm link chain.

5. Open the end link of the 2-in. (5 cm) chain. String the pendant’s hole and attach another link of the chain. Close the link. Repeat with the remaining chains.

6. Cut a three-link piece of 9 mm link chain. Attach one end and the pendant’s loop. Attach the other end and the small loop of a toggle ring.

7. Use a 9 mm link to attach the toggle ring and a loop of a twig connector. Cut a 14–18-in. (36–46 cm) piece of 9 mm link chain. Attach one end to the twig connector’s other loop.

8. Cut a 13–17-in. (33–43 cm) piece of 5 mm link chain. Attach one end to the 9 mm chain near the connector.

9. Cut a 13–17-in. (33–43 cm) piece of 3 mm link chain. Attach one end to the 5 mm chain.

10. On the other end, attach the 3 mm chain to the 5 mm chain. Attach the 5 mm chain to the 9 mm chain. Attach the 9 mm chain to a twig toggle bar.

**Design alternative**

I used a “grande heart” and a ½-in. (1.3 cm) circle punch to punch images from a Paris collage sheet and a graphic florals transfer sheet. Before soaking the transfer sheet, tear the image on a diagonal; a ragged edge gives your piece more dimension. I used Gel du Soleil UV resin to fill the pendant.

**Mary Lynn Maloney**

Mary Lynn works from her basement studio in Port Townsend, Wash., where she lives with her husband and their two “big-boned” cats. Her favorite local bead store is Wynwoods Gallery, wynwoods.com. Contact her at mlm@topfloordesigns.net or visit the gallery and video pages of Nunn Design, nunndesign.com, to see more of her work.

**Supplies**

- Lariat 19 in. (48 cm)
  - 3 4–6 mm beads
  - 16–20 in. (41–51 cm) chain, 9 mm links
  - 13–17 in. (33–43 cm) chain, 5 mm links
  - 2 in. (5 cm) chain, 3–4 mm links
  - 17–21 in. (43–53 cm) chain, 3 mm links
  - 7 in. (18 cm) chain, 2–3 mm links
  - 3 1-in. (2.5 cm) head pins
  - Oval toggle pendant
  - Toggle ring
  - Twig connector
  - Twig toggle bar
  - Chainnose and roundnose pliers
  - Diagonal wire cutters
  - Paintbrush
  - Paper towels
  - Scissors
  - Sealant, such as Nunn Design Sealant
  - Transfer sheet
  - Water

Supplies from Nunn Designs. Visit nunndesign.com for store locations. Check your local bead store for supplies.