



These metal silhouettes come in a variety of finishes, ready for stamping or engraving.

# Mother's Day bracelet

Make a charming memento ♦ by Jane Konkel

Remember the cut-out profiles that were once popular? Silhouettes made from black paper were a quick way to create a lasting image of a loved one, and they were less expensive than portraits. I love that they're making a comeback. Include a few of these nostalgic charms and shapely beads for an old-school charm bracelet.

## components



**1** **stamping** • Fold a piece of paper in half four times. Practice steps 2 and 3 on the stack, spacing the letters so they're neither too crowded nor too spread out (Tips, p. 2).



**2** Across the top of a sticky note, print a message. Lay the sticky note on the blank. Hold the stamp with the mark facing you. Position the stamp directly above the first letter on the sticky note.



**3** For each letter or number: Making sure the stamp is straight, hold it firmly and hammer it once. Make two to four stamped tags.



**engraving** • Hold the engraver like a pencil, with your index finger over the button. Touch the bit to the tag and press the button to write. Make two to four engraved tags.



**bead units** • On a head pin, string a faceted spacer, a square bead, and a flat spacer. Make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basics). Make 12 to 16 bead units.

## 1 bracelet • Make the components (p. 1).

Cut three 5½-7-in. (14-18 cm) pieces of chain. Open a 6 mm jump ring or chain link (Basics) and attach an end link and the center hole of a connector. Close the jump ring or link. Use jump rings or links to attach the other end and a connector. Use 4 mm jump rings or links to attach the outer chains.

2

3

On each end, use two to six 5 mm jump rings to attach half of a toggle clasp and the center hole of the connector.

5

Attach two to four stamped tags, two to four engraved tags, and one or two charms to each of the outer chains.

4

Attach a bead unit to each link of the center chain, completing the wraps as you go.

## Tips

- Hold the stamp straight so each stamped letter will be complete.
- To avoid stamping upside down, mark your stamps. Hold the stamp so the letter or number will be printed right-side up.
- Firmly hold the stamp so it doesn't move as you hammer.
- When engraving, hold the blank in place, or secure it to your work surface with a piece of masking tape.

## Design alternative

Use connectors and chain links to make streamlined earrings.



**earrings** • For each earring: On a decorative head pin, string a 4 mm flat spacer, a square bead, a 3 mm flat spacer, and a faceted spacer. Make the first half of a wrapped loop (Basics). Attach the bead unit and a 9 mm jump ring or chain link. Complete the wraps (Basics).

1



2

Open a pair of 4 mm jump rings or chain links (Basics). Attach a 6 mm jump ring or chain link. Close the jump rings. Open the loop of an earring wire and attach the dangle. Close the loop. \*

## Hammering mishaps

### Problem:

Incomplete images

**Solution:** Hold the stamp straight and strike the hammer harder.



### Problem:

Denting the tag  
**Solution:** Strike the hammer more softly.



**Problem:** Letter with shadows

**Solution:** Strike the hammer just once.



“These face charms take me back to the profiles of my sisters and me that my mom hung in our house.”

## Supplies

### bracelet

- ◆ 4-8 12-24 mm stamping blanks, in two finishes
- ◆ 2-4 6-22 mm charms
- ◆ 12-16 6 mm square beads
- ◆ 12-16 3 mm flat spacers
- ◆ 12-16 3 mm faceted spacers
- ◆ 10-14 in. (25-36 cm) copper chain, 4 mm links
- ◆ 5-7 in. (13-18 cm) brass chain, 6 mm links
- ◆ 2 20 mm connectors with three holes
- ◆ 12-16 1½-in. (3.8 cm) head pins
- ◆ 8-10 6 mm oval jump rings or chain links
- ◆ 14-18 4 mm oval jump rings or chain links
- ◆ toggle clasp
- ◆ number and letter stamp set

- ◆ chainnose and roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters
- ◆ hammer and bench block
- ◆ micro engraver
- ◆ sticky notes

### earrings

- ◆ 2 6 mm square beads
- ◆ 2 4 mm flat spacers
- ◆ 2 3 mm flat spacers
- ◆ 2 3 mm faceted spacers
- ◆ 2 9 mm jump rings or chain links
- ◆ 2 6 mm jump ring or chain links
- ◆ 4 4 mm jump rings or chain links
- ◆ 2 1½-in. (3.8 cm) decorative head pins
- ◆ pair of earring wires
- ◆ chainnose and roundnose pliers
- ◆ diagonal wire cutters

Supplies from Rings & Things, 800.366.2156, rings-things.com.