

# ImpressArt®

*"Powerful Protector" – Personalized Hand-Stamped Ring*

**Skill Level: Advanced**

## Tools & Supplies

- Ergo-Angle™ Metal Stamping Hammer
- Steel Block
- Stamp Tape™
- Stamp Enamel Marker™, Black
- Crystal Setter Kit w/ Birthstone Crystals
- G.S. Hypo Jewelry Glue
- Multi-Function Hammer Kit
- Ring Bending Pliers
- High Polish Finishing Block
- Matte Finish Buffing Block
- Metal Shears
- Evil Eye Ultra Detail Stamp, 12mm
- Bracelet Blank, 5/8" x 6", Copper
- Rubber Bench Block
- Ring Mandrel, Steel
- Tweezer
- Polishing Cloth, Paper Towel, or Clean Rag



## STEP 1

Make a ring sizer by cutting a 5/8"x6" strip of paper. Wrap it snugly around the base of your finger. Find desired length and mark the point on the paper. Measure the length of the paper to give you the circumference of your finger. Mark this measurement on the bracelet blank. Cut bracelet blank using metal shears.

## STEP 2

Use coarse grit on the Matte Finish Buffing Block to soften any sharp edges. Hold the buffing block in the palm of hand and use downward strokes with moderate pressure to file sharp edges. Repeat until edges are smooth to touch.

**NOTE:** Be sure not to scratch the surface of the blank.

(Optional) Buff surface of the blank to a matte finish using Matte Finish Buffing Blocks. Use medium grit to create a brushed matte textured surface. Hold buffing block in palm of hand and use even, smooth downward strokes to buff the surface to a matte finish. Repeat until desired texture is achieved.

## STEP 3

Place cut blank on stamping block. Position Evil Eye Ultra Detail Design Stamp on the blank. Use the Tilt & Tap technique to stamp 6mm and larger stamps, or stamps with more details. While applying pressure to the stamp, strike once with medium force. Then without lifting stamp, continue to strike while very slightly tilting the stamp in a circular motion to catch all sides of the design. Set blank aside.

**TIP:** If the stamp has an ImpressArt logo, make sure it is facing you so that the impression is stamped in the correct direction.

**TIP:** Use stamp tape to secure the blank to the stamping block so it doesn't move while stamping.

**NOTE:** Harder metals and stamps with more detail require a harder strike than softer metals and stamps with less detail.

## STEP 4

Place ball pein texture stamp in the Multi-Function Hammer, with the notch in the stamp facing down. Secure stamp in the hammer by tightening the screw at the bottom of the hammer.

Set bracelet blank on stamping block. Hold the hammer with your palm of your hand over the screw. Then while holding the bracelet in place, stamp only the edge of the blank repeatedly with medium force until the entire outside edge of the blank is textured with a bevel effect.

**TIP:** Use stamp tape to secure the blank to the stamping block so it doesn't move while texturing. You will be able to texture the blank through the tape.

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### **STEP 5**

For a spark of color, stamp using the different sized crystal setters.

Hold crystal setter flat and firmly in place on the stamping blank. Strike with medium force using metal stamping hammer until a round indentation is formed in the stamping blank. The indentation should be deep enough so that the edges of the crystal are set in the divot and the top of the crystal protrudes out from the blank.

### **STEP 6**

Highlight impressions with Stamp Enamel. Wait 3-5 minutes and then dab the excess enamel into the impressions with a paper towel before lightly wiping it away from the surface of the blank. Repeat on the other side.

### **STEP 7**

Buff stamped blank to a brilliant, high-shine finish using High Polish Finish Blocks. Use fine grit to quickly clean and polish blanks. Hold buffing block in the palm of the hand and move the block in even, back and forth strokes to remove dirt and dried enamel left on the raised surfaces. Use extra fine grit for buffing to a high shine. Hold buffing block in the palm of hand and buff in tiny, back and forth strokes with light pressure to get a mirror-like shine.

### **STEP 8**

After stamping and polishing are complete, use the Ring Bending Pliers to bend the ring blank into a wrap ring shape. Match the curvature of the nylon jaws to the desired curvature of the ring. Starting at the end of the ring blank, squeeze pliers to begin forming. Continue to squeeze and release pliers towards the opposite end until the two sides meet.

### **STEP 9**

Continue to form the ring into a perfectly round shape using a ring mandrel. Slide ring onto mandrel, then lay mandrel flat on rubber bench block. Use the nylon head in the Multi-Function Hammer to tap around the ring to form its shape and desired size. While forming, remember to frequently take the ring off the mandrel and turn it around in order to evenly form it into a rounded shape.

### **STEP 10**

Secure flat back crystals inside stamped divot impressions with jewelry adhesive, and allow to dry before wearing the ring. Use tweezers to help set crystals in place, making sure not to scratch the crystals.