

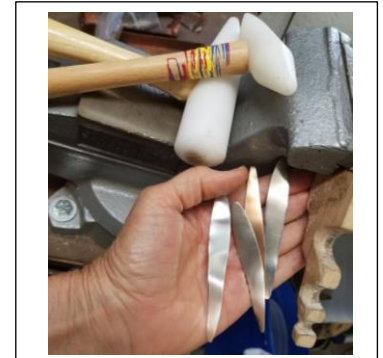
Anticlastic Formed Curly Earrings



Step by Step directions
using 26g copper, brass, bronze or silver

by April Bower

1. choose pattern. Draw pattern on metal twice (for earrings) and cut out with shears. File edges smooth and perpendicular to flat surface.
2. anneal, pickle rinse dry.



6. Start forming using the largest bay in the small wood sinusoidal stake and large nylon cross peen, on the textured brass side of metal. This will be the INSIDE of anticlastic shape.* you may like to start the curve by forming the earring blank around the base of a ring mandrel for a large C shape, again have texture outside surface of this C. shape.
7. continue forming, using smaller bays in the sinusoidal stake, may need smaller nylon mallet for some areas
8. anneal when it becomes stiff as necessary.

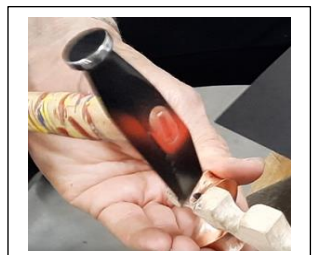


3. it is better to work both earrings as you go rather than do one then the next. Check overall shape often as you go, not allowing one part to get too out of shape before correcting.
4. try to make earrings match but **opposite** curl.
(bookend)



8. Make bottom a tighter curl.

The top point will be a bit straight at the tip for the wire or post to go in, but then use a narrow hammer and smallest bay to give it a deep straight groove →



9. When satisfied, solder on ear post or wire of 20g sterling.

10. * Pickle rinse and scratch brush with soapy water for a bright satin finish

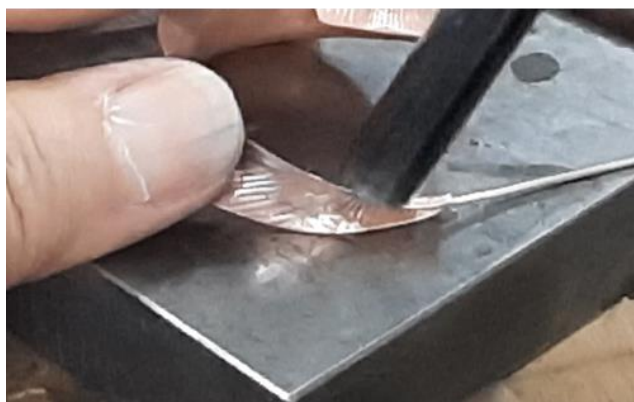
11.. Clean up any discoloration before closing because you will not be able to get to that area after closing *small radial discs work well for this

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12. Close the deep groove around the soldered in post or wire. It is like closing a spiculum: support it on a bench block or ring mandrel and tap the sides, at the soldered area, rotating, being careful not to make dents.



Taper the groove out so it is a pleasing line

See difference between right & left side?

13. Finish cleaning up with radial discs if needed.

14. tumble in steel shot if possible)

* Use Brass pickle (2/3 vinegar-1/3 Hydrogen Peroxide) to remove the "pink" copper oxide off the brass, but be careful not to etch the surface by soaking too long.

