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Tutorials

Making a custom bail using Fallen Angel Brass



Our friends, Mindy and Glen Sommers of [Color Bakery](#), were looking for a solution when it comes to using **Fallen Angel Brass™** to make bails for their pendants. What you see in this tutorial is a plain pendant. When it's finished, it will have some of Mindy's gorgeous art on it, and will be sold as a custom art pendant. Mindy is unhappy with the large holes the pendants have and was hoping to find something to kind of cover up and/or distract from them. You will find two very different tutorials that are a solution to this problem. You may have a stone or piece of vintage lucite that you would like to use as a pendant, but feel it would look more authentically vintage, finished and classier with a pretty bail, rather than just a jump ring. These tutorials are for you.

This tutorial assumes you have at least a working knowledge of tools and beyond beginner jewelry crafting skills.

If you want to see a closer view and more detail in these photos, the following tutorial photos will pop out in a new browser window when clicked.



Tools needed:

- A thin line box joint chain nose pliers.
- Flat nylon pliers
- Fine rosary pliers
- Flush-cut wire cutters

Assemble your bail kit. This will consist of one **Paisley Link connector**, 2 **head pins**, and one small bead of your choice. It can be a barrel bead like this one, or it can be a swarovski crystal, round or bicone, or it can be a teardrop -- whatever you like and think will lend itself to your piece.

Take your paisley link connector and find the middle. Place it firmly in the jaws of your chain

nose pliers as you see in the photograph and with your fingers, or with your nylon jaw pliers (which ever is most comfortable for you), bend each side down as close to the pliers as possible. Then turn the side that was closest to the tip of your pliers towards the inside and vice-versa and bend again.

As you can see, the pliers are graduated and you want as even a bend as possible, and not for the bend to be narrower on one side than the other.

Continue to bend down the sides, adjusting as you go, so that they are even. Now, turn your bail-in-the-making upside down.





Grab your nylon jaw pliers and bend your bail sides towards each other, making sure they are as even as possible. You may have to adjust here and there and bend one side more than the other in order to get them to line up evenly.



If they seem to need it, in order to define the squareness of the top of the bail, you can turn the bail around and bring them together at the top, for squaring and evening out. If yours doesn't need it, then don't worry about doing it. You now have your bail.



Look at the bail to make sure the sides line up straight and one side doesn't kick over more than the other. It's also a good idea to take one of your head pins and put it through your bail just to see that it will line up properly. You can also put the bail on your pendant and put the head pin through it just to be absolutely certain that you have it right.

Next, you will be attaching the bail and making the drop in front.

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Now take your bail and attach it to your pendant and take your head pin and slide it through, from back to front. What you see on the left is the back of the pendant.

Cut the front part of the head pin to the proper length and make a loop that is as tight against the front loop of the connector as possible. Then string your bead on the second head pin and make a loop. Attach that loop to the bail loop.

There you have it: your beautiful custom made bail. All that's left for you to do is string your chain or ribbon through the bail and make your necklace closure.

Look for new connectors for possible bails in our upcoming Fall Line in September. Also look for more tutorials, tips and tricks on this site. For your Fallen Angel Brass™ supplies, [visit our Etsy store](#).

Fallen Angel Brass™
"Couture brass for your timeless creations."





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