

Shotgun Shell Wine Charms/Key Chain Charms

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Safety first! Check to make sure the shells have already been fired by examining inside plastic tube. Make sure there is no wading debris or gunpowder. Also look at the brass pin located at the bottom center of the shell. There should be a small divot which means the shell had been once fired.

Materials:

1. Amazing Casting Product, casting resin, fast cast
2. Amazing Casting Product, colorant for resin
3. Amazing Casting Product, mold rubber, 2 part
4. Dust mask
5. Eye droppers, disposable
6. Hammer
7. Heat proof silicone mat
8. Heat tool
9. Hex nut, large
10. Jump rings
11. Large lineman pliers
12. Large long nosed pliers
13. Large loop jewelry ear wires
14. Lobster clasps
15. Medium diameter metal punch
16. Metal hole punch, hand held
17. Mica type dust for shimmer (optional)
18. Sand paper
19. Shotgun Shell cartridges, spent, 12 gauge

Instructions:

1. I use the red plastic Winchester 12 G shotgun shells because I favor the brass rim when the plastic is removed. All brands will vary slightly. Shop for them on Etsy. I have some already in my Simply Pretty Stuff Store, or ask your local Sportsman Clubs for discharged shells. Most places recycle them and some people reload them.
2. Sand the brass clean and wash with warm soapy water.
3. Use the shotgun shell to make a mold using a two part molding putty
4. Meanwhile, prepare your jewelry saw with a large toothed blade. (use a 4/0, or a 5/0 blade) Add a bit of beeswax to decrease friction between metal and blade.
5. When the mold putty hardens and the shell is in place, saw the brass rim as close to the base as you desire.

6. Cut through all the way around. Move the shell in a clockwise motion as you saw, but keep it in the mold. This will take 5-7 minutes. Take your time and be patient.
7. When done sawing, you will see the plastic through the brass.
8. Hold brass snugly in lineman's pliers, large pliers for large shells. (If you are right handed, hold the pliers in the left hand)
9. Using a professional heat tool, warm the flat bottom of the shell for about 15 to 20 seconds or until you visibly see the plastic start to distort
10. Put the heat tool on a heat proof silicone mat (found at kitchen store).
11. Quickly pick up large long nosed pliers and with a twist and pulling motion, remove the plastic from the brass. Drop the brass onto the mat as well and let cool before handling.
12. Remove the center pin from the brass, by sitting the brass upright, atop a large hex nut and tapping it with a metal punch.
13. Once pin is removed, place the brass onto a flat surface and mix the Part A of the resin with colorant. When thoroughly mixed, add part B. Stir quickly as this resin will begin to get warm which means it will begin setting
14. With a dropper, deposit resin along the inside bottom of the brass. Let harden. (if you get some resin spill over, just gently sand off. Be sure to wear a dust mask if you do this)
15. With a metal screw punch, make two opposite holes through the brass and resin
16. Add a jump ring with lobster clasp to one of the holes
17. Add large loop earring wires to make a wine charm, or add a key ring to make the key ring with dangles

*Amazing Casting Products found at www.moldputty.com

www.simplyprettystuff.blogspot.com

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