

ImpressArt®

"It's Festival Time!" – Personalized Festive Zodiac Hair Charms

Skill Level: Advanced

Tools & Supplies

- Ergo-Angle™ Metal Stamping Hammer
- Steel Block
- Stamp Enamel Marker™
- Stamp Guides™
- Stamp Tape™
- Chain Nose Pliers (2)
- Ring Bending Pliers
- High Polish Finishing Block
- Heartbreaker™, Uppercase & Lowercase, 3mm
- Gemini Zodiac Ultra Detail Design Stamp, 12mm
- Feather, Custom Stamp
- Henna Mandala Signature Stamp Pack
- Mandala Stamp Pack, Series 4
- Circle w/ Hole, 3/4", Alkeme, Brass, Copper
- Tag, Circle, w/ Ring, 1/2", Alkeme, Brass, Copper
- Circle Tag w/ Ring 5/8", Alkeme, Brass, Copper
- Rectangle, 1/4" x 1 1/2", Alkeme, Brass, Copper
- Celestial Embellishment Variety Pack, Brass and Copper
- Artisan Jump Rings, 7mm - Silver Plater, Gold, Plated, Rose Gold Plated
- Polishing Cloth, Paper Towel, or Clean Rag



STEP 1

Make a ring sizer by cutting a 5/8"x6" strip of paper. Wrap it snugly around the base of your finger. Find desired length and mark the point. Place a 3/4" blank on stamping block. Position Zodiac Ultra Detail Design Stamp in the center of the blank. Use the Tilt & Tap technique to stamp 6mm and larger stamps, or stamps with more details. While applying pressure to the stamp, strike once with medium force. Then without lifting stamp, continue to strike while very slightly tilting the stamp in a circular motion to catch all sides of the design. Set blank aside. Repeat to stamp any remaining hair charms with Ultra Detail of Custom Stamp designs.

TIP: If the stamp has an ImpressArt logo, make sure it is facing you so that the impression is stamped in the correct direction.

TIP: Use stamp tape to secure the blank to the stamping block so it doesn't move while stamping.

NOTE: Harder metals and stamps with more detail require a harder strike than softer metals and stamps with less detail.

STEP 2

Position circle tag blanks on stamping block. Center the pattern grid over the tag blank to secure it to the stamping block. Start pattern from the center using the lines and circles marks as guides to assist with spacing. Create pattern using the letter set's design stamps. Continue stamping to the outside edge of the blank, turning the stamping block while working to complete the circular pattern. This will ensure that the stamp is facing the correct direction. Remove the pattern grid. Repeat to stamp any remaining mandala pattern hair charms.

STEP 3

Position rectangle strip on stamping block. Secure a straight stamp guide on blank. Use the guide marks to evenly space out letters and align stamp impressions.

TIP: Write desired message directly onto the stamp guide and utilize the guideline marks for spacing.

STEP 4

Place stamp on blank, above the corresponding mark on the stamp guide. Lightly drag stamp towards the guide until the stamp catches the edge of the guide. Hold stamp flat and firmly in place by anchoring the side of your hand on workspace. Then strike stamp once with medium force using Metal Stamping Hammer. Repeat to complete desired word.

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TIP: Slightly tilt the stamp towards you while dragging the stamp towards the guide. Make sure you hold the stamp flat and firmly in place before striking the stamp.

STEP 5

Then use the Ring Bending Pliers to bend the rectangle strip into a hair cuff shape. Match the curvature of the nylon jaws to the desired curvature of the hair cuff. Starting at the end of the blank, squeeze pliers to begin forming. Continue to squeeze and release pliers towards the opposite end until the two sides meet.

STEP 6

Highlight impressions with Stamp Enamel. Wait 3-5 minutes and then dab the excess enamel into the impressions with a paper towel before lightly wiping it away from the surface of the blanks.

STEP 7

Buff stamped blank and bezel to a brilliant, high-shine finish using High Polish Finish Blocks. Use fine grit to quickly clean and polish blanks. Hold buffing block in the palm of the hand and move the block in even, back and forth strokes to remove dirt and dried enamel left on the raised surfaces. Use extra fine grit for buffing to a high shine. Hold buffing block in the palm of hand and buff in tiny, back and forth strokes with light pressure to get a mirror-like shine.

STEP 8

Use the tips of two chain nose pliers to grasp the sides of a jump ring, with the opening of the jump ring facing up between the two pliers. Laterally twist each side of the jump ring in opposite directions to open the ring. Slide blank and hair location onto jump ring. Laterally twist the jump ring back with tension to close. Repeat to attach remaining blanks as well as embellishment charms to hairstyle.

STEP 9

Gently pull open the hair charm cuff(s) just enough to slip over the desired location of hair. Squeeze hair cuffs slightly to secure in place.