

Trends in Beading and Jewelry-making

What's hot right now in jewelry and beads?

Here at the shop it's metal! All metals are being used, with copper leading the way, followed by antiqued silver, gold and brass, and the traditional shiny metals holding strong as well.



Chain is a big favorite, whether it's by itself, supporting a single pendant, or added in varying amounts to all items of jewelry - necklaces, bracelets, even earrings and brooches.

Necklaces are being worn in all lengths, and the very long necklace seems to be still popular. It is very trendy to wear multiple strands, or even multiple necklaces in all different materials, often with a large pendant as a focal point.

The traditional charm bracelet has evolved with all manner of charms, beads and dangles hanging from chain or bead strands, often in many colors, shapes, and materials. A carnival of colors are being used together. Blue is predicted to be the color to watch (Think lapis lazuli, sodalite, and cobalt blue, along with turquoise - great with all of the metals). The earth palette never leaves us and jewel tones are very popular right now.

There is a romantic, old-world feel to many pieces of jewelry - looking as if they might have been taken from the neck of a Renaissance princess, or found in a pirate's treasure chest. Add your own fresh twist to this style.

Crystals are big, and will be available in lots of new and exciting colors. Don't save your jewels for formal occasions. A little sparkle and shine will add a lot to even a plain turtleneck and jeans.

Wire is a terrific look, and a wonderful way to create with metal without having to use anything but the most basic of tools - no soldering required.

We have begun to carry a large selection of jewelry magazines for your inspiration; some old favorites as well as some you may not have heard of as they are harder to find. Some of our titles include: *Beadwork*, *Beadwork Stringing* (a favorite), *Step by Step Beads*,



Step by Step Wire Jewelry, Easy Wire, Beads, Etc., Creative Beading, and Australian Beading. As always, we have a huge selection of books, on all types of jewelry-making, and we're always looking for new titles that we think you will enjoy.

Happy Beading!

Sherry