

It's All Gone Pear-Shaped

Techniques for building bezels for and setting pear and trillion faceted stones.
Techniques apply to any angular faceted stone.

Kit Materials:

3.4mm (8 gauge) sterling silver sheet 2cm x 1cm
.8mm (20 gauge) sterling silver sheet 2cm x 2cm
2mm (12 gauge) sterling silver 4mm x 3cm
.5 mm (24 gauge) fine silver bezel wire 1mm x 6cm
Hard silver solder
Pear CZ 5mm x 7mm
Trillion CZ 5mm
8 gauge round brass wire

Tools (with Rio Grande item # unless otherwise specified):

Many of these tools come in a wide variety of qualities and price points. Item numbers are arbitrarily chosen examples. Shop around.

Scribe #118459

Chain-nose pliers #111911

Flush cutters #111520

#2 cut needle file set #114764

#4 or #5 cut needle file set #114766

Notes about needle files: I can't recommend a good set of needle files in both these cuts more highly. They are one of the keys to the quality of craftsmanship I can achieve, but they are also a substantial investment. If you aren't ready to make that leap this project can be completed with a lesser degree of refinement with the following files: #2 square, #2 round, #2 half-round.

Parallel jaw pliers (Optional but very useful) #111321

Flat/round-nose pliers #111190

Titanium solder pick #503019

Prips flux (not available through Rio) Otto Frei #154.503

Hypodermic bottle #504005

Notes about fluxes and soldering: I use Prips in a hypodermic bottle to flux my work and a titanium solder pick to pick solder. There are many effective fluxes, application

methods and ways to place solder on the piece. This is what works for me and what will be demonstrated but feel free to use the methods you are comfortable with.

Solder block #502063

Torch (at least acetylene/air preferable fuel/oxy) #500700 This is my favorite torch
Pickle #5010233

Bench block #112570

Light flat-faced hammer #112461

180, 320 and 600 grit sanding sticks (I make my own with 3M wet/dry papers) #337595

Iron wire birds nest (see free tutorial at www.alexboystudio.com) 1mm drill bit
#342582

1mm ball bur #341280

.6mm ball bur #341176

Flex-shaft or micromotor #117539

Saw frame #110041

2/0 blades #110306GR

Sticky wax/charcoal pick-up (I'll teach you how to make this. Beeswax works too)

Dividers #116010

3rd hand tweezers #502067

0 cut flat file #114924

2 cut round file #114713

Needle file handle #114849

Permanent marker

3" medium grit 3m bristle disc wheel #332333 (This is my go to. If you prefer a high
polish on your work go with a cotton buff and polishing compound) Bezel roller

#113063