

# Making a Patterned Bracelet Using Files

Form an Argentium® sterling wire cuff, then add your very own unique design to the metal using needle files. It's just that easy!



## steps:

### Forming the cuff

1. The pre-cut **Argentium® sterling wire** will most likely have rough ends. Using a **Friedrich Dick needle file**, smooth the ends until they are no longer sharp.
2. Using the **deadblow hammer**, begin forming a cuff shape around the **bracelet mandrel** that's been secured in the **heavy-duty bench vise**, starting with the ends of the wire. Continue to form, working your way toward the middle of the wire. The sterling wire will take shape quickly, but once it's work-hardened, the sterling will hold its shape well.

### Filing the cuff

1. Use a sharp tool such as a divider to mark where you will file your design into the cuff.
2. Load the **Friedrich Dick flat hand file** in the **plastic file handle** and begin filing along the marks, using only forward strokes.
3. Once you've finished filing, use a **micro-finish film strip** (we suggest starting with a 400-grit) adhered to a **file blank** to remove the file marks and to create sharp details and bright highlights on the cuff. Continue to use long, forward-motion strokes, working successively through the grits all the way up to 1200-grit if desired.
4. Apply a layer of **MIDAS® Black Max™** with a **paintbrush** to the file marks in the cuff to enhance their depth.
5. To obtain a final high polish, use the light-green 1µ **radial bristle discs** in the **Foredom® flex shaft** handpiece and polish the entire surface of the cuff.

## supplies:

Description	Order #	Qty.
Argentium® 930 sterling triangle wire, #2	103-673	6"
Bracelet mandrel	112-360	1
Foredom® SR/30 flex shaft system	117-534	1
Friedrich Dick needle file set	114-794	1 set
MIDAS® Black Max™	331-053	1 bottle
PSA micro-finishing film strips; 400-grit	337-053	as needed
File blank; 3/4"W x 12"L	337-080	1
3M radial bristle disc kit; 3/4" dia.	332-597	1
Screw mandrel; 3/32" shank	333-105	1
European deadblow mallet; 15.2 oz.	112-246	1
Heavy duty combination bench vise	113-132	1
Friedrich Dick flat hand file; 8"	114-701	1
Plastic file handle, size #5	114-167/3	1
Paintbrush	—	1



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