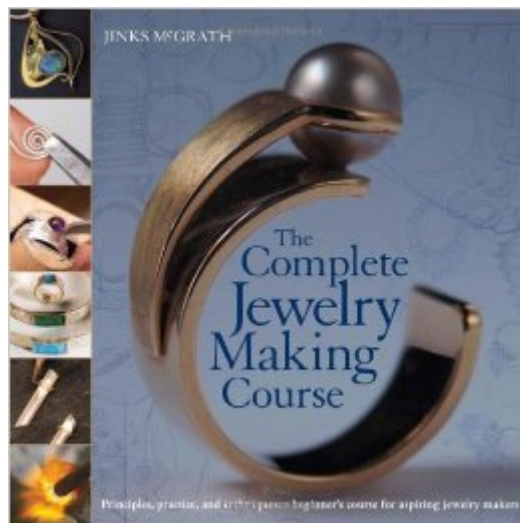


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# The Complete Jewelry Making Course: Principles, Practice And Techniques: A Beginner's Course For Aspiring Jewelry Makers



## Synopsis

This comprehensive and heavily illustrated manual teaches the craft of jewelry making to students looking to create professional quality items. The author covers every step of the process, from creating original design concepts to fashioning professionally finished pieces of jewelry. She lists all required tools and equipment, explains their uses, advises on safe working practices, and then guides her readers through every stage of the jewelry making process in a series of carefully structured tutorials. Students will learn-- How to start with an original idea, translate it into a workable design, and then use the design as a pattern to make beautiful wearable jewelry How to work with precious and semiprecious stones, metals, glass, plastic, resin, and wood How to present and sell one's creations to dealers and wholesalers Clear, full-color, step-by-step photos demonstrate the methods of fashioning metals by heating, hammering, casting, soldering, riveting, polishing, finishing, and adding surface decoration. At-a-glance panels explain how to apply the right techniques when working in specific metals, as well as ideas for experimenting with inexpensive substitutes before advancing to precious materials. Here's the perfect book for transforming hobbyists into true professionals. It will also serve as a useful textbook for those conducting organized courses in jewelry design. Color photos on every page.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I really like the way this book is set up. All the information is presented in easy to read and remember "bullets". It's aimed at beginners and should give any beginner a real grasp of the essential techniques and tools of the trade. The book starts with an overview of tools (types of tools and how to use them, their care and maintenance) and materials (a lot of information about working

with various metals and their properties). There are also tips on where to look for design ideas and how to evaluate and translate your ideas into designs you can use. The next section includes thirty-four units on various facets of jewelry making - annealing, soldering, bending, polishing and finishing, using a draw plate, texturing, and more. Each of these units is broken down into tips and how-tos - with lots of photos to supplement the text. The section on annealing has several tips plus some practice lessons in annealing wire and sheet metal. The final section of the book has a series of six projects that bring together all of the techniques you've been exploring in some neat designs - a ring, an etched bangle, and a textured pendant for example. I highly recommend this book - I use it as a ready reference. This is a great reference book for a beginning jewelry maker.

This is a relatively good place to start metalsmithing if you have some knowledge of jewelry making. I'm very new using and forming metals, but I have been doing wirework and beading techniques for over five years. At some point beaders often have a desire to move on. This was a good choice for me when that time came. I am well pleased with this book.

I gave this book three stars for one reason. It has good pictures. It is not, however, in depth, or in anyway "complete" with regards to step by step instructions for each technique discussed. It is more a severely abridged version of how-to instructions. I am currently taking a jewelry-making/metal-working class and I bought this book and *The Work Bench Guide to Jewelry Techniques* by Anastasia Young (which is much more thorough) for supplemental reading as I went through the class and half-way through it, I quit reading it and now just look at the pictures for inspiration. It does have good resources cited and the information about types of metal and jewels and how they are graded, measured, and priced is adequate. But if you want a step by step how-to book, this is NOT it. My notes from class are more complete. And frankly, metal is too expensive to be guessing your way through.

I ordered this book with Nicola Hurst's "Step-by-Step Jewelry Workshop" and was very disappointed to find that they were nearly identical. They used the same photographs and right down to some of the same text. For example, on page 11 of McGrath a section on Finding Inspiration is exactly the same text as Hurst's pg 21. And there are many more instances of being exactly the same book with different covers. Neither books are bad, but don't buy them both. In fact, find another less sleazy publisher than Quarto Books to provide your needs.

I have taken a beginning level jewelry making course and find Jinks McGrath's book to be a very useful supplement to classwork. It is particularly good on setting up a studio, identifying needed tools and purchasing or ordering materials. The soldering and bezel-making information interested me most and the book is very thorough in that respect. Other areas very well-covered are design and the related topic of measuring to achieve design aspirations. Finally, the work pictured throughout is lovely and inspiring, with nothing tacky or tasteless included. I like this manual very much and feel that it delivers exactly what the title promises.

Maybe I already own too many jewelry instruction books but this is my least favorite. There are only a few projects in the back and I don't really find them all that inspiring. I do think the bezel setting section was very thorough - maybe more so than other books I have.

this book will work for anyone wanting an overall concise introduction to the art of jewelry making. personally, it was not the book i was looking for - i tend to balk at anything too technical. i do have a friend, however, who took the book right out of my hands and is loving it. if you are of the nature to do things in an orderly and precise fashion, you will get a lot out of this book: clear direction and helpful illustrations of all techniques.

Very worthwhile for serious artist beginning metalwork. This is not for a "beader" type of hobbyist. Lovely book, well represented, well laid out, instructions clear, pictures good.

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