techniques >> wirework•opening and closing jump rings


## Sweet Summertime marene Biessing

The handmade old-time bottle-cap beads featured in this necklace evoke a past era. Simple wood, glass, and silver components complement the design but still allow the caps to remain headliners in a funky found-object fashion show.

| FINISHED SIZE: $\mathbf{3 4} 1 / 2$ " |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Materials | 6 sterling silver 24 mm heavy-gauge rings |
| 10 burgundy 4 mm fire-polished glass | 1 sterling silver hook-and-eye clasp |
| $\quad$ rounds | 25 " of sterling silver 22-gauge wire |
| 10 natural $10 \times 6 \mathrm{~mm}$ wood saucers | $181 / 4$ " of sterling silver 3mm rollo chain |
| 5 assorted 22 mm handmade bottle-cap |  |
| $\quad$ beads | Tools |
| 4 sterling silver 6 mm heavy-gauge jump | Wire cutters |
| $\quad$ rings | Round-nose pliers |
| 10 sterling silver 10mm heavy-gauge jump | Chain-nose pliers |
| $\quad$ rings |  |

1: Links. Form a wrapped loop at one end of $5 "$ of wire. String 1 round, 1 saucer, 1 bottlecap bead, 1 saucer, and 1 round. Form another wrapped loop. Set aside. Repeat this step to make a total of 5 bead links.

2: Chain. Cut the chain into two equal lengths. Use a 6 mm jump ring to attach one end of one chain to a 24 mm ring. Use a 6 mm jump ring to attach the other end to one half of the clasp. Set aside. Repeat for the remaining chain.

3: Necklace assembly. *Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the top of one bead link (with the bottle-cap's words right side up) to a 24 mm ring attached to one of the chains. Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the bottom of the bead link to another 24 mm ring. Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the top of another bead link to the previously placed 24 mm ring.* Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the bottom of the bead link to another 24 mm ring. Repeat from * to * for the other side of the necklace. Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the bottom of the last link to the 24 mm ring at the bottom of the other side of the necklace.

4: Pendant assembly. Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the final bead link to the 24 mm ring at the center of the necklace. Use a 10 mm jump ring to connect the bottom of the bead link to a 24 mm ring.

Marlene Blessing is the editor in chief of Beadwork magazine.

RESOURCES
Contact your local bead shop or purchase from the sources that follow: Glass beads: Raven's Journey International, www.theravenstore.com. Wood beads, clasp, and chain: FusionBeads.com, (888) 781-3559, www.fusionbeads.com. Bottle-cap beads: Glass Garden Beads, (507) 645-0301, www.glassgardenbeads.com. Rings and jump rings: Via Murano, (877) VIAMURANO, www.viamurano.com.

